

MINUTES of an EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING of WILTON TOWN COUNCIL held online on: TUESDAY 23rd March 2021 at 7.00pm

Joining the Meeting online

Cllr Andy Kinsey – Mayor of Wilton
Cllr Charlotte Blackman – Deputy Mayor of Wilton
Cllr Pauline Church
Cllr Alan Crossley
Cllr Peter Edge
Cllr Paula Johnston
Cllr Teresa Taylor

In Attendance Mrs C Churchill, *Town Clerk*, Mr M Bastick, *Assistant Clerk* and Mr H Abel, *Minute Secretary*.

Also Present (*names recorded as presented on each individual's screen*) Maria La Femina, Susan's iPad

Cllr Kinsey in the chair

Community engagement

- *Maria La Femina – (re wild flower area)* she told the meeting that three quarters of the area in Castle Meadow had now been seeded and asked if the Town Council could provide three fence panels with scalloped tops to guide people and animals away from walking on the seeded area whilst it is developing.
- *Cllr Church – (re pigeons/doves around the Council Chamber)* she had received concerns about the number of pigeons/doves around the Council Chamber area and the mess made by their droppings. One observer had counted about 85 birds at one time. She wondered if there was a way to distract them from the area.

Councillor Pauline Church gave her report to the Town Council

- *Covid Update* – presently, the rate of infections throughout the county is 25.4 per 100,000. In the 60 plus age group it is 8.6 per 100,000, and in the 15 to 19 age group it is 55.5 per 100,000. The Council is supporting 17 schools in the county experiencing limited infections. There is evidence of peoples' attitudes changing with the vaccination programme and becoming more relaxed about social distancing.
- *Wilton Parkway/Junction* – The public meeting called for by Cllr Edge produced lots of positive feedback from residents. It's now down to John Glenn to lobby the rail minister, Chris Heaton-Harris
- *Wilton Hill & Erskine Park Residents* – At the meeting with residents on 9th March about 40 people attended and there had been progress in some areas but not others and she is keeping the pressure up on Redrow for the things they need to be doing. With regard to the section 106 agreements, planning consent is in position but the lawyers are checking to see if the situation complies with the original 106 agreements. Details of the process are now in the public domain.
- *Highways Issues* – Cllr Matthews highlighted that the yellow hatching in Silver Street needed repainting and I have put in a request for that. Highways have been asked to deal with the No Entry signs on North Street and tree growth obscuring a sign – may be able to get the Parish Steward to deal with that. White lining around Downside and Barford St Martin Primary school have been requested. Also, the small bund off Wishford Road to stop water running down towards a property.

- *Southern Area planning meeting* – She attended to object to the application for an infill next to the chapel and spoke against it as did another resident of the chapel unfortunately the application was approved by the committee.

Questions for Cllr Church

Cllr Crossley – (re Trans Wilts meeting) He asked why there had been no reference to future housing at the meeting.

Cllr Church – told the meeting that the case for Wilton Junction was quite strong enough without the need to bring in additional elements.

Cllr Edge (re grant to Wilton Help) – said he was disappointed that whilst Mere and Tisbury were awarded substantial grants, Wilton Help only received £500.

Cllr Church – said she was also disappointed but it had been a difficult meeting.

Cllr Church left the meeting

AGENDA

60/21 Apologies

Cllr Matthews had sent his apologies because he could not enter the meeting.

Cllr Church apologised for having to leave the meeting to attend another meeting.

Resolved: to accept these apologies and the reasons for them

61/21 Minutes

To approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 2nd March 2021.

Cllr Crossley proposed the following amendments:

- In 52/21 it should read Extra Ordinary meeting and not Extraordinary meeting.
- The accounting system is RIALTAS and not RIATUS
- He should have been recorded as proposing the request for pollution monitoring.

Cllr Edge proposed the following amendments:

- Re CCTV in Wilton – both systems are under the control of Wilton Town Council
- Re dipping pond – the minutes state that ID Verde will be asked to fence off the platform. Whereas it had previously been agreed that the Men's Shed would carry out repairs.

Cllr Johnston proposed the following amendment

- the school is referred to as Downside School whereas it is Wilton school in Downside.

Cllr Blackman proposed the following amendment:

- Item 41/52 Mayor's Updates is incomplete. It says Cllr Kinsey had not been called upon to . . .

Cllr Kinsey told the meeting that he had not been called upon to do anything.

With these amendments, the minutes of the meeting of 2nd March 2021 were approved.

(prop Cllr Edge, sec Cllr Crossley - unanimous)

62/21 Declarations of Interest

- a. Cllr Johnston declared a personal interest in matters relating to windows at the Council premises because it was adjacent to her house.

Cllr Kinsey declared a personal interest in matters relating to the windows at the Council premises

- b. Dispensation requests – none had been submitted

Resolved: to note

63/21 Community Engagement

- *Wild flower area* – Cllr Kinsey proposed that the Clerk gets some prices for fence panels. Cllr Johnston proposed that the Clerk and Maria La Femina liaise and get the panels as soon as possible. This was agreed.

- *Pigeons/Doves* – Cllr Crossley suggested that the Council consult to find out what means might be available to control or deter these birds from the area. Cllr Johnston told the meeting that the birds were in fact doves some of which had interbred with pigeons and they appear seasonally, not year-round. After discussion it was agreed to take external advice about ways of deterring the birds from the Council Chamber area.

64/21 Mayor's Updates

Cllr Kinsey – told the meeting that he had not been called upon to do anything

65/21 Castle Meadow Pavilion Hire Charges

(i) To review the current charges for hire of Castle Meadow and the Pavilion.

