

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 8.05PM ON MONDAY 11TH JANUARY 2016 AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HALL, POYNTON.

PRESENT

Chairman: Cllr Mrs R Horsman-Johnson

Cllrs: M Beanland, L Berry, L A Clarke, C Gorst, I Hollingworth, Mrs S Horsman, H Murray, L Podmore, Mrs J Saunders, Mrs J Sewart, G Smith and Mrs N Wylie

49. Questions to the Mayor

There were no questions to the Mayor.

50. Apologies for absence

Cllrs: Mrs S J Gilmore, T Holbrook, G King, Mrs T Lorde, M Sewart

51. Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests

None.

52. Approve as an accurate record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 16th November 2015.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 16th November 2015 are approved as an accurate record (NC)

53. Mayor's Engagements/Announcement

Full report available from the Clerk by request.

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

54. Receive and consider the precept for 2016/17, as recommended by the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 4th January 2016

The Chairman of the F&GP committee, Cllr Gorst, recommended the precept for 2016/17. Cllr Gorst informed the Town Council that each of the spending committees have reviewed and approved their provisional budgets. The proposal in the precept is an increase of £36,000. This is largely due to three main areas:

- Contribution to the Information Services
- Reduction in the Precept Support Grant from Cheshire East Council
- Charge for the Air Quality Monitor

These are costs that the Town Council have to absorb from Cheshire East Council. This is an increase of 11p per week for a Band D household. There is

a £20,000 earmarked reserve towards any future changes in the policing provision.

A member noted that a key issue is the passing down of costs from Cheshire East Council due to a 40% reduction in the CE budget.

Another member noted that the costs being transferred from CE are considerable.

It was proposed that a suitable article is produced for the PUN, noting also that Town Councillors are not paid in their role.

RESOLVED: That the precept for 2016/17, as recommended by the Finance and General Purposes Committee on 4th January 2016, is approved. That a suitable article is produced for the PUN (NC)

55. Receive and approve amendments to the Town Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulation Standing Orders

The Chairperson of Management and Establishment Committee (M & E), Cllr Mrs Sewart, informed the Town Council that the review and recommendation of the Standing Orders has first been by the Standing Orders Working Group, followed by the Management and Establishment Committee and now the Town Council.

The Town Council considered all the recommendations as follows:

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19 a) There will be no AOB.

Councillors considered the recommendation. A member noted that although AOB can be included, the advice is that there is no decision on an item of AOB business. There was debate amongst members and a concern raised was that this could take away the ability to raise AOB in meetings. In contrast, it was noted that the agenda should be as advised by ChALC who suggest that AOB is not included on the agenda.

There was a proposal in favour of the wording recommended in Standing Order 19 a) that there is no AOB on an agenda.

RESOLVED: That the recommendation that there is no AOB on an agenda (6 for and 7 against). The motion was rejected

It was proposed that there is the opportunity to raise AOB and this is included on an agenda providing there is no decision on an item of AOB business.

RESOLVED: That AOB is included on an agenda providing there is no decision on an item of AOB business (7 for and 6 against). The motion was approved

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SO 54 Substitutes

The following amendment was proposed:

- If a councillor will be absent from the meeting and they have not appointed / selected a substitute then the Chairman may appoint / select the substitute.

RESOLVED: That the proposed amendment to SO 54 Substitutes is approved (NC)

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SO 71 c)

RESOLVED: That the essence of the amendment is approved but the wording is considered and amended (NC)

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Item 15 It was proposed that there is an addition to add that the draft minutes are circulated to the Chair and Vice Chair of the committee and should any member of the Town Council wish to receive the draft minutes they may request them.

RESOLVED: That the proposed amendment to the draft minutes is approved (NC)

The Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes committee, Cllr Gorst, spoke on the amendments to the Financial Regulations Standing Orders.

RESOLVED: In accordance with Standing Order 76, the Town Council approved the amendments to the Town Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulation Standing Orders with the revisions agreed (NC)

RESOLVED: A vote of thanks for the Working Party was approved (NC)

56. Consider improving the business processes of the Town Council, as recommended by the Management and Establishment Committee on 7th December 2015

It was proposed that the recommendations in the report from the Clerk to consider improving the business processes of the Town Council were approved with the addition to include the recommendations in the Standing Orders.

It was proposed:

- That members agree in principle with a move to the delivery of electronic Town Council agendas and meeting papers for those members who opt into this service
- Recommendation that the default position is to email

RESOLVED: That the report from the Clerk to consider improving the business processes of the Town Council is received. That the

recommendations in the report are approved with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Management and Establishment committee approved to include the addition to the Standing Orders based on the recommendations in the report. That the amendment to the Standing Orders is recommended for approval to the next meeting of the full Council (NC)

57. Adoption of the minutes of Standing Committees

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Management and Establishment committee meeting held on 19th October 2015 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (NC)

Page 95 – Bollards on London Road North.

It was noted that the bollards on London Road North remain dirty and no action has been taken. It was proposed that this item is included on the agenda at the next FIED committee meeting.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development committee meeting held on 26th October 2015 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council. That the issue of the bollards on London Road North are included on the agenda for the next FIED committee meeting (12 for and 1 abstention)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Additional Town Council meeting held on 26th October 2015 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (NC)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Extraordinary Finance and General Purposes committee meeting held on 2nd November 2015 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (NC)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community, Order and Public Safety committee meeting held on 2nd November 2015 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (NC)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning and Environment meeting held on 9th November 2015 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (NC)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes committee meeting held on 23rd November 2015 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (NC)

The meeting concluded: 9.10pm