



**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,**

**NORTHAMPTON GUILDHALL**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 - 18:00**

**PRESENT:** Councillor R Ashraf (Northampton Town Mayor);

Councillor D Meredith (Deputy Town Mayor)

**COUNCILLORS:** J Alwahabi, J Birch, M Brown, N Choudary, R Connolly, M Hallam, J Fuchshuber, S Hibbert, K Holland-Delamere, F Ismail, P Joyce, A Kilbride, J Lane, L Marriott, T Miah, B Purser, C Russell, D Soan, W Tarasiewicz

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:** S Carter (Town Clerk), F Barford (Democratic Services Officer), L Hannam-Jones (Events and Projects Officer) and Josephine Haines (Events and Project Officer).

Before the formal start of the meeting, the Town Mayor introduced and welcomed the new Officers; Miss F Barford the new Democratic Services Officer, the two new Event and Project Officers Miss J Haines and, Mrs L Hannam-Jones to Northampton Town Council. Moreover, the Town Mayor congratulated Councillors from the Eid Management Group and Officers, who supported the first annual Eid in the Racecourse event which went most successfully. The Town Mayor in addition thanked Councillors and Officers for the support they provided throughout her Mayoralty as this was her last Council meeting prior to a new Town Mayor was elected.

**50. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCES**

Apologies were submitted by Councillors A Stevens, T Eales, G Eales and, E Haque.

**51. PUBLIC QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS**

There were no questions or statements submitted.

**52. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interests submitted.

**53. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** To authorise the Town Mayor to sign Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 as the true and correct record of proceedings.

#### **54. TO RECEIVE AND WHERE APPROPRIATE ADOPT THE DECISIONS AS DETAILED IN THE MINUTES OF THE UNDER MENTIONED COMMITTEES**

- (a) **RESOLVED:** That the minutes from the Environment Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022 be received, approved and adopted.
- (b) In presentation of the minutes of the Community Services Committee, Councillor J Birch made attendees aware of the great work Northampton Town Council had completed in partnership with Goodwill Solutions, and Northampton Helps Ukraine for those who had fled Ukraine during the conflict.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes from the Community Service Committees meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 be received, approved and adopted.

- (c) In response to a question posed to Councillor Brown they explained, Northampton Town Council Planning Committee considered a high volume of applications and a policy was adopted that only applications raised by Councillors would be commented on. Therefore, some HMO applications may not be discussed during meetings however, Northampton Town Council maintained a consistent policy asking for sufficient room size and bathing facilities are sufficient within HMO properties.

Councillor Purser, added it was intended that the Planning Committee would engage more formally with West Northamptonshire Council's Planning Team. The Town Clerk stated he had contacted West Northamptonshire Council's planning department to request a briefing on Neighbourhood Plans and HMOs.

*Clerk's note: A speaker from West Northamptonshire Council's Planning Team will be attending the next Planning Committee meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022.*

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes from the Planning Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 be received, approved and adopted.

- (d) **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 be received, approved and adopted.

#### **55. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR)**

Councillor L Marriott explained to attendees that the AGAR were enclosed within the agenda for this Full Council meeting (attached at appendix A). The AGAR is legally required to be completed annually at the end of the Financial Year by local councils. Northampton Town Council's AGAR was independently verified by external auditors from Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils, Internal Audit Service (Northants CALC IAS). The Auditor had commented that they were pleased with the prominence of Northampton Town Council's financial workings, risk assessments, policies and internal controls implemented so far. In addition to individual checks completed by members of the Accounts Sub-Committee.

**RESOLVED:** That the Annual Governance & Accountability Return as detailed on page 5 be approved, adopted and signed.

## **56. FINAL ACCOUNTS 2021/2022**

The Final Accounts were presented to the Council by Councillor L Marriott. It was highlighted that the accounts had been scrutinised by the Finance and Policy Committee and auditors prior to this meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That the Final Accounts for Financial Year 2021-2022 be received, approved and adopted.

**RESOLVED:** That the Accounting Statement as detailed on Page 5 of the AGAR be approved, adopted and signed.

## **57. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AGREED BY MEMBERS.**

**RESOLVED:** That the proposed calendar of meetings for the municipal Year 2022-2023 as attached at Appendix B be approved.

**MEETING CONCLUDED 18:23PM**

**X**

---

Councilor Dennis Meredith  
Northampton Town Mayor