

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT 8.00PM ON THURSDAY 15TH MAY 2023 AT THE CIVIC HALL

PRESENT

Mayor up to item 3: H Whitaker
Mayor from item 3: Patrick Bailey

Cllrs: M Beanland (arrived 8.25pm), D Belcher, M Blackie, K Booth, L A Clarke, S Lees, P Oakes, L Podmore, Mrs J Saunders, M Sewart, T Swatridge and J Waterhouse

Officers in attendance: Haf Barlow (Clerk) K McDowell (Deputy Clerk)

Prayers led by Reverend Matthew Swires-Hennessey

The Mayor opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

1. To note if anyone attending, or present, at the meeting is making, or intends to make, an audio recording or film the meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that the meeting is recorded for the purpose of minute taking and the recording is deleted when the draft minutes are agreed. There were no other declarations of a recording of the meeting.

2. Election of Mayor for 2022/23

Cllr L Podmore proposed that Cllr Patrick Bailey is elected as Mayor of Poynton 2023/24.

Cllr P Oakes seconded the nomination for Mayor.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Patrick Bailey is elected as the Mayor (NC)

Cllr H Whitaker formally congratulated the Mayor on his appointment.

The Mayor signed the declaration of acceptance of office before the Clerk as the Proper Officer.

3. Election of Deputy Mayor for 2022/22

Cllr K Booth proposed Cllr Hayley Whitaker as the Deputy Mayor.

Cllr L Podmore seconded the nomination.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Hayley Whitaker is appointed as the Deputy Mayor (NC)

4. Questions from members of the public

No members of the public were present.

5. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence except for Cllr M Beanland who would be late (arrived at 8.25pm (item 11))

6. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary or other interests.

7. Approve the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 6th March 2023.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 6th March 2023 are approved as an accurate record (NC)

8. Immediate past Mayor's announcements.

Cllr Hayley Whitaker delivered her final report as Mayor. Cllr Whitaker took this opportunity to thank the Town Council for all their help during her term of office. Cllr Whitaker wished Cllr Bailey all the best for his term as Mayor. It is Cllr Whitakers intention, as Deputy Mayor, to continue with the Youth Town Council.

9. To review the action log for 2022/2023

RESOLVED: That the action log for 2021-2022 was received. All actions had been completed (NC)

10. Appointment to Standing Committees

Planning & Environment:

Cllrs, M Beanland, K Booth, Lawrence Clarke, Simon Lees, Lee Podmore, Mrs J Saunders, Tim Swatridge.

Finance & General Purpose:

Cllrs, M Beanland, David Belcher, Lawrence Clarke, Simon Lees, P Oakes, M Sewart, Tim Swatridge.

Community Order & Public Safety:

Cllrs, P Bailey, David Belcher, L Podmore, Mrs J Saunders, Tim Swatridge, J Waterhouse, Ms H Whitaker.

Facilities, Infrastructure, & Economic Development

Cllrs, M Blackie, K Booth, Simon Lees, P Oakes, Mrs J Saunders, M Sewart, John Waterhouse.

Management & Establishment:

Cllrs, D Belcher, K Booth, L Clarke, P Oakes, L Podmore, Mrs J Saunders.

RESOLVED: That the membership of the Committees is agreed as set out above (NC)

11. Election of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Standing Committees for 2022/2023

The following Committee Chairs & Vice Chairs were outlined by Cllr Patrick Bailey

Planning & Environment

Chair: Cllr L A Clarke. Vice Chair: Cllr M Beanland

Finance & General Purposes.

Chair: Cllr P Oakes. Vice Chair: Cllr M Beanland

Community Order & Public Safety

Chair: Cllr L Podmore. Vice Chair: Cllr John Waterhouse

Facilities, Infrastructure & Economic Development.

Chair: Cllr K Booth. Vice Chair: Cllr S Lees.

Management & Establishment

Chair: D Belcher. Vice Chair: Mrs J Saunders

RESOLVED: That the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the Standing Committees is agreed as above (NC)

12. To receive the standing orders, financial regulations and appendices

RESOLVED: That the standing orders, financial regulations and appendices are received (NC)

13. To consider and approve the Town Council calendar of meetings for 2023/2024

A list of meetings had been circulated prior to the meeting. An additional Town Council meeting was now required to approve the accounts. The suggested date for the additional meeting is Monday 19th June 2023 at 8pm.

RESOLVED: That subject to the above amendment, the Town Council calendar of meetings 2023/2024 is approved (NC)

14. Appointment of representatives of the Town Council to outside bodies for 2023/2024

The Town Council discussed postponing the appointments to outside bodies until after the Strategic Planning Day. Cllr M Sewart had contacted Cllr Charles Gorst who has confirmed that he is willing to continue to be the Town Council representative for Almshouses Trust and Warren Bulkeley Charities.

