

R/03/20

Minutes of a meeting of the **Resources Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 9th November 2020 at 7pm online via Zoom.

Present: Cllr. Bloomfield
 Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins
 Cllr. J. Harvey
 Cllr. P. Hirons
 Cllr. A. Mahi
 Cllr. H. Mordue
 Cllr. Ms. Newell
 Cllr. Mrs. O'Donoghue Vice-Chair
 Cllr. M. Smith Chair
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury
 Cllr. M. Try

Also present: Mr. P. Hodson Town Clerk
 Mrs. N. Stockill Committee Clerk
 Cllr. Strain-Clark Buckingham Town Council
 Mr. E. Grimsdale Access4All

PUBLIC SESSION

Walnut Drive, Maids Moreton (16/000151/AOP)

Cllr. R. Stuchbury spoke in the Public Session about his concerns that the above application was scheduled to be determined by Buckinghamshire Council's Strategic Sites Committee, rather than the North Area Planning Committee. Cllr. Stuchbury stated that the Vale of Aylesbury Plan (VALP) was still an emerging plan and therefore the site should not be determined under policy MMO006.

The Chairman advised Members that agenda item 8 (AccessAble Contract) would be moved to the end of the agenda.

775/20 Apologies for Absence

Members received and accepted apologies from Buckinghamshire Councillor Mills and Town Councillor Mahi.

776/20 Declarations of Interest**777/20 Minutes of last meeting**

Members received and **AGREED** the minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on Monday 21st September 2020 received at the Full Council meeting held Monday 5th October 2020.

778/20 Minutes of Communications Strategy Group

Members received and noted the minutes of the Communications Strategy Group meeting held on 5th October 2020.

779/20 Action Report

The updated report was noted.

(09/11/2020)

RATIFIED

1

PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY 2010/CRIME AND DISORDER ACT, 1988: the decisions made during the course of the meeting were duly considered and it was decided that there were no resulting direct or indirect implications in respect of crime and disorder, or equalities considerations, other than those stated in the minutes.

Initial.....

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780/20 Covid 19 Restrictions

Members received and noted a written report from the Town Clerk.

781/20 Internal audit report

Members received the internal audit noting the new report layout and the Town Clerk's responses to issues raised.

782/20 Budgets

782.1/20 Members received and noted the latest budget figures.

782.2/20 Members received the revised budget forecast (covid-19 impact) noting it was too early in the year to receive an accurate end of year forecast.

782.3/20 Members received and discussed a written report proposing the draft budget for 2021/22 and the revised draft five-year budget. The Town Clerk highlighted the following:

- The salary for the Apprentice has been combined with the overall Wages and Salaries budget (101 4000)
- The publicity budget has been increased by £1,000 to accommodate funding for social media management software (102 4032)
- The website budget has been increased from £2,500 to £5,000. The website is due to be re-tendered for, and it is unlikely that the Council could meet its current requirements for the previous budget.
- The Future Planning (Contingencies) budget (132 5400) has been increased by £2,000 to include an emergency contingency fund to support community groups with if required. (691.5.1/20)
- A budget of £2,000 has been added to meet expenses caused by measures to respond to Covid 19 (132 4503).

Members unanimously **AGREED** for the proposed five-year budget, including the proposed budget for 2021/2022 to be used for the preparation of the revised version prior to submission to the Precept meeting.

782.4/20 Members received a written report from the Town Clerk and confirmed the pay increase and change to annual leave described therein.

783/20 Direct debits and standing orders

Members discussed and approved the variable direct debits used by the Council in line with Financial Regulation 6.7.

784/20 Motion – Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury and seconded by Cllr. Bloomfield

“It is proposed that, in recognition of the additional work being undertaken throughout the pandemic, Resources Committee agree to give the Town Council staff an additional day's annual leave, to be taken during the Christmas period of 2020”.

(09/11/2020)

RATIFIED

2

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A recorded vote was called for:

Votes in favour: Cllrs: Smith, O'Donoghue, Stuchbury, Bloomfield and Harvey.

Votes against: Cllrs: Mordue, Newell, G. Collins, Try and Hiron.

Abstentions: None.

The casting vote fell to the Chairman and Cllr. Smith voted in favour of the motion.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

785/20 Compliments, Complaints and FOI requests

Members received and noted the report.

786/20 Chair's Announcements

None.

787/20 Date of next meetings:

- Monday 4th January 2020
- Thursday 18th February 2021 (Extra ordinary meeting of Resources Committee to consider grants)

788/20 COMMITTEE IN PRIVATE SESSION

Exclusion of Public and Press

Cllr Smith proposed, in terms of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following item would be likely to disclose exempt information relating to contractual matters and therefore, therefore that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded.

AGREED

789/20 AccessAble Contract

Members reviewed the Town Clerk's written report provided to the Town Centre and Events Committee (minute 745/22 refers). Members **AGREED** to suspend Standing Orders to allow representatives of Access 4 All to respond during the meeting. Following discussion, including contributions from Cllr Strain Clark and Mr Ed Grimsdale, Standing Orders were reinstated. Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue and unanimously **AGREED** that Buckingham Town Council withdraw from contract with AccessAble at the earliest opportunity and for the Town Centre & Events Committee consider setting up a working group in liaison Access 4 All to examine the way forward.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

Meeting closed at: 20.12

Signed

Date

(09/11/2020)

RATIFIED

3

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