

**Minutes of the Town Council meeting
held remotely via Zoom on Thursday 5th November 2020 at 7pm**

Present: Chairman: Cllr J Devlin
Vice-Chairman: Cllr J Clark

Councillors: A Adshead, R Clark, M Dear, J Henshaw, K Herlock,
M Moore, K Mordecai, C Roberts, M Roessler, D Spencer, G Talbot,
A Talboys, M Thomas, J Tutton

Also in attendance: 6 members of the public and the Town Clerk

134. Apologies for absence

Cllrs C Dyer and L Mitchelmore

135. Declaration of Interest with regard to items on the Agenda

None

136. Co-Option

Members were reminded that there are currently two vacant seats on the Town Council - one in East Ward and the other in West Ward. Six candidates had presented themselves for co-option. Cllr Devlin explained to the candidates that they would be invited to say a few words about themselves then the Town Clerk would move them into the Zoom waiting room whilst members voted. Voting took place with both successful candidates having to receive at least 50% of the votes cast by those members present and voting.

RESOLVED: that Gary Bott be elected to East Ward and Robin Mohseni elected to West Ward.

The new members signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office (virtually) and took their seats

137. Public Participation Session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

None.

138. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 11th August 2020

Members (a) received and considered the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11th August 2020 and (b) approved the signing of the minutes as a true record.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th August 2020 be approved and adopted.

The Chairman was unable to participate in the meeting due to IT issues and the Vice Chairman took over until these could be resolved.

In the Chair: Cllr J Clark

139. Committee Meetings

Members received and considered the minutes of:

(a) Health, Well-being and Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 13th October 2020. Cllr Moore said that the Mayflower statue was being installed at Jim

Shields on 10th November. Members considered and discussed the recommendation that unspent budget lines are vired to cover the statue shortfall.

RESOLVED: that unspent amounts from Health, Well-being and Environment budget lines are moved as appropriate (“virement”) to cover the shortfall in the Mayflower statue project.

(b) Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 22nd October 2020. Cllr Adshead informed members that the Chantry Centre build is complete. The electricity supply is connected so the builders will now commission services, finish their decoration works then perform a deep clean and snagging before the Council can move in. This is expected to take approximately three weeks.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of both the above Committee meetings are approved and adopted.

Cllr Devlin returned to the meeting.

In the Chair: Cllr J Devlin

140. Chairman’s Report

Cllr Devlin advised members of the activities he had undertaken since the last meeting in August. These included the EALC AGM and a High Street meeting with Basildon Borough Council. He also informed members about what would be happening on Remembrance Sunday.

RESOLVED: information noted

141. Planning Meetings to Resume via Zoom

Cllr Devlin said that due to the resignation of Cllr Mitchelmore who had requested that this item be placed on the Agenda, it would now be deferred for discussion at a later date. Members were saddened to hear of Cllr Mitchelmore’s resignation and Cllr Adshead proposed that the Council gave a vote of thanks to Cllr Mitchelmore for all her hard work on planning matters.

RESOLVED: (i) that discussions about holding planning meetings via Zoom is deferred to a later date, and; **(ii)** A vote of thanks is given to Cllr Mitchelmore for all of her hard work and efforts with regard to planning matters during her time on the Council.

142. Annual Review of Standing Orders

RESOLVED: to approve the annual review of standing orders with no revisions/amendments.

143. Preparation for Remembrance Sunday 8th November

Members were asked if they would be prepared to undertake an inspection and sweep up any leaves on Sunday morning prior to the wreath laying by Cllr Devlin. Several councillors volunteered and it was agreed that they would undertake the work being mindful of the need for social distancing.

RESOLVED: information noted

144. Items for Consideration for Press Release/Social Media

(a) Community Special Constables. Cllr Devlin noted that there had been 14 applications from prospective Billericay Community Special Constables since the scheme started, but unfortunately none had actually progressed to the training stage.

(b) Public Consultation and Public Sector Surveys. Cllr Devlin explained this is a consultation by Government on the Nolan principles and urged members to view the survey.

RESOLVED: information noted.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm

Cllr Devlin Date.....
Chairman