

Whitchurch Town Council

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FULL COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26th MARCH 2020

Held via telephone conference call due to Coronavirus Pandemic Lockdown

Taking into account guidance from National Association of Local Councils (NALC) members accepted this meeting via telephone conference call will need to be retrospectively ratified as the Local Government Act 1972 stipulates members must be physically present in a place. An audio recording has been made to confirm agreed resolutions in the Public Session. An email from Mayor Duffy evidences the resolutions agreed in the Confidential Session. Attached to these minutes is the guidance provided by the Locum Clerk.

Between the meeting and the minutes being approved new emergency legislation was enacted to allow for virtual meetings – effective 4th April 2020.

PRESENT

Cllrs: B. Duffy, L. Broders, A. Chesters, A. Hall, S. Hamlyn, J. Martin, S. Radford, J. Sinnott, R. Shepherd, H. Vasey and C. Gregory-Peake.

NOT PRESENT

Cllr: Mike Barker

IN ATTENDANCE

Shaun Jones –Locum Clerk

In line with the Council's Meeting Recording Policy, the Chairman asked if anyone was recording the meeting, no declarations were made.

1. Apologies

Cllr Rose-Mary Snell – self isolating
Cllr Tony Neville – illness
Cllr Terry O'Neill – illness

2. Declarations of Interest None received.

3. Mayor's Announcements

Thanks to Councillors for joining the meeting via conference call. If you can speak through the Chair the experience should be smooth.

4. To approve revised Civic Centre room hire rates and conditions to take effect 1st April 2020.

Cllr Duffy requested this item be deferred, the Civic Centre is currently closed.

Signed

5. To approve the Whitchurch Town Council High Consequence Infectious Disease policy. Appendix A

Reference made by Cllr Duffy to Appendix A and an sent by email advising that COVID-19 is no longer considered to be a High consequence infectious disease (HCID) in the UK.

That said Council are willing to accept the policy as drafted on 11th March 2020 and when activating will note the downgrade on 19th March 2020.

After a proposal from Cllr Shepherd, seconded by Cllr Hamlyn,

It was **WTC/197/1920 RESOLVED** to approve the High Consequence Infectious Disease Policy. All in favour.

5.1 To consider activating the High Consequence Infectious Disease policy.

After a proposal from Cllr Chesters, seconded by Cllr Shepherd,

It was **WTC/198/1920 RESOLVED** to activate the HCID policy with the understanding that COVID-19 has since been delisted but still require the scope and provisions of the policy to come into force. All in favour.

6. Confidential

After a proposal by Cllr Gregory-Peake, seconded by Cllr Shepherd it was **WTC/199/1920 RESOLVED** that under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded for the remainder of the meeting because of the likely disclosure of private and confidential information or staff matters.

All recordings were ceased.

7. Staffing Matter

7.1 To approve the appointment of a temporary member of staff. (LGA 1972 s.112;s151)

After a proposal by Cllr Duffy, seconded by Cllr Hamlyn it was **WTC/200/1920 RESOLVED** to appoint the Locum Clerk, Shaun Jones, with immediate effect with a review every 5 working days conducted by the Chair of the Council, Chair of the Personnel Committee and Chair of the Finance Committee. Vice Chairs to stand in, in the case of absence of Chairs.

Agreed unanimously (same Cllrs present as at the public session just previous).

Meeting closed at 7.50pm

Chairman

Date