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## **WINSLOW TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES of the MEETING of COUNCIL**

Wednesday 8th. December 2021, at 7.00pm, in the Bowls Club, Elmfields Gate Winslow

**Present:** Cllrs. Wiseman (Chair), Bishopp, Castle, Cawdell, Cornell, Goss, Hamley, Onley, Slevin and van de Poll,

**Absent:** Cllrs Cawte. Apology accepted.

**Clerk:** C Loch:

**In attendance:** Bucks Cllr. J Chilver. There were eight members of the public present for part of the meeting.

#### **21/83 Declarations of Interest in matters to be discussed:**

None.

#### **21/84 Minutes of Meetings held 4<sup>th</sup> November 2021:**

RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a true record.

**Matters Arising:** None

#### **21/85 Items Deferred from Previous Meeting:** None

*The meeting was adjourned to enable members of the public to speak.*

*There was further discussion on the matter of the redevelopment of the sports pavilion and possible move of the playground to Tomkins Park. Several felt that the current Sports Club building did a disservice to the community as it was no longer fit for purpose. There was some concern that even the proposed new facilities might not meet the needs of the community. All points raised were being considered and would be taken into account in making a decision on the way forward.*

*The meeting was reconvened*

#### **21/86 Committees and Reports from members of Buckinghamshire Council**

**Amenities:** Members heard the WI were celebrating their centenary next year and had been given permission to plant a suitable commemorative tree in Tomkins Park.

**Development:** The Clerk reported that in respect of the Solar Farm, the Unilateral Undertaking deed had been executed.

**Events:** The Christmas Fair on Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>. had been very successful although the very large crowd had created some minor problems. The Events Chairman thanked staff and volunteers for their efforts.

**Finance and General Purposes:** The Clerk reported that the IT upgrade project as delegated to F&G was progressing. Hardware was expected to be place by January and file set up and transfer would then progress with the final step being the revised email system.

#### **Reports from members of Buckinghamshire Council and Community Board Matters.**

Bucks Councillor John Chilver reported that the work on Elmfields Gate had been completed as well as clearance work along the path behind Beamish Way. The drains in Church St. and along the High St. would be cleared with the work to be completed by May. No date had set for the resurfacing of Avenue Road although it would be completed by March. Work on St. Laurence Road and St Albans Road was scheduled for next year. Members noted that the hedge at the corner of Furze lane and Buckingham Road remained a safety concern.

Members raised a concern that some of the Community Board projects were inappropriate in that , for example, they addressed matters which would more properly be dealt with by commercial operations as well as many being focussed on County wide projects rather than having a focus local to the relevant Community Board.

It was noted that the Community Board Application form has been amended so that it could be saved before being finalised for submission.

## 21/87 Current Strategic Issues

**Growth Corridor:** No new information.

**East West Rail:** Work on the platforms was progressing and they would start to appear soon. It was noted that EWR are now suggesting that services would not start until December 2025 and this delay would be taken up with EWR.

**Winslow Neighbourhood Plan revision:** The revision of WNP continued to progress and the consultation leaflet was being produced. The consultation would start on January 10th. and run until Feb 28th. Details would be on the web site and hard copies would be available in the library and from the Council Office.

**Community Facilities:** The planning pre-application response was still awaited and it was not possible to make a decision on the way forward until this had been received and evaluated. All comments from consultation had been taken into account and some alternative proposals had been suggested. These ideas would be evaluated but must have been received in writing by December 17th.

**28 High St.** The Food Cupboard was experiencing much higher demand than in recent months and had asked if they could continue to use a spare room at 28 High St as well as moving in two adapted wardrobes which would enable them to store supplies out of sight and leave the room available for other uses when not required by the Food Cupboard. This was approved.

**Winslow Centre Redevelopment.** The Sports Hub consultation was in progress. The redevelopment of the Winslow Centre site was still being discussed and WTC were trying to arrange an update meeting with Bucks Council for late December.

## 21/88 Reports from Outside Bodies:

**AVALC.** The date and venue for the AGM was awaited.

**Rogers Educational Trust:** The Trust would meet again in January.

## 21/89 Administration, Finance and Payments for Signature.

**Payments for signature:** Members noted the payment listing totalling £41,233.46 RESOLVED to authorise the cheque payments to be signed by two councillors.

**Grants:** A revised grants policy as circulated was considered and approved for adoption by the Council. Current grants as recommended by the F&G Committee for approval were considered and approved as follows.

Animal Antiks	£450
Winslow Walking Netball	£500
Winslow Players	£1,400
St. Laurence Food Cupboard	£1,000

**Precept:** The budget had been circulated and was considered for approval along with requested amendments as follows.

Benches and a Bin at Three Hills. £2,500.

Approved on the basis that as it was Buckinghamshire Council property, a contribution would be required from Bucks Council or the Community Board.

Refurbishment of Town Sign and Bollard £2,000  
Approved

Hedge, Fencing, Levelling and car park extension at Burial Ground Extension

This was approved for inclusion in the precept but was referred back to the Amenities Committee to finalise quotations for the work as well as ascertaining what planning permission might be required. A full proposal on the project (including the proposed layout) should then be put to Council.

The adjusted precept of £285,700 was approved and the Clerk authorised to submit the precept request.

**January Council Meeting:** As the December meeting had been delayed and the February meeting was early in the month it was RESOLVED not to call a meeting in January unless urgent business arose.

**Annual Town Meeting:** Subject to any covid restrictions, the meeting would be scheduled for April 28th.

**21/90 Correspondence:**

**Buckinghamshire Council:** It was noted that Bucks had appointed an external consultant to review the proposed Charter.

**Freedom of Information Request:** The Clerk reported that a resident had requested information on bookings for various venues in the Town. As these venues were all managed by independent organisations or trusts, the information was not in the hands of the Council and the request could not be met. However, the Clerk would be assist with what information was available although it could not be guaranteed as accurate.

**21/91 Co-option**

**Confidential**

Members Resolved *that under the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded due to the sensitivity of the business to be discussed).*

Councillors considered the recommendation of the selection panel to fill the casual vacancy and RESOLVED to appoint Jane Keys to the Council who would complete the acceptance of office to join the next meeting in February.

**Items for Information.**

Members requested the Clerk to again invite the Neighbourhood Police to the meeting in February. Members also expressed their appreciation of the work done by Cllr. Bishopp in respect of the recent public meeting.

The Chairman thanked staff and Councillors for their hard work during the year and wished all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Meeting Closed 20.36 pm.

Signed: ..... (Chairman) at Meeting ..... (date)