

AMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held at The Bowman Centre
on 7th February 2023 at 7.15pm

PRESENT: Cllr D Kuczera (Mayor), Cllr M Devendran (D Mayor), Cllr R Yuill, Cllr I Mitchell, Cllr R Crook, Cllr S Hedge, Cllr T Edwards, Cllr Swindlehurst, Cllr J Jaconiah, Cllr E Taylor

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs W Bown (Town Clerk) Mrs K Passmore (Admin/Comms Officer)

VISITING PUBLIC: 11

POLICE: 2

		ACTION
	<p>Public Questions Concerns were raised about the planning application for the storage and workshop unit next to the Centenary Pavilion. The Mayor responded that the public consultation is part of the planning process. Wiltshire Council will make a decision after 23rd February and will take into account all comments made from the public. A resident questioned the number of defibrillators within Amesbury and asked if the Town Council intended to acquire more. The Mayor confirmed that there is no budget this year for any additional defibrillators, however the Town Council will consider requests to support groups with maintenance of defibrillators. The Town Council website will be updated with all equipment within Amesbury which are emergency ready.</p>	
1.	<p>To receive apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllr M Brannon (on standby to assist with the disaster in Turkey), Cllr M Verbinnen (personal), Cllr A Brindley (out of the country), Cllr M Strange (unwell)</p>	
2.	<p>To approve the minutes of the Full Council Meeting dated 6th December 2022. The date for the next meeting was amended to 7th February. Proposed: Cllr Crook Seconded: Cllr Edwards Resolved: With the above amendment the minutes were approved and signed as a true record.</p>	
3.	<p>To receive declarations of interest from members None</p>	
4.	<p>Mayor's Remarks The Mayor reported on the Town's CCTV system. The equipment has now been removed from the Community and Visitors Centre.</p>	
5.	<p>Clerk's Update (to deal with any business from the last meeting) The Clerk reported that a further meeting is needed to look more closely at the details of the warm spaces initiative. The central car park has been booked for parking for those taking part in this year's Remembrance Parade. The Town Council has covered costs. The highways improvement application for South Mill Road has been submitted to LHFIG.</p>	

		ACTION
12.	<p>Councillors agreed to bring forward item 12.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Plan Update</p> <p>Troy Hayes from Troy Planning and Design joined the meeting via video link to provide a scoping report detailing background information for the formation of a neighbourhood plan. The neighbourhood plan would potentially look at brown field sites, infrastructure, town centre improvement, tourism, recreational space, sports pitches, links to Stonehenge. Community engagement and consultation are key to the success of the neighbourhood plan.</p>	
6.	<p>Councillors' Questions and Statements</p>	
6.1.	<p>Cllr Edwards thanked the maintenance team for laying the bark in Armistice Park and the disc golf course. Cllr Edwards felt that the Country Park would benefit from similar treatment.</p>	
6.2.	<p>Cllr Edwards reported issues with Byway 20. The tarmac area is prone to flooding and gets very slippery and icy.</p>	
6.3.	<p>Cllr Mitchell reported that Wiltshire Council had cleared rubbish from the old Marlborough Coach Road.</p>	
6.4.	<p>Cllr Mitchell mentioned his concerns in the discrepancy between minutes received from pub watch and asked if this could be looked into further.</p>	
6.5.	<p>Cllr Jaconiah also mentioned his concerns in relation to the pub watch minutes.</p>	
6.6.	<p>Cllr Jaconiah highlighted residents' concerns about the country park being used for future community events.</p>	
6.7.	<p>Cllr Swindlehurst discussed the pressure that the pharmacies in Amesbury are under due to the increase in the number of residents and asked Wiltshire Councillors to request that the Local Authority contacts Tesco to see if the London Road store would consider having a pharmacy.</p>	RY/MD/ MV
	<p>Cllr Hedge left the meeting.</p>	
6.8.	<p>Cllr Yuill reported that he has written to Wiltshire Council in relation to Byway 20. There is a new Cabinet Member and he is hopeful that a response will be received.</p>	
	<p>Cllr Hedge returned to the meeting.</p>	
6.9.	<p>Cllr Yuill reported that Bloor Homes has confirmed that the road behind the pavilion field should be open at the end of March.</p>	
	<p>Cllr Buchannan left the meeting</p>	
6.10.	<p>Cllr Devendran reported that the flooding at Countess underpass has now been cleared and thanked all involved in the process of getting this completed.</p>	
6.11.	<p>Cllr Devendran reported on a future Wiltshire Council coffee morning event on Friday 3rd March at The Holiday Inn. Anyone who is interested should contact her to register.</p>	
	<p>Cllr Buchannan returned to the meeting</p>	
7.	<p>To receive the Police Report</p>	