After discussion it was agreed not to increase the charges at present. (*prop Cllr Edge, sec Cllr Blackman – all in favour*)

(ii) To review the current booking form for the pavilion.

It was agreed that the Mayor would meet with the Clerk and Assistant Clerk to review the form and update it if necessary.

66/21 Cemetery Charges

To review confirm the current charges for the Cemetery.

it was agreed not to increase the charges at present. (*prop Cllr Kinsey, sec Cllr Edge – all in favour*)

67/21 Insurance for Wilton Town Council

To confirm the insurance renewal for the forthcoming year

Cllr Johnston asked for confirmation that bus shelters were covered. The Clerk said that if they belonged to the Town Council they were classed as Street Furniture and covered. Cllr Johnston also asked about the tennis nets and posts as well as the outdoor gym equipment and the Old St Mary's Church wall. The Clerk would check that this was so.

Cllr Blackman proposed that the Town Council accept the Broker's recommendation but take out the flooding excess for the pavilion. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Crossley – all in favour.

68/21 Grounds Maintenance for Wilton commencing 1st April 2021

The Town Council's grounds maintenance contractor costs £43,710.40 a year. The five year contract comes to an end on 31st March. It was agreed to ask the present contractor to extend the existing contract for a further six months. (*Prop Cllr Johnston, sec Cllr Edge – nem con*)

69/21 Managing the Council's Money

(i) To confirm the Asset Register for Wilton Town Council.

This was a work in progress and would be presented to a future Council Meeting.

(ii) To confirm the annual payment for the Wilton Town website / domain names

Members were not convinced of the need to retain anything apart from the Wilton Town Council.gov.uk website. Cllr Kinsey proposed that the Town Council get rid of all surplus web sites and domain names. (*prop Cllr Kinsey, - all in favour*)

(iii) To confirm payments as per attached pay schedule.

It was agreed to remove payment of £450 to Sarum Bear. The payment to Mainstream Digital was questioned as being too high in today's market. The Clerk said the contract with Mainstream Digital was thought to be 5 years. It was proposed that this be looked into and re-negotiated if possible

Resolved to approve payments (*prop Cllr Kinsey, sec Cllr Blackman – all in favour*)

(iv) To receive an update on the Town Clerk's and Assistant Clerk's access to the Town Council bank Account. The Clerk told the meeting that she can't authorise payments as she is not a full signatory. Cllr Edge said that he was prepared to try and sort this out with the bank.

Resolved to approve that the Clerk become a Full Signatory (*prop Cllr Kinsey, sec Cllr Crossley – unanimous*)

70/21 Maintenance of the Council Building

(i) To receive a verbal update on the replacement boiler and new heating at the Council office.

The Clerk reported that the new boiler had been installed, the old night storage radiators removed and the system is working well both downstairs and in the Council Chamber.

(ii) & (iii) To consider quotes to replace the two large windows in the council office

It was suggested that a new quote be sought for replacing all the windows in the Council office and in Harvey & Snowden's office so that they all match in style.

(iv) To receive an update on investigating the gutters and downpipes.

The Clerk reported that she had not yet been able to source a drone operator capable of surveying the Town Council's roofs.

71/21 Planning and Tree Applications

To respond to Wiltshire Council Planning on the following planning and tree applications

21/01609/FUL - 3 Fairview Road, Wilton. Proposed two storey side extension and associated internal alterations and garden office.

Resolved: To Support

21/01807/FUL - 46, Shaftesbury Road Wilton - Extension to the existing pitched roof in order to provide home office accommodation within the roof space.

Resolved: To Support

21/02076/FUL - 3 North Street Wilton - Renovation of the first floor accommodation & associated alterations.

Resolved: To Support

21/02542/TCA - The Bear Inn 12 West Street - T1 /T2 - Ash trees - remove.

Resolved: To Support – subject to confirmation from Wiltshire Council's arboriculturist

72/21 To note the following decisions made by the LPA

20/05989/FUL - Land Adj Church Ct Crow Lane Approve with conditions

21/00144/FUL - 24 The Hollows, Wilton Approve with conditions

Resolved: to note

73/20 Highway Issues

(i) To receive an update on the removal of the Perspex from the bus shelter on Burcombe Lane. The Assistant Clerk has received the third quote and will order the panels this week.

(ii) To receive an update on the request for Community Speed Watch at the Avenue. The Clerk told the meeting that she has been unable to contact CSW.

(iii) Replacement Street signs within the Town. The Assistant Clerk reported that he had ordered the street signs and that they were now in production.

(iv) Members were reminded that any issues regarding Highway defects (eg potholes) should be reported using the MyWilts reporting system.

74/21 Amenity Matters

- (i) Bulbridge play area – The Assistant Clerk confirmed that the items had been ordered and would be delivered by the end of April
- (ii) Wishford Road play area – the lease has now come through. It was agreed that the Assistant Clerk and Cllr Taylor go through the different options and seek quotes to present to the Town Council.
- (iii) Replacement benches for South Street – It was agreed that two benches would be sufficient and the Assistant Clerk will add another bench to the current order.
- (iv) Martin Coombes memorial bench – it was noted that this will be installed on Friday 26th March

75/21 Date of next meeting

To note that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th April 2021 at 7.00pm – meeting format to be confirmed.

76/21 To close the meeting

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.52pm.

Equality Statement

In the exercise of their responsibilities, Wilton Town Councillors have committed to uphold the Code of Conduct and to have full regard of the following in decision making:

- Equal Opportunities (age, race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability)
- Data Protection(GDPR)
- Health & Safety
- Human Rights.