RESOLVED: That Charles Gorst is reappointed as the Town Council representative for the Almshouses Trust and Warren Bulkeley Charities and that the appointment of further representatives be postponed until the next Town Council meeting following the strategic planning day (NC)

15. Renew the Town Council's eligibility to use the General Power of Competence

The Clerk spoke on the eligibility to use the General Power of Competence.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council is eligible to use the General Power of Competence and the General Power of Competence is adopted (NC)

16. To consider the following memberships:

- a) Clerk's membership of the SLCC – due for renewal 1st august 2023 cost £403
- b) ChALC membership
- c) Campaign for Protection of Rural England

RESOLVED: That the Clerk's membership of the SLCC, membership of ChALC and membership for the Campaign for Rural England are renewed. (NC)

17. To approve the re-appointment of JDH Public Sector Services as Internal Auditors

The Clerk recommended to the Town Council that JDH Public Sector Services are re-appointed for this coming year. The Clerk recommended that Finance & General Purposes reviews the appointment of the internal auditor for next year as a full review was last taken in 2019.

RESOLVED: That the reappointment of JDH Public Sector Services as Internal Auditors is approved for the year 2022-2023 audit. That the Finance & General Purposes Committee review the appointment for 2023-2024 (NC)

18. To receive a final report on the Strategic Plan for 2020-2023

The Clerk gave an overview of the report.

RESOLVED: That the final report on the Strategic Plan for 2020-2023 is received (NC)

19. To note the response received from Cheshire East in repose to the request for a weight limit in Poynton.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would respond explaining that the Town Council had discussed this issue with the police who have confirmed that they carry out enforcement of weight limits at Fence Avenue, Macclesfield. The Police have confirmed to the Town Council that if weight limits were in place, they would enforce it as appropriate. It was noted that the post opening monitoring would take place 6 months after opening and therefore the result would not be available until September.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk respond to Cheshire East as set out above(NC)

20. To receive a report from the Deputy Clerk on an outstanding debt.

The Deputy Clerk provided an update on the outstanding debt. No response had been received from the debtor and the Deputy Clerk asked Members to consider whether legal action in a small claims court should be taken.

RESOLVED: That the report from the Deputy Clerk on the outstanding debt is received and the Clerk issues a final letter before action. If no response is received the Clerk will issue proceedings in the Small Claims Court for the debt (NC)

21. To consider and agree a date for Civic Sunday

The Clerk advised the members that the 16th July had previously been agreed by Town Council. However, Cllr Patrick Bailey is away. An alternative date of the 17th September has been offered by the Church. The Civic Hall may be unavailable on that date but the Church Hall may provide a suitable alternative venue.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Vicar to confirm that the 17th September is acceptable to the Town Council. If the current hirer is unable to move their booking the Clerk will ask if the Church Hall could be used instead (NC)

22 To consider and agree placing a Poynton Festival Banner on the front of the Civic Hall

RESOLVED: it is agreed that a Poynton Festival banner is placed on the front of the Civic Hall (13 for, 1 abstension)

23. To consider new Councillor training requirements and to agree training dates

RESOLVED: That no additional training is currently required (NC)

24. To agree a date for Strategic Planning Day

The Council discussed the merits of a strategic planning day.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council arranges a Strategic Planning Day. The Clerk will circulate a doodle poll to all Councillors for a date to be agreed (NC)

25. To note the date of Community Resilience training on the evening of 21st June 2023

The Clerk advised that this was agreed by the Management & Establishment committee to set up a tabletop exercise with Cheshire East to test the Town Councils Community Resilience Plan with a given scenario.

RESOLVED: That the date of Community Resilience is noted and a time is to be confirmed.

26. To receive and adopt the minutes of committees:

Community, Order and Public Safety 16th January 2023

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community, Order and Public Safety Committee meeting held on 16th January 2023 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (13 for, 1 abstention)

Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee 13th February 2023

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Facilities, Infrastructure and Economic Development Committee meeting held on 13th February 2023 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (NC)

Finance and General Purposes Committee 16th May 2022.

The Clerk confirmed that this was the correct date.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 16th May 2022 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (NC)

Management & Establishment Committee 15th February 2023

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Management & Establishment Committee meeting held on 15th February 2023 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (NC)

Planning & Environment Committee 20th February 2023

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 20th February 2023 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (13 for, 1abstension)

Planning & Environment Committee 20th March 2023

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 20th March 2023 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (13 for, 1abstension)

Planning & Environment Committee 3rd April 2023

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 3rd April 2023 and the resolutions contained therein be adopted by full Council (13, for 1abstension)

27. To consider any communication messages from this meeting

The new Mayor
HGV limit
Civic Awards

RESOLVED: That the above communication messages are agreed (NC)

Meeting End Time 9.30pm

Chair.....

Dated.....