		ACTION
8.	<p>The report was received and noted.</p> <p>Cllr Jaconiah left the meeting</p> <p>Payment of accounts: to note the list of accounts for payment January 2023 Income: £745,087 Expenditure: £528,576</p>	
9.	<p>Planning Matters Following recommendations by the planning committee it was resolved to support the following applications: PL/2023/00219 Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. T1 London plane tree Crown raise/dismantle x2 lateral branches to come off. 50 CHURCH STREET PL/2023/00419 Removal/Variation of conditions. Variation of conditions for application 20/10749/FULL - "2 proposed Double Garage & Annexe Extension" 10 PURVIS CLOSE, AMESBURY PL/2023/00514 Full planning permission. Erection of extensions to the existing batching and mixing plant tower. S MORRIS LTD, SOLAR WAY, AMESBURY PL/2023/00458 Consent to display an advertisement. Installation of 2 non-illuminated signs. SOLSICE PARK, AMESBURY, SP4 7GR</p>	
10.	<p>To receive a report from the History Centre Committee Correspondence between solicitors continues.</p>	
11.	<p>To receive a report from the Amenities Committee The Amenities Committee Chair noted continued difficulty in contacting the appropriate person responsible for the sports field at Boscombe Down.</p>	
13.	<p>To receive a report from the Country Park sub-committee Cllr Edwards reported on discussions about wild flowers, paths, access to the skate park, the use of the site and possible alternative sites for the carnival in the short term.</p>	
14.	<p>To receive a report from the Projects Committee and to receive an initial indicative idea for the refurbishment of Bonnymead. The Mayor presented his idea for alternative play equipment at Bonnymead. The approximate cost would be in the region of £250-£300,000. The Mayor confirmed that there was much work to be done and an initial public consultation would be needed. Cllr Hedge asked if a larger entrance into Bonnymead could be considered as the park is under-utilised.</p>	

		ACTION
15.	<p>Preparations for the Coronation. To establish a working group to consider the Town Council’s Coronations Event Plan. The Mayor, Cllr Edwards, Cllr Devendran, Cllr Buchannan, and Cllr Swindlehurst all confirmed their interest in the event plan.</p>	Clerk
16.	<p>Civility and Respect Project The Town Clerk reported that a training plan shall be drawn up and all Councillors and staff will be invited to attend.</p>	
17.	<p>Report from external meetings WALC – Report received and noted. Historic & Natural Environment – report received and noted. LHFIG – The Mayor reported that he had attended the LHFIG meeting last month and they are continuing to work through priorities. South Mill parking issues will be considered in the Summer 2024.</p>	
18.	<p>To resolve to enter into the Wiltshire Towns programme Grant Agreement with Wiltshire Council Proposed: Cllr Buchannan Seconded: Cllr Edwards Resolved: to enter into the Wiltshire Towns programme Grant Agreement with Wiltshire Council</p>	
19.	<p>LHFIG: Porton Road/Beverley Hills Mobile Home Park Proposed: Cllr Edwards Seconded: Cllr Yuill Resolved: To support the application Speed Limit Stonehenge Road Proposed: Cllr Edwards Seconded: Cllr Hedge Resolved: To support the application ‘School’ sign at Holders Road Proposed: Cllr Swindlehurst Seconded: Cllr Mitchell Resolved: To support the application</p>	Clerk
20.	<p>To agree to hold a fireworks display in November 2023 and to agree the budget (total allocation £4,000) Proposed: Cllr Yuill Seconded: Cllr Buchannan Resolved: To hold a fireworks display in November 2023 with a budget of £4,000. The sub-committee to comprise: The Mayor, Cllr Devendran, Cllr Yuill, Cllr Buchanan and Jonathan Russell as a non-council member. The wash-up meeting will be the sub-committee’s first meeting.</p>	Clerk

		ACTION
	Cllr Edwards left the meeting	
21.	<p>To receive an application for a grant under the General Power of Competence: £800 for the Wiltshire Outdoor Learning Team</p> <p>The Mayor confirmed the plans that the Wiltshire Outdoor Learning Team have for a 2 day community multi activity adventure at Lords Walk over the Easter holidays.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Yuill Seconded: Cllr Mitchell Resolved: to approve the grant application</p>	Clerk
22.	<p>To confirm details of external committee representation by councillors</p> <p>The Clerk reported that if any councillor has not attended a meeting of the Council, or formally represented the Council on an external committee, for six months, they are automatically disqualified.</p> <p>It was confirmed that, although Cllr Brindley had not attended full council meetings, he had attended outside body meetings as a Town Council representative and was therefore not disqualified.</p>	
23.	<p>To resolve to exclude the public and press for the following items due to the confidential nature of discussing staffing matters.</p> <p>All public left the meeting.</p>	
24.	<p>To receive a report from the Staffing Panel</p> <p>Proposed: The Mayor Seconded: Cllr Buchanan Resolved: To take on temporary staff if needed during the current staff absence.</p>	
25.	<p>Date of next meeting: 7.15pm Tuesday 7th March 2023 at The Bowman Centre</p> <p>Meeting closed at 9.55pm</p>	