

AMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held at The Bowman Centre
on 10th January 2023 at 7.15pm

PRESENT: Cllr D Kuczera (Mayor), Cllr M Devendran (D Mayor), Cllr M Verbinnen, 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: 3

POLICE: 0

		ACTION
	<p>Public Questions Concerns were raised about the sports pitches at Boscombe Down and councillors were asked not to forget the intention to lease/purchase the land if possible. The Mayor confirmed that a letter has recently been sent to the MOD.</p>	
1.	<p>To receive apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllr M Brannon (working)</p>	
2.	<p>To approve the minutes of the Full Council Meeting dated 6th December 2022. The minutes were approved and signed as a true record</p>	
3.	<p>To receive declarations of interest from members None</p>	
4.	<p>Presentation of the Mayors Award to Vicky Parks for services to the community The Mayor presented Vicky Parks with the award. Vicky Parks thanked The Mayor and all Councillors for their nomination.</p>	
5.	<p>Mayor's Remarks The Mayor reported on his involvement in the lantern parade and Santa's sleigh which took place in December. Both events were a great success and thanks were given to those who helped to organise and run each event. The Mayor gave a special mention to Cllr Williams who resigned today. He thanked him for his involvement in Amesbury Town Council over the years. All Councillors joined The Mayor in thanking Cllr Williams.</p>	
6.	<p>Clerk's Update (to deal with any business from the last meeting) The Clerk reported that the Lynchets request for volunteers had had a very good response. Two dates have been planned which will be weather dependent, Saturday 21st January 2023 and Sunday 5th February 2023.</p>	
7.	<p>Councillors' Questions and Statements</p>	
7.1.	<p>Cllr Mitchell reported that he had attended an awards ceremony held by The Stonehenge Area Board. He gave thanks to the organisers.</p>	

		ACTION
7.2.	Cllr Swindlehurst thanked Cllr Devendran for organising the Christmas Concert, held at Antrobus House. A great time was had by all.	
7.3.	Cllr Yuill reported that Amesbury has a new police inspector, Ricky Lee. Archers Gate has been set as a priority patrol area.	
7.4.	Cllr Edwards discussed the condition of local roads, especially Stockport Avenue and the A345, due to the large amount of rain. He proposed that a complaint be put to Highways.	
7.5.	Cllr Edwards asked if there has been any progress with the community garden.	Clerk
7.6.	Cllr Devendran thanked everyone involved in the Christmas Concert on 20th December.	
7.7.	Cllr Devendran reported that the erection of fencing at Holders Field commenced on Tuesday 3 rd January 2023.	
7.8.	Cllr Devendran reported on a future event on Friday 28 th April at Christ The King School which the Police and Crime Commissioner shall be attending. All interested parties should contact Cllr Devendran to register.	
8.	<p>To receive the Police Report The report was received and noted.</p>	
9.	<p>Payment of accounts: to note the list of accounts for payment December 2022 Income: £733,7236 Expenditure: £482,759</p>	
10.	<p>Planning Matters Following recommendations by the planning committee it was resolved to support the following applications: PL/2022/08737 Householder planning permission. Proposed rear extension, dormer windows, conversion of existing garage and alterations to driveway. 50 CHURCH STREET PL/2022/08838 Householder planning permission. Erection of garage and study in place of existing surface parking area, with bedroom and bathroom in roof space over. 38 PRINCESS WAY PL/2022/03363 Removal/variation of conditions. Variation of conditions 2 and 5 of planning permission 16/09558/FUL to allow substitution of geotextile surface with tarmac and substitute the bike shelter with a blue bike rack. MELOR HALL, CHURCH STREET PL/2022/09002 Full planning permission. Erection of CO2 tank. T J Morris, Regional Distribution Centre, Solstice Business Park PL/2022/09370 Full planning permission. Proposed additional side & rear dormer windows to approved application PL/2022/07189 - Erection of proposed 3 bed dwelling with associated parking. 35 HOLDERS ROAD PL/2022/09488 Consent to display and advertisement. Fascia, Window vinyls and poster cases. 20 SANDELL PLACE PL/2022/06732 Removal/variation of conditions. Variation of condition 8 (to provide alternative biodiversity improvements other than swift</p>	

