



Jayne Topham
Town Clerk

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

23rd AUGUST 2018

MINUTES

Present: Cllr M Ashford, Cllr Mrs L Bolton, Cllr PS Birdi, Cllr JP Bromley, Cllr Mrs C Cross, Cllr S Cross, Cllr Mrs D DaCruz, Cllr J Holland, Cllr Mrs MA Grainger, Cllr Mrs A Littlejohn, Cllr T Morris and Deputy Mayor Cllr N Murphy (Chair).

Section A Council

121. Apologies: It was resolved to accept the apologies from the Mayor, Cllr R Edgington and Cllr G Guest, WDC Cllr N Butler and WCC Cllr Mrs P Williams also sent their apologies

122. Declarations of Interest

Cllr M Ashford, Cllr S Cross, Cllr Mrs M A Grainger and Cllr T Morris all declared an interest as District Councillors. Cllr PS Birdi and Cllr J Holland declared an interest as a County Councillors.

123. Approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21st June 2018 – it was resolved to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

124. Mayor's Announcements - The Deputy Mayor summarised the events he had attended since the last meeting. A request for volunteer stewards was made for the forthcoming bike race on the 4th September 2018.

125. Stagecoach - exchange of views regarding the local bus services with Chris Rouse Operations Manager.

Chris Rouse introduced himself and thanked Councillors for the opportunity to exchange views. The issue of bus drivers not adhering to the new speed restrictions was raised Mr Rouse advised that all Drivers have been advised about speed restrictions and no further negative feedback had been received. Cllr Mrs M A Grainger raised concerns about the G1 route through the Woodloes due to parked cars. Support from Stagecoach was requested when writing to Highways to ask for this matter to be resolved. Mr Rouse offered his support and stated that drivers do feedback issues they experience across the Town. Cllrs can report issues via a feedback form on the Stagecoach website.

Cllr Mrs L Bolton asked how passengers were advised when routes were changed. Mr Rouse advised that the authorities have to be advised 10 weeks before a route is changed. Passengers are advised via the website, social media and notices on buses.

Cllr J Holland stated that he found a great improvement in the bus service notable with the additional buses to Stratford up on Avon - however, he found the smartphone app. is difficult to work and the fact that real time displays were needed at the bus stops. Buses are delayed because of traffic hold ups. Local plan requirements have not been put into place yet. A request was made for Mr Rouse to provide a plan of where the main delays are to enable pressure to be put onto highways to assist. Mr Rouse will send full details to the Town Clerk. All buses are tracked, and this information is available. Cllr PS Birdi raised a concern about bus stops locations and how dangerous they are to get to. He highlighted the bus stop by the Rehab Hospital and also the bus stop on Heathcote Lane – the question asked was who was responsible for sighting the bus stops and who was responsible for passenger’s safety getting to the bus stops. Mr Rouse clarified that it was the County Council who were responsible for both issues.

Cllr JP Bromley asked how often the bus routes were reviewed. Mr Rouse advised that there was no set period of time – the routes are constantly reviewed. Cllr N Murphy stated that consideration needed to be given to segregation dots and to help bus drivers the signage needs to be improved. New housing developments need bus routes to schools.

Cllr Mrs MA Grainger enquired about plans for electric buses. Mr Rouse advised that investment is being made to bring in new technology. Cllr M Ashford enquired about responsibility for maintenance of bus stops and also how “green” the current buses were – Cllr J Holland confirmed that the County are responsible for bus stop maintenance. Cllr Mrs MA Grainger commented on the “one off” costs for bus services.

126. Reports to be received from District or County Councillors

There was no report from District Council at this meeting. Cllr Mrs MA Grainger asked if there were any questions for the District – nothing was raised.

Cllr J Holland updated Councillors regarding the Town Centre roadworks. Birmingham road plan is on plan but running late. Westgate Arch will be finished in the Autumn. Newburgh School – road works started on Monday to improve safety near the school gates.

Cllr T Morris raised a question on the Town Centre road works he asked for the changes on new road layout on top of Cape Road to be monitored due to vehicles cutting across the white lines. The proposed changes on Barrack Street where also discussed and poor signage. Cllr J Holland advised that signage was planned to be moved.

Cllr PS Birdi – discussed forthcoming works at Europa Way.

127. Reports of Plans Committee

To receive and adopt the Reports of the Plans Committee meeting held on 12th July and 2nd August 2018.

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the planning meeting held on the 12th July and 2nd August 2018. Cllr J Holland wished to raise a question regarding the decision made by the planning committee for application no. W/18/1028 The Great Western but this application had been withdrawn.

128. Reports of Committees

To receive and adopt the reports of the following committee’s:

Allotments 26th July 2018

Finance & Policy 6th June & 15th August 2018

Community & Culture 5th June 2018

Economic & Tourism 4th June & 16th August 2018

It was resolved to accept the minutes for Allotments 26th July, Finance and Policy 6th June & 15th August,

Community & Culture 5th June 2018 and 16th August 2018.

Cllr Mrs M A Grainger wished to record thanks to Cllr Mrs A Littlejohn, the Town Clerk and George Palmer for making the Partnership meeting a big success. Cllr Mrs A Littlejohn responded by thanking Cllr Mrs MA Grainger for her support also. Feedback from the attendees had been very positive and the importance of Twinning stated.

129. To answer members questions

None

Section B General Purposes

130. Public Question Time - none

131. Approve revised Standing order, Financial regulations.

It was resolved to approve the revised Standing orders and Financial Regulations.

132. Approve Mayoral guide and discuss robing for Full Council meetings.

It was resolved to approve the revised Mayoral Guide and for the item- robing for Full Council meetings to be taken back to committee (F & P).

Signed.....

Date.....