

FINEDON TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: Ms Ally Chang

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council – 1451

Wednesday 21 October 2020 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs Terry Kendall-Torry (Chairman), Ray Ogle, Malcolm Ward, Jim Wrigley, Laurence Harper, Stuart Cooper, Neil Done, Neil Forster, Lynette Kendall-Torry and Andrew Weatherill

Ally Chang – Clerk, Julia Tufnail – RFO, 3 members of the public

65/20-21 Apologies for Absence were accepted from Cllrs Gordon Swann, Gill Spencer, Dennis Willmott and Gill Mercer – NCC

66/20-21 There was no declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct.

67/20-21 The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9 September 2020 were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

68/20-21 Public Participation session - The resident raised concerns of litter, dog fouling and that only the edges of Tainty Field had been cut at this time. It was agreed the Clerk would respond regarding the status of the Pocket Park.

69/20-21 **Open Spaces**

Cllr Stuart Cooper confirmed a site visit would be needed to assess the Pocket Park for any actions that may be required.

Banks Park

a) Clerk reported on the weekly inspections, noting that the Covid-19 signs in the play area had become insecure. It was confirmed that the Chairman had drilled new holes and re-secured the Covid-19 signs.

b) The Council **resolved** to take over the Water and Electricity bills from the Tennis Club at Banks Park; subject to the provision that the electricity supply is sufficient for the Council's desired usage. Clerk to arrange inspection for electricity and external water supply.

c) The Chairman reported that Finedon Buffs would be planting the Christmas Tree in Banks Park free of charge on 7 November 2020.

War Memorial & Green - Clerk reported that the Council's Solicitors were awaiting the Sworn Declaration from WBC.

Cemetery

a) Cllr Done updated the Council on his site visits to the Cemetery and advised that Off-Grid electricity supply would be more feasible and cost efficient than mains supplied electricity.

b) The Clerk reported that there were no grants available from WBC for the Cemetery project, Cllr Andrew Weatherill confirmed that he would explore funding for the Cemetery and chapels.

c) It was **resolved** that the revaluation for the Cemetery and two chapels on Station Road was not necessary until works had been completed. However the Clerk was instructed to insure the Cemetery and Chapels at a total value of £500,000.00.

d) The RFO reported that she had not received two of the three sealed quotes for the rotten wood work on the Chapels, therefore an extraordinary meeting would be held once received. The Council confirmed an interim payment would be made to the painter for the works he has carried out thus far if requested.

70/20-21 **Community Matters**

a) The Remembrance Sunday Service risk assessment was approved but the Council noted that this was subject to any change in Covid-19 legislation which would prevent the event proceeding.

b) The Council considered the proposal for the Skate Park at the Recreation Ground by James Beal and Keith Yates and confirmed their support in principal. Clerk to provide contact details for WBC.

c) The Council approved the proposal for a Farmers Market, Councillor Terry Kendall-Torry agreed to make further enquiries and report back to Council.

The Clerk was requested to send an official letter of thanks to Pete Donaldson for his voluntary upkeep of the War Memorial and gardens. Clerk to include him as a volunteer onto the Council's insurance.

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- d) The Council confirmed it would consider providing signage encouraging individuals to not litter as part of the signage project.
- e) The Council agreed to use a tree guard from the Green to place around the Oak Tree Sapling in Tainty Field.
- f) The Council **resolved** to approve a resident donating a Silver Birch for Tainty Field, Cllrs Stuart Cooper and Lynette Kendall-Torry to assess a suitable location.

71/20-21

Planning Applications

WP/20/00454/FUL (26 Burton Road) –no comment
20/01048/LAPNEW (Co-op Northbound Service Station) – no comment
WP/20/00448/FUL (83 Oxford Street) – no comment
WP/20/00496/FUL (32 Ewenfield Road) – no objection
WP/20/00553/LBC (42 Church Street) – no objection
WP/20/00494/FUL (5 Tingdene Road) – no objection
WP/20/00071/REM (Stanton Cross) – no comment
WP/20/00563/FUL (103 Irthlingborough Road) – no comment
WP/20/00592/FUL (18 Church Street) – no issue
WP/20/00614/LBC (42 Church Street) – no comment
WP/20/00642/FUL (Flat B Second Floor, 18 Wellingborough Road) - no comment

72/20-21

Highways

The council **resolved** that the Clerk purchase two spare batteries for the VAS signs at £40.00 each

73/20-21

Finance

- a. The Internal Control report from Cllr Kendall-Torry had been conducted without issue and Cllr Ray Ogle agreed to do the next checks.
- b. The Financial Report & Bank and Budget Reconciliation were considered, proposed and duly agreed.
- c. The payments due to 21.10.2020 were considered and duly agreed.
- d. It was **resolved** that the Clerk and the Responsible Financial Officer both be members of the Northants Local Government Pension Scheme.
- e. It was **resolved** that the RFO would make an amendment to the Clerk's Contract of Employment to reflect the 2020 pay negotiations raising the leave entitlement to 22 days, pro rata for part-time employees.
- f. It was **resolved** that the Clerk could take time in lieu for completing New Clerks training with NCALC on Saturday 12 September and Saturday 19 September 2020 totalling 12 hours.
- g. The Council **resolved** that the Christmas closure would be Monday 21 December 2020 to Monday 4 January 2021.
- h. The Council approved the 2021 council meeting dates as follows: 13 January, 17 February, 24 March, 19 May (First Meeting of the Council after the election), 23 June - further dates to be set in June 2021.
- i. The external Auditors report for the year 2019-20 was considered, approved and adopted. It was noted they had been displayed as required on the Notice Board and Website.

74/20-21

Community Asset Transfer

- a. The Council approved the request for the transfer of Recreation Ground, Toilets on the Recreation Ground and Obelisk from WBC.
- b. The Council approved the application for the transfer.

75/20-21

No report was received from Gill Mercer, NCC.

76/20-21

The Clerk's Roundup was noted.

77/20-21

Round Table Comments for Report Only

Litter Pick to be added on the November agenda and the poor condition of the A6/Allen Road junction was raised.

78/20-21

Date of Next Meeting 25 November 2020 which will take place via Zoom.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.49pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: 25th November 2020