		ACTION
	nesting boxes) on PL/2021/11801. SOUTHERN QUARTER, SUNRISE WAY PL/2022/09746 Notification of proposed works to trees in conservation Area. Proposed Silver Birch T1 - Crown reduction to the previously reduced tree, back to approximately 1 - 1.5 metres above the previous points or to a suitable pruning point. Sycamore T2 & Sycamore T3 - Pruning of the neighbouring Sycamores - For the crown raising of the two large trees owned by The Bell over hanging the garden, remove the lowest laterals to make the trees more vertical over the customer's garden. Lifting to approximately 3 - 4 metres above crown level and reducing the higher laterals (to adequate pruning point) by approximately 1.5 - 2 meters. 21A SALISBURY STREET	
11.	History Centre Update The Mayor reported that the property transfer papers have now been returned to the solicitor and the fire risk assessment is pending from building control. The Mayor stated that there is no indication of a lease agreement date with the CIO Trust. Amesbury Town Council may need to start looking at ways of using the building itself in the interim.	
12.	To receive a report from the Amenities Committee The Amenities Committee Chair discussed the difficulty in contacting the appropriate person responsible for the sports field at Boscombe Down. John Glenn MP has been contacted to request his support.	
13.	To receive a report from the Internal Auditor and to consider recommendations The Auditor concluded that the Town Council has satisfactory arrangements in place. It was recommended to assign identifying features to income details. Councillors noted the comments and congratulated the Clerk on a successful audit.	
14.	To receive a quarterly finance report The report was received and noted	
15.	To receive a request from the History Centre CIO reference signage Councillors noted the request but felt that a more formal design would enable them to give better feedback. Proposed: Cllr Verbinnen Seconded: Cllr Yuill Resolved: To agree in principle to signage. Professional pictures of signage are needed.	Clerk
16.	To receive a report on progress to date on the Wiltshire Towns programme	

		ACTION
	<p>The Mayor reported that a SWOT analysis has been drafted and will be sent to Wiltshire Council. A Teams meeting has been scheduled for 24th/25th January with Wiltshire Council to progress the business plan.</p>	
17.	<p>Neighbourhood Plan Update Cllr Mitchell reported on recent communication with Troy Planning & Design Consultants. They are currently putting together a scoping report for the February full council meeting.</p>	
18.	<p>Warm Spaces: to consider the use of the Bowman Centre as a Warm Space Councillors were asked to consider using the Bowman Centre in January, February and March 2023, requiring councillors to volunteer to run the sessions. Proposed: Cllr Devendran Seconded: Cllr Verbinnen Resolved: To support and start sessions weekly, if availability allows, to review each time to gauge usage. Cllr Verbinnen, Cllr Devendran and Cllr Edwards volunteered their help.</p>	
19.	<p>To adopt the Social Media Policy Proposed: Cllr Devendran Seconded: Cllr Mitchell Resolved: To defer to the February meeting. All Councillors to look at the Social Media Policy in more detail. All updates and information to be sent to the Town Clerk.</p>	Clerk
20.	<p>Remembrance Parade: to consider a resident's request for free parking to be available in the central car park Proposed: Cllr Verbinnen Seconded: Cllr Devendran Resolved: To pay Wiltshire Council the £45.60 to take over the car park for the day. All parking relating to the Remembrance Parade will then be offered as free.</p>	Clerk
21.	<p>To receive a recommendation for a LHFIF application: South Mill Road parking The Deputy Mayor reported problems on South Mill Road due to parking and the need for road markings. No consultation with residents has yet commenced. Proposed: Cllr Devendran Seconded: Cllr Swindlehurst</p>	

		ACTION
	Resolved: To support the application.	
22.	<p>To receive a request from Amesbury Rugby Club for additional storage space</p> <p>The Mayor confirmed that the planning application for the Pavilion storage has been submitted. No additional storage space will be provided.</p>	Clerk
23.	<p>To rescind the decision of the December 2022 meeting regarding the budget and Precept Charge for 2023/2024 (following Standing Orders Rule of Procedure 15)</p> <p>Discussion included the following points: The content of the budget accounted for councillors' requests. Increases in utility bills have affected the budget. No comments were received when the budget was discussed in December. Low increases starve the area of investment. It is important to enhance the offering for Amesbury residents. Proposed: Cllr Crook Seconded: Cllr Mitchell Resolved: Not to rescind the decision regarding the budget and Precept charge for 2023/24.</p>	
24.	<p>To resolve to exclude the public and press for the following items due to the confidential nature of discussing contracts.</p> <p>All public left the meeting</p>	
25.	<p>To confirm acceptance of quotations for the installation of new benches</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Crook Seconded: Cllr Edwards Proposed: Go ahead with quotations and get new benches installed.</p>	
26.	<p>Date of next meeting: 7.15pm Tuesday 6th February 2023 at The Bowman Centre</p> <p>Meeting closed at 8.50pm</p>	