

Minutes of a meeting of CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Market Square following a meeting of the Planning and Highways Committee on Monday 24 April 2023.

PRESENT

Cllrs. K. Head (Mayor), S. Ashton, M. Best, T. Bond, N. Draycott, D. Livesley, J. Nathan, J. Morris, A. Samuel, and D. Wakeman.

In attendance: Town Clerk K. Sheehan, Deputy Town Clerk E. Wilkins, and 3 members of the public.

OPEN FORUM

No one wished to speak.

195
22/23 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. P. Maxwell and A. Stuart (both personal).

196
22/23 **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Cllr. Best explained that he had an expenses claim listed for payment due to having collected building supplies for the Lodge.

197
22/23 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27 MARCH 2023**

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 27 March 2023 were AGREED as a true and accurate record.

198
22/23 **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE UNITARY COUNCILLORS**

Cllrs. Ashton and Best reported that:

- Unitary Councillors were continuing with planning training for the new Area South Planning Committee.
- The new planning system would see an increase in applications delegated for officer decisions and Parish and Town Councils would now have 21 days to call an application into the Committee.
- Local Community Networks (LCNs) would start meeting in June or July.
- A number of meetings had taken place regarding the proposed reorganisation of stroke services in Somerset, with both Councillors highlighting their concerns over the removal of acute hospital-based stroke services from Yeovil District Hospital.

199
22/23 **CLERKS PROGRESS REPORT**

The Town Clerk reported that:

- Somerset Council had confirmed a Play Day to be held in Crewkerne on 2 August 2023.
- The planned works to ash trees at Bincombe Beeches had been scheduled for the end of May, with replanting events to follow in October.

200
22/23 **FINANCE**

- a. To approve the accounts for payment for April 2023 as listed.
The Clerk reported that Cllr. Best had verified the accounts for payment in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations. Accounts for payment for 24 April 2023 in the sum of £89,418.20 were APPROVED.
- b. To report the bank reconciliation for March 2023 has been completed.
The Clerk reported that Cllr. Best had verified the bank reconciliation for March 2023. It was noted that cash in hand as of 31 March 2023 was £353,547.28.

201 **CORONATION CELEBRATION**

22/23 To receive an update on plans for the Coronation Celebration

The Deputy Clerk reported plans were progressing for The Big Picnic in the Park on Sunday 7th May at 12:00 until 16:30 at Henhayes, noting that:

- Volunteers for setting up and clearing up plus other tasks would be warmly welcomed.
- Various groups, stalls and activities were now confirmed.
- Flags would go up on Sunday 30 April, with thanks to Rotary for their assistance.
- An information board showcasing various voluntary organisations in the town would be put together.

202 **CRICKET**

22/23 To consider a request from Crewkerne Cricket Club to erect a sponsorship board on fencing at the GRC

A request to erect a sponsorship board on the GRC fence (underneath the stairs) until the end of the cricket season was AGREED (subject to approval of proposed board by the Town Clerk).

203 **SUMMER PLAY DAYS**

22/23 To receive an update on funding and confirm arrangements for summer play days

Following receipt of confirmation from Somerset Council that they would fund and run one play day in Crewkerne over the summer holidays, Councillors AGREED to fund one additional play day via the Youth Service provider, ALS, at a cost of £600.

204 **TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES AND APPROVE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THEREIN:**

22/23

- a. Planning & Highways Committee 13 March 2023
- b. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group 15 March 2023
- c. War Memorial Commemoration Trust 13 March 2023
- d. Reports from Town Council representatives to outside bodies (none received)

All minutes above were duly noted and any recommendations AGREED.

205 **MATTERS OF REPORT**

22/23

Councillors raised issues relating to parking enforcement around Town Hall, reports of a locked field previously used by Abri residents, concerns raised by residents of Wyvern Court about access through to Henhayes, future use of the empty M&Co. building, issues with the bridge on the footpath behind the church and plans from Crewkerne in Bloom to paint BT cabinets around the town (after consultation with the Conservation Officer).

206 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:** Monday 22 May 2023, 18.45, Council Chamber.

22/23

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 – STAFFING AND CONTRACTUAL MATTERS.

207 OPERATIONS MANAGER

22/23

The Clerk reported that following a day of interviews a suitable candidate had been identified and offered the role and would start the following week. The recommendation of the Clerk was AGREED.

208 YOUTH SERVICE REVIEW:

22/23 To consider quotations in respect of an external review of the Youth Service and determine next steps

It was AGREED to instruct Ternaya Cummings of South Gloucestershire Playscheme to carry out an external review of the Youth Service.

The meeting closed at 20.25

Signed:

Dated:

TC24Apr2023