

WELLINGTON EXTRAORDINARY TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES 26 JANUARY 2022

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT WELLINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE WHITE HART LANE TA21 8HN ON WEDNESDAY 26 JANUARY 2021 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor M Lithgow (Mayor),
Councillors M Barr C Booth, A Govier, J Hunt, M McGuffie, S Pringle-Kosikowsky, V Stock-Williams, J Thorne

David Farrow (Town Clerk)

Two members of the public were in attendance and one member of the press.

444 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Mayor opened the meeting.

445 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Lloyd and Bradley.

Councillors W Battishill, R Henley and N Powell-Brace were absent.

446 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Barr, Booth, Govier, Lithgow and Stock-Williams declared personal interests as members of Somerset West and Taunton Council.

Councillors Govier, Hunt and Thorne declared personal interests as members of Somerset County Council.

Item 5 – Councillor Pringle-Kosikowsky declared a personal interest as his daughter attends Court Fields School and Councillor Govier declared a personal interest as a supporter of both the football and rugby clubs.

447 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the public addressed the Council in support of item 6.

448 TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO USE COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF PLAYING PITCHES IN THE TOWN

A report had been circulated with the agenda. It was **RESOLVED**

(a) the Town Council agrees to use its CIL budget to enable the aspirations of all sports clubs that have submitted bids for Section 106 funding to be met and that

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(b) that the CIL funding to meet the full cost of the £150,000 requested by Court Fields School as a contribution to it's 3G Pitch project on the basis that the funding is needed in November/December 2022 with the remaining S106 funding being used to support the football club developments at Longforth Farm and the rugby club developments on its Beech Grove Pitch.

The Town Clerk was asked to continue discussions with the Rugby club in relation bringing the footpath between the Recreation Ground and the nature reserve back in to public ownership.

449 TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF LAND

A report had been circulated with the agenda. It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council

(a) welcomes the proposal by SWT to buy the areas of land detailed in Appendix A to the report:

(b) offer financial support towards the purchase of the land and commence discussions with SWT in relation to the future control and ownership of relevant parcels of the land recognising the many benefits of the Town Council having a core role in having oversight of the land. This may include both future lease and purchase options.

(c) if SWT is unable to implement its proposal the Town Council will seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up Housing and Communities to apply for a PWLB loan for the purpose of purchasing land.

(d) that, as part of the process in (c) above the Council commence a period of public consultation to last for one month as required by the process.

450 TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL TO APPLY TO THE PUBLIC WORKS LOAN BOARD FOR A LOAN TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COST OF THE REPLACEMENT OF THE LONGFORTH ROAD TOILET BLOCK

It was **RESOLVED** to defer a decision on this item considering information received prior to the meeting that CIL funding that had been due to be received over the next 3 years would now be being paid in full in April. It was agreed that the new Council being formed in May should review the priorities for CIL spending in light of this change.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

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Councillor Mark Lithgow
Mayor