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WINSLOW TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the MEETING of COUNCIL

Thursday 3rd. October 2024, at 7.00pm, at 28 High Street Winslow MK18 3HF

Present: Cllrs. Bishopp (Chair), Castle, Cornell, Goss, Hamley, Ives, Keys, Monger, Slevin, and Wiseman.

Absent: Cllrs Cawte, Onley . Apologies accepted.

Clerk: C Loch:

In attendance: Apologies from Buckinghamshire Cllrs. J Chilver and Stanier. One member of the public was present. No press attended.

24/69 Declarations of Interest in matters to be discussed:

Cllr. Bishopp declared a personal interest in the Bowls Club.

Consideration of Applications for Dispensation:

None

24/70 Minutes of Meetings held 5th. September 2024:

RESOLVED that the minutes be signed as a true record.

Matters Arising: None

24/71 Administration, Finance and Payments for Signature:

Authorisation of payments: Members considered the payments listings for September totalling £10,547.61 and RESOLVED to approve the listing for electronic payment.

Budget: Members were asked to consider points to be raised for the Budget and advise the Clerk accordingly. A draft would be prepared for the Finance & Resources meeting on Nov. 26th.

War Memorial Institute: The Clerk reported that two councillors were required to represent the Council for the CCLA. It was RESOLVED that Cllrs. Wiseman and Keys be appointed.

24/72 Correspondence Received: If not addressed elsewhere on the agenda

Winslow MP: Mr. Callum Anderson, the newly elected MP, would be advising possible dates when he could meet with Councillors.

24/73 Reports from Outside Bodies

AVALC. There had been no further meetings.

Rogers Educational Trust: There were no matters to report.

Winslow Association of Business and Community:

The next meeting would be on Wed, October 9th at 5pm.

24/74. Committees

Amenities:

The committee was currently busy with plans for the Playground and Burial Ground. They would meet with Glendale to discuss specification issues and procurement on the playground on Oct 8th. The Committee had also done a detailed review of the Devolution Agreement and would report to Council at the November meeting.

Development:

There had been no further progress on Community Governance and discussions with Addington. It was agreed that Cllr. Monger would progress discussions in future. Cllrs Cawte and Slevin had both attended briefing sessions on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan and the matter would now be dealt with by the Development Committee.

Events:

The Clerk reported that there had been a meeting with WABC and Lions to discuss the extended and improved Christmas Fair. They had been told that permission to close the High St. would be given on October 14/15th. There would be further meeting on October 15th.

Finance & Resources:

BDB had sent a further revised draft Trust Deed. It was anticipated that it would soon be ready to go to the Trustees and Council for approval and would then be followed by a second stage of getting Charities Commission approval.

Biodiversity Steering Group: It was RESOLVED that the Terms of reference be approved with the minor amendment of clarifying the phrase "three councillors and members of the public".

24/75 Reports from Buckinghamshire Councillors

Buckinghamshire Councillor D. Goss reported that his main focus at present was parking and he had also spent a lot of time on Community Governance. He had also recently met with our MP. Callum Anderson who was keen to meet and work with WTC.

Community Board Matters

Cllr. Monger reported on the meeting of Sept 26th. Of the 21 in attendance almost half were Buckinghamshire Councillors or employees. Under the new format there would be some 51 parishes in the group and it was difficult to see how this could work effectively. He had requested clarification on the proposed budget and also asked how they would ensure an equitable distribution of grant funding. There was concern over the state of the Market Square and also that although it had been indicated that there had been an order to clear rubbish at the former TSB site, little had happened. Flooding on the A413 at Addington was still to be resolved.

24/76 Current Strategic Issues

East west Rail

Information on who would operate the line and what was to happen East of Winslow was still difficult to come by, but they are hoping to organise a liaison meeting in November after the Budget was announced. Chiltern Rail, the assumed operator, were keen to meet with WTC as were Marston Vale Community Rail Partnership, and Chiltern Rail will be asked to consider whether a joint meeting would be appropriate.

Community Facilities Phase II; Recreation Ground Project.

The current focus was on the changing rooms element and plans for the playground. There would be a further meeting on October 23rd.

Parking: There had been repeated attempts to engage with Buckinghamshire Council on town centre parking and detailed proposals for possible solutions had been provided to them for consideration. A response had now been promised in two weeks time. Until agreement was reached with Buckinghamshire Council it was difficult to formulate a policy on managing the public hall car park but there would be a meeting next week with one management company to discuss what might be possible. It was expected that a further informal consultation in respect of station related parking would commence soon.

E V Charging:

This was now awaiting confirmation of the power supply from National Grid.

Winslow Centre Development /Sports Hub.

The meeting scheduled for October 1st. had been cancelled as Buckinghamshire Council were not ready to provide a more detailed update.

Bowls Club:

Members Resolved that under the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded due to the sensitivity of the business to be discussed).

Members discussed plans for replacement changing rooms with disabled facilities to cater for both home and visiting teams as well as supporting events in the park. Having considered quoted costs and initial plans, it was RESOLVED that an s106 application for approximately £100,000 be put forward to Buckinghamshire Council for approval.

The meeting was reconvened

Items for Information:

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday November 7th.

The excellent work done by SGN in reinstating the gas supply after the recent serious incident in Winslow was noted and the Clerk was asked to write and express the Council's appreciation for their work.

Meeting Closed 20.27 pm.

Signed: (Chair) at Meeting (date)