

## WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

### Notes of a Meeting of the Finance Buildings and Personnel Working Party held 17 May 2021

*Following the government's decision to revoke the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021, the council has decided it is not safe to meet face to face. As it is not able to meet using virtual platforms (e.g Zoom) it is also unable to discharge its obligation under Open and Accountable Government to ensure transparency by providing public participation. The council has therefore agreed to continue meeting but in the form of a working party.*

*The working party meeting will be held to the same standard as a committee but any decision taken at a working party meeting does not constitute a lawful decision of council - the Council has delegated all decisions to Chair of Council, Deputy Chair and Chairs of Environment & Town and Finance, Buildings & Personnel Committees (4 Councillors) and the Clerk - Resolution C20/180 26/4/2021*

*All delegated decisions will be reported in line with guidelines for Open and Accountable Government (Openness of Local Government Bodies 2014).*

**FBP21/1 Present: Cllr A Clamp (Chairman), Cllr G Gratton, Cllr A Pollock, Cllr P Taylor and Cllr C Whittall**

**In attendance:  
Paul Jennings (Town Clerk)**

**FBP21/2 Apologies for Absence: Cllr E McDonagh, Cllr C Foster Philips**

**FBP21/3 Variation in Order of Business: None**

**FBP21/4 Members' Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items:  
None Declared**

**FBP21/5 CCTV & Office Monitor**  
The CCTV monitor for the Town Hall CCTV has failed and requires replacement.

**REC that replacement screens be purchased.**

**FBP21/6 Verge adjacent to LimeKiln**  
Wirksworth Well Dressing Committee have maintained the area for the past 4+ years, Wilder Wirksworth have expressed an interest in taking over this task (WTC hold a cultivation licence from DCC for the verge)

**REC that the Clerk write to the group explaining the conditions of the current cultivation licence and also request that the existing shrubs and perennials currently planted by the Well dressers be**

retained by the Rewilding group when they commence tending the verge.

**FBP21/7 Staff Structure & Equipment**

To consider a change of role description and title to reflect the project work being undertaken on the Meadows and the Decarbonisation of the TC Estate. Additional equipment will also be required to support the role.

**REC that the officer be designated “Project Officer” instead of Administration Assistant and that a Laptop be purchased to allow home working.**

**FBP21/8 Fire Extinguishers**

5 extinguishers require either replacement or refurbishment (new extinguishers come with a 10 year warranty)

**REC all 5 extinguishers be replaced.**

**FBP21/9 Issues to be raised with new County Council Representative for Wirksworth**

It has previously been agreed to defer several issues including inconsiderate parking, modification of traffic orders (e.g Coldwell St) and traffic issues at Wash Green and the Southern end of Town with the intention that these could be raised with the new County Councillor when they take office.

**REC that the Clerk contact the County Councillor (Cllr D Murphy) requesting a meeting after 21<sup>st</sup> June. The initial meeting to comprise of 5 Council representatives, including the Mayor, Deputy and two committee chairs, but remaining councillors to attend in place if dependant of availability. The Clerk to prepare a summary of the key issues (for agreement by council) and the brief to be shared with the Cllr Murphy at least 1 week before the meeting. The meeting to be held at the Town Hall, Wirksworth.**

**FBP21/10 Minor Maintenance Scheme (attached)**

To consider whether to participate in this scheme offered by DCC which reimburses £495 towards a council's costs if they maintain footpaths in the parish.

**REC that the Council participate in the scheme**

**FBP21/11 Damage to Tree Bench at Memorial Hall**

Two of the seat slats have been damaged, and the bench is being misused as a bike and skateboard ramp.

**REC that the Clerk arrange for bespoke arm attachments to be added to the bench to prevent it being used as a “track”.**

**FBP21/12 Donation of Bench for Meadows**

A resident has offered to raise funds to enable the Town Council to purchase and install a bench (matching the one donated by C Cllr Ratcliffe).

**REC that the donation be accepted.**

**FBP21/13 Memorial Bench Policy**

Following on from discussions regarding donation of bench to the community agreed in Feb 2021 (Res ET20/61) Cllr Whittall suggested that an amendment be made to the policy to cover “benches offered as a donation to the community”.

<https://www.wirksworth.gov.uk/files/Policies--Procedures/memorial-bench-policy-2019-final.pdf>

**REC that the Clerk draft an amendment to the existing policy to cover the donation of benches.**

*The meeting closed at 6.55pm*

Chairman