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WINSLOW TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the MEETING of COUNCIL

Thursday 2nd March 2023, at 7.00pm, in the Council Offices, High Street, Winslow. MK18 3HF

Present: Cllrs. Wiseman (Chair), Cawdell, Hamley, Keys, Onley, and van de Poll.

Absent: Cllrs. Bishopp, Castle, Cawte, Cornell, Goss, and Slevin. Apologies accepted.

Clerk: C Loch

In attendance: Buckinghamshire Councillors J Chilver and B Stanier. Three members of the public were present. No press were present.

23/20 Declarations of Interest in matters to be discussed:

None

23/21 Minutes of Meetings held 2nd. February 2023:

RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a true record.

Matters Arising:

None.

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

A resident raised a concern that more information was needed on the Neighbourhood plan Referendum as many did not understand what was being voted on and how the amended plan changed from the original. There was also a request for Buckinghamshire Council to support the Lions North Bucks Bike Ride and Bucks Cllr. Chilver was asked to follow up on a Community Board grant application for this event. All were requested to consider how they might be able to assist with helping a Ukrainian family to kit out a house that they would be moving into.

The meeting was reconvened

23/22 Items Deferred from Previous Meeting: If not addressed elsewhere on the agenda

None

23/23 Administration, Finance and Payments for Signature:

Authorisation of payments: Members considered the payments listing totalling £13,196.12 and RESOLVED to approve the listing for electronic payment. It was also RESOLVED to authorise payment of the next Jet Construction invoice once Certificate 8 confirming the invoice amount was received.

Annual Town Meeting:

The guest speaker would be the Head of Furze Down School. Committee Chairs were reminded to submit committee reports by April 13th at the latest.

23/24 Correspondence Received: If not addressed elsewhere on the agenda

Breathe Easy Group: A request to use space in the Council Offices until the Public Hall reopened was referred to the Finance & Resources Committee to consider on March 7th.

23/25 Reports from Outside Bodies

AVALC. There had been a meeting on February 8th. It was noted that the Buckinghamshire Council Highways Contractor and Local Area Technicians were being reorganised. Further information would be available in due course.

Rogers Educational Trust: There were no items to report.

23/26. Committees

Amenities:

The Burial Ground and Recreation Ground paths had now been repaired. A Community Board grant towards the cost of the Burial Ground path had now been approved. The gates to the Burial Ground needed adjustment as they were difficult to open and close but a solution was not easy because of the construction of the gates. A meeting is being planned with Greener Winslow to discuss ideas for environmental projects in the town. It was also noted that once works by Anglian Water were completed,

the Three Hills area would be re-seeded at an appropriate time. They would also clear out the ditch running along the cycle path.

The Clerk reported that roll-over agreement for the Devolution Contract had been received and that the grant had been increased by 9%. It was RESOLVED that the contract extension be approved and signed. A member suggested that Anglian Water could be asked to fund a path from Piccadilly to the Lowndes Way if Fairhaven Housing Association who owned the land gave approval for the project. The Clerk would raise the matter with Anglian Water.

Development:

There were no items to report.

Events:

Members heard of plans for the Coronation weekend. The format would be in line with the guidelines from the palace with the main events being a picnic in the park as for the Jubilee and a volunteering day on the Monday.

Finance & Resources:

The next meeting would be on March 7th.

23/27 Reports from Buckinghamshire Councillors

Buckinghamshire Cllr. Chilver reported on the Buckinghamshire Council budget which had been approved with a 4.99% increase in Council Tax. EWR would be asked to put gravel on the paths adjacent to Lakers and the Winslow Centre. A dropped kerb had been requested for Old Mill Furlong and it was noted that EWR would have a delivery of rails during the evening of Friday 3rd March. This could cause some inconvenience to residents but had been made necessary by strikes.

A request for more regular meetings with the Local Area Technicians was raised.

Community Board Matters

Members of the Winslow Action Group asked for clarification on the remit of the Rural Economy Uplift Task and Finish Group as there seemed to be considerable overlap.

23/28 Current Strategic Issues

East west Rail

Track continued to be laid and construction of the station building was progressing.

Winslow Modified Neighbourhood Plan

The Referendum would be held on March 16th.

Community Centre

The project was nearing completion and expected to be able to fully open on April 14th.

Winslow Centre Development /Sports Hub.

There was no further information to report.

Items for Information:

A member raised a concern over the poor state of repair of a premises in the Market Square area and asked what could be done as it detracted from the appearance of the central area.

The next meeting would be held on Thursday April 6th.

Meeting Closed 20.08 pm.

Signed: (Chair) at Meeting (date)