



NORTHAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, NORTHAMPTON GUILDHALL

Monday 19th July 2021 – 18.00

PRESENT: Councillor R Ashraf (Town Mayor);
Councillor D Meredith (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillors: J Alwahabi, J Birch, N Choudary, R Connolly, M Hallam,
E Haque, K Holland-Delamere, F Ismail, P Joyce, A Kilbride, J Lane,
L Marriott, T Miah, B Purser, D Soan, W Tarasiewicz

In attendance: S Carter (Interim Town Clerk)

The Mayor's Chaplain led the Council in prayer before the formal start of the meeting.

The Town Mayor informed councillors that the Town Clerk would be conducting a short presentation on the General and Community Grants Schemes at the conclusion of the meeting.

16. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs M Brown, Lane, and Russell had submitted apologies.

17. PUBLIC QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS

There were no questions or statements submitted.

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

19. MINUTES

RESOLVED: To authorise the Town Mayor to sign the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 17th May 2021 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

RESOLVED: To authorise the Town Mayor to sign the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 14th June 2021 as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

NOTED: The minutes of the Annual Elector's Meeting held 24th May 2021.

20. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE UNDER MENTIONED COMMITTEES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee – 14th June 2021 be received, approved and adopted.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Environmental Services Committee – 16th June 2021 be received, approved and adopted.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Community Services Committee – 21st June 2021 be received, approved and adopted.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning Committee – 28th June 2021 be received, approved and adopted.

RESOLVED: That the Policy and Finance Committee – 5th July 2021 be received, approved and adopted.

21. NOTICE OF MOTION

Proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Soan

"This Full Town Council agrees, in principle, with the concept of a dual-carriageway Northern Orbital Road for Northampton, and will work with our partners at West Northamptonshire Council to assist where possible to help deliver this aim."

This motion was withdrawn as Cllr Brown was unable to attend the meeting due to ill health.

22. REVIEW OF DELEGATION OF COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS IN ANTICIPATION OF EASING OF RESTRICTIONS

A report was circulated with the agenda recapping the resolution the council had made regarding delegation of committee functions to facilitate remote meetings.

It was explained that the law permitting Council and committee meetings to be held virtually expired on 6th May and the government advised that there was insufficient Parliamentary time to pass any necessary new primary legislation to enable the practise to continue. Accordingly, to protect councillors and officers and minimise contact it was resolved at the Annual Council meeting that:

RESOLVED: (1) *That the Town Clerk be delegated authority to take all decisions and where necessary to make recommendations to Council as normally reserved to Committees and Sub-Committees under the approved scheme of committee delegations*

- (2) That the Town Clerk exercise the above authority in consultation with the full membership of the relevant committee or sub-committee meeting by remote means at the same day and time as set out in the agreed calendar of meetings*
- (3) That a full report on all decisions and recommendations taken under this authority be presented to the next following Council meeting*
- (4) That the authority granted by this decision be reviewed at each subsequent Council meeting until such time as the Council is satisfied that in person meetings of all committees can be effectively be effectively held in accordance with prevailing social distance rules.*

Members commented that there was still significant risk to councillors and staff and that at present, we should continue to review the process but at present, the arrangement should remain in place.

RESOLVED: That the resolution as detailed above from the Council meeting in May remain, and that it be reviewed again at the Council meeting on 25 October 2021.

23. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES – AMENDMENT

Cllr Hallam leader of the Conservative group proposed that the membership of the committees for his group be amended. This proposal was seconded.

RESOLVED: That the Conservative members appointed to the committees be as follows:

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Planning (3 Spaces) | Environment (3 Spaces) | Community Services (4 spaces) | Policy & Finance (4 Spaces) |
| Michael Brown | Mike Hallam | Mike Hallam | Stephen Hibbert |
| Jamie Lane | Andy Kilbride | Daniel Soan | Ray Connolly |
| Ray Connolly | Daniel Soan | Jamie Lane | Andy Kilbride |
| | | Stephen Hibbert | Michael Brown |

The meeting concluded at 18.45.

Cllr R Ashraf
Town Mayor