

Minutes of a meeting of CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square following a meeting of the Planning and Highways Committee on Monday 12 December 2022.

PRESENT

Cllrs. K. Head (Mayor), N. Draycott, D. Livesley, P. Maxwell, J. Morris, J. Nathan, and A. Samuel.

In attendance: Town Clerk K. Sheehan and one member of the public.

OPEN FORUM

No one wished to speak.

123 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

22/23

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. S. Ashton (personal), M. Best (unwell), T. Bond (unwell), A. Stuart (personal) and D. Wakeman (work commitments).

124 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

22/23

No declarations were made at this point.

125 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28 NOVEMBER 2022

22/23

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 28 November 2022 were AGREED as a true and accurate record.

The Clerk was asked to follow up concerns raised by Action Against Foxhunting (AAF) with the police.

126 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

22/23

Cllr. Maxwell reported that:

- With three months left until vesting day, officers were busy winding up and preparing for unitary. Budget preparations were under way.

Cllr. Nathan asked for an update on progress with the car park planned for East Street. The Clerk was asked to request an update from SSDC planning.

127 CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT

22/23

The Town Clerk reported that:

- The Business Group were in the process of finalising the copy for the new Crewkerne in Business website, which was hoped to launch in early 2023.

128 FINANCE

22/23

a. To approve the payments for December 2022

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Best had verified the accounts for payment in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations. Accounts for payment for 12 December 2022 in the sum of £31,236.07 were APPROVED.

b. To report the bank reconciliation for November 2022 has been completed

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Best had verified the bank reconciliation for November 2022. It was noted that cash in hand as of 30 November 2022 was £525,926.90.

c. To clarify Minute 41/22-23 as per recommendation of the internal auditor

It was AGREED that the minutes listed at 41/22-23 were received and any recommendations contained therein were duly approved.

d. To agree two additional signatories to the bank accounts

It was AGREED that Cllr. Nathan would act as a signatory to the bank accounts.

e. To note that the method of payments of staff salaries would change from telepay to BACS with effect from January 2023

Noted.

129 COMMEMORATIVE TREE

22/23 To consider a request from the Rotary Club of Crewkerne to plant a 70th anniversary commemorative tree and determine location and species

It was AGREED that the Rotary Club of Crewkerne be permitted to plant a 70th anniversary commemorative tree at Barn Street Recreation Ground with the decision on species delegated to Cllr. Nathan in conjunction with the Clerk.

130 BINCOMBE BEECHES

22/23 To consider a proposal for compensatory tree planting of 100 donated trees or donation to an earmarked tree planting fund

Councillors requested further information on the tree(s) proposed for removal. The Clerk was asked to obtain additional details and bring this item back to a meeting in January.

131 CORONATION CELEBRATION

22/23 To consider the arrangements for a Coronation Celebration in Crewkerne in May 2023

Following discussion Councillors agreed that in keeping with the King's own plans for a reduced-scale celebration they would like to organise a 'bring your own' Big Picnic on Henhayes at approx. 4pm on Sunday 7th May. The Clerk was asked to contact the Cricket Club about fixtures and arrangements were delegated to the Clerk/new Deputy Clerk in consultation with the Chair of Amenities. Councillors also asked the Clerk to investigate costs/sponsorship of Coronation cups or similar for all school children in Crewkerne.

132 TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES AND APPROVE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED
22/23 THEREIN

a. Planning and Highways Committee 14 November 2022

- b. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group 8 November
- c. Joint Burial Committee 4 October 2022
- d. Staffing Committee 11 March 2022
- e. Reports from Town Council representatives to outside bodies (none)

Items detailed above were received, and recommendations agreed. Councillors were reminded to complete reports for outside bodies as and when they attend outside body meetings.

133 MATTERS OF REPORT (for information only)

22/23

None.

134 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

22/23

Monday January 16th 2023 at 18.45 in the Council Chamber.

It was AGREED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was advisable that the public and press be excluded and were instructed to withdraw.

CONFIDENTIAL SESSION: EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – CONTRACTUAL MATTER

135 UNPAID INVOICE

22/23

To consider next steps in respect of an unpaid invoice

The Clerk reported that a CCJ had been successfully obtained against a debtor of the council. Councillors considered next steps and AGREED to pursue the option of issuing a warrant of control.

The meeting closed at 19.50.

Signed:

Dated:

TC12Dec2022