

Main subjects covered: Civic Hall/Library integration; Town Council surgeries; Poynton Neighbourhood Plan

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2014 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr Ms R Horsman

Cllrs. M Beanland, L A Clarke, C Gorst, I Hollingworth, Mrs S Horsman, G King, B Lewis, H Murray, Mrs J Saunders, G Smith and R E West

51. Questions to the Mayor

There were no members of the public in attendance and so no questions asked of the Mayor.

52. Apologies for absence

Cllrs. G Bartos, P Hoyland, Mrs J Sewart, M C G Sewart, A Smith and Mrs I Thornton-Maddocks

53. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

None declared.

54. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th September 2014

Page 93, sixth paragraph – Cllr Lewis requested that for the purpose of clarification, a full stop is inserted after “asbestos” and the remainder of the sentence omitted.

Page 94, second paragraph – Cllr Lewis said that this should not read “Deputy Mayor” but instead “the Deputy Chairman of COPS”, who Cllr Lewis believes was at that meeting.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 15th September 2014, with the amendments noted above, are approved as an accurate record (NC)

55. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor took Members through an account of her engagements. Her detailed and illustrated report is available from the Clerk by request.

RESOLVED: That the Mayor's announcements are received (NC)

56. Civic Hall/Library Integration Project

In the absence of Cllr A Smith, the Clerk provided a verbal update, having attended a Cheshire East/Town Council Project Board meeting this afternoon. He explained that everything is on track and progressing as planned. The scheduled start date for the work is 5th January 2015. The Project Board meets again on 17th November 2014.

The Clerk said his particular focus was on the phasing of the work, because some meeting rooms will be out of commission for several weeks, and he is calling for those to be worked on first, to minimise the down time to prevent revenue loss. Some hirers will be advised that they will need to meet elsewhere while some can be transferred to the Council Chamber. There will be a first meeting soon with the contractor to discuss phasing. The duration of the work currently stands at about 22 weeks from the 5th January 2015.

The Clerk explained that the roofing material supplier IKO will eventually guarantee the finish for warranty purposes. IKO carried out an interim inspection on 8th October 2014 and their conclusion was that all works carried out were satisfactory, with no problems reported at the time of visit. Work is due to be completed by late November, and the Clerk will keep Members updated.

Cllr Lewis asked if the impact of the Civic Hall/Library Integration Project had been considered on next year's elections in May. The Clerk confirmed that this has been considered at the meeting this afternoon and that the Main Hall, which is used as the Polling Station, will be mainly unaffected. If however work is being carried out at the front of the building there will be an alternative entrance at the rear of the Hall. The Clerk said that it was very important that nothing impacts that day's activity.

RESOLVED: That the verbal update from that Clerk on the Civic Hall/Library Integration and Civic Hall roof projects is received (NC)

57. Town Council Surgeries

Members considered the written brief from the Clerk concerning a proposed change to the format of the monthly Town Council Surgeries.

RESOLVED: That the report is received, and the recommendation for a mix of drop in and fixed appointments approved for a 6 month trial period (NC)

58. Poynton Neighbourhood Plan

In the absence of Cllr Hoyland the Clerk updated Members and explained that the Neighbourhood Plan volunteers are working in three different groups namely, Project Management, Communications and Evidence Gathering. There is also a Steering Group where the leaders of each of the three groups and/or their Deputies meet. The Steering Group first met on 8th October 2014 and meets again on the 23rd October 2014. The communications plan is essential and it is important to engage with the High School and bodies such as Poynton in Business and U3A. This is eventually to consult widely on the content of the questionnaire that will go to all residents. In summary the Neighbourhood Plan, involving a lot of work, is making good progress.

Cllr West emphasised that the Neighbourhood Plan is not a tool of the Town Council but community-led, with Council involvement. It is not however led by a Steering Group of the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That the verbal report by the Clerk on the Neighbourhood Plan is received (NC)

59. Standing Committees

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development meeting held on 18th August 2014 be received and adopted by the Town Council (NC)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning and Environment meeting held on 1st September 2014 be received and adopted by the Town Council (NC)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community, Order and Public Safety meeting held on 8th September 2014 be received and adopted by the Town Council (NC)

The meeting concluded at 8.40pm