



Jayne Topham
Town Clerk

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

27th JULY 2017

MINUTES

Present: The Mayor, Cllr M Ashford, Cllr PS Birdi, Cllr Mrs L Bolton, Cllr Mrs C Cross, Cllr D DaCruz, Cllr R Edgington, Cllr Mrs MA Grainger, Cllr G Guest, Cllr J Holland, Cllr Mrs M Littlejohn, Cllr T Morris, Cllr N Murphy.

Cllr Mrs P Williams WCC; Cllr N Butler WDC.

Section A Council

82. Prayers

83. Apologies: It was resolved to accept the apologies from Cllr JP Bromley, Cllr R Eddy and Cllr J Darcy WDC

84. Declarations of Interest

Cllr PS Birdi & Cllr J Holland as County Councillors together with the Mayor & Cllrs M Ashford, R Edgington, Mrs MA Grainger and T Morris as District Councillors

85. Approve the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 15th June 2017 – it was resolved to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting.

86. Mayor's Announcements - The Mayor shared details on the engagements he had attended so far, this year. The Kineton Parade was reviewed and following discussion it was agreed that a letter of thanks be send to CJ's events for their professionalism and support at the event. At their own cost a visit to Warwick, Orange County has been arranged for the Mayor and Mayoress to travel to celebrate their 150th Anniversary of becoming a village. A scroll is being taken to place in a time capsule which has been excavated after 50 years.

87. Reports to be received from District or County Councillors.

Cllr Mrs P Williams introduced herself and explained her background.

Children's Centre Consultation - Cllr Mrs P Williams gave Councillors the history to the centres and an overview to the consultation. It proposes changes to how the services are provided to local children and their families by remodelling its Children's Centres to ensure the right support is provided. Moving

from 39 centres to 12 Family hubs. Councillors were encouraged to visit the WCC website and complete the application and encourage others to also.

Cllr J Holland advised Councillors that the children's services in the County have been found by Ofsted to have the need for improvement. There is a consultation being run by the Health Services regarding proposals to remove the Stroke services from Warwick. Councillors were advised to review the details and engage with the consultation.

Cllr PS Birdi explained his induction as a County Councillor some facts about Warwick County Councillors. The Warwick County Councillors are working well together and Cllr PS Birdi encouraged District and Town Councillors to engage with each other for the benefit of Warwick.

Cllr N Butler WDC provided a report to Councillors:

Linen Street Car Park the high-level feasibility work has been completed on the car park. West Rock was found not to be a suitable alternative replacement and an alternative location for a new car park is being reviewed due to the cost of replacing Linen Street on the same site.

A displacement plan for when Linen Street closes will be available later this year. The car park has not structural deteriorated further. Car park strategy has been drafted and consultation will start in August through to November.

St Mary's Lands Cllr Butler gave thanks to the Town Councillors for their support in the St Mary's land working party. The Master plan has been adopted by the Executive at Warwick District Council.

Travellers – a planning forum is being arranged in September for all the Town and Parish Councils in Warwickshire to find transit sites. Cllr Mrs MA Grainger reiterated that the District Council were reviewing 11 potential sites, in the Warwick area, to use as sites for the Cllr Mrs M A Grainger explained the difficulties in securing WDC sites with barriers, at a considerable cost.

Cllr M Ashford wished to record his thanks to Tim Coates, Taylor Wimpey in the work they are carrying out to prevent illegal access onto land before that land can be adopted by WDC.

88. Reports of Plans Committee

To receive and adopt the Reports of the Plans Committee meeting held on 13th & 27th June 2017.

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the planning meeting held on the 13th June & 27th June 2017.

89. Reports of Committees

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

Finance & Policy 7th June 2017

Community & Culture 14th June 2017

Economic & Tourism 22nd June 2017

It was resolved to accept the minutes for all the above committees.

90. To answer member's questions - none

Section B General Purposes

91. Public Question Time

At the Friends of St. Mary's Lands AGM this week, it was decided that a further meeting of members would be held to discuss the proposals laid out in the District Council's June Executive Report. This is because the views of members had not been sought on the new proposals. At the AGM members voted overwhelmingly to retain the name "St. Mary's Lands".

"Has our Town Council discussed and supported all these new proposals as a Council, in particular the potential new hotel, proposed parking opposite Bread and Meat Close, because of safety issues, and the competition for a name change?"

It was agreed to place this item on the agenda for the September Full Council meeting as an update.

Another member of the public raised a question asking if the Town Council would comment on the Children Centre consultation. This was agreed. Councillors were also advised that there was a public consultation to be held at Northgate House on the 31st July.

92. Children's Centres – Cllr Mrs DA DaCruz & Cllr N Murphy to update

The Councillors had attended a children's centre advisory board meeting attended by Bill Basra WCC. 10 questions were raised by the advisory board and the outcomes will be taken to the Consultation. The key areas were:

- 1) Westgate primary school - the centre to be used for 0-5's due to safeguarding issues
- 2) Funding for under 5's to be put into a general funding pot for up to age 19 (25 for Special needs/disabled)
- 3) Cost cutting – concerns raised that this might be short-sighted.

Concerns were raised around the amount of savings that are being made through the exercise and at what cost. Also, the Councillors were advised that budget cuts to these services had already been made.

Cllr J Holland gave Councillors the background to the Town Councils link to the children's centres in the past.

Cllr Mrs MA Grainger proposed that, as we are not meeting again until after the consultation ends, the Town Council should support recommendations from our representatives on the advisory board and our County Councillors, as most Councillors do not have the required knowledge. All agreed.

Cllr PS Birdi shared his concerns asked Councillors to keep an open mind and encourage participation in the consultation.

The Mayor closed the meeting stating that Councillors should take this as a positive opportunity to review the current services, with changes in demographics over the years a review could be beneficial.

Signed.....

Date.....

