**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14TH MARCH 2018 AT THE OFFICES OF OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL, VICTORIA HALL, 39 HIGH STREET, OAKHAM**

**PRESENT:**

Cllrs, Michael Haley (Chair) Martin Brookes, Miss Sally-Anne Wadsworth, Nick Woodley, Paul Buxton, Mrs Joyce Lucas BEM (part), Adam Lowe, David Romney, Peter Ind, Mrs Anne Skipworth, Mrs Jean Denyer MBE

**ABSENT:**

**38/18 APOLOGIES - Standing Order 1(u)**

(i) None received

**39/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

1. No Disclosable Pecuniary Interests were declared
2. Cllr Lowe declared an interest in item 16. He stated he would not take part in discussion and would abstain in any vote under this item of business

**40/18 MINUTES *(Appendix A)***

1. It was proposed by Cllr Ind, seconded by Cllr Romney and resolved with 7 votes for, and 4 abstentions that the minutes of the meeting of Oakham Town Council held on Wednesday 14th March 2018 were accepted and signed by the Chairman and adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting
2. It was proposed by Cllr Romney, seconded by Cllr Wadsworth and resolved with 8 votes for, and 3 abstentions that the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on Thursday 22nd February 2018 were accepted and signed by the Chairman and adopted as a true and accurate record of that meeting

**41/18 CHAIRMAN AND MEMBER’S REPORTS (*Appendix B*)**

1. Cllr Ind gave a verbal report on the Open Forum meeting he had attended
2. Cllr Woodley tabled and a gave verbal report on the recent Task and Finish meeting he had attended

**42/18 COUNCILLOR’S QUESTIONS**

None received

**43/18 CLERK’S REPORT (*Appendix C*)**

Members noted the report

**44/18 DEPUTATIONS BY THE PUBLIC**

None

**45/18 WORKING GROUPS AND STEERING GROUPS STRATEGY (*Appendices D i, ii)***

1. Members noted the NGSG report subject to a couple of minor typographical errors

**46/18 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (*Appendices E, i, ii)***

(i) It was proposed by Cllr Ind, seconded by Cllr Lowe and resolved by 10 votes for and 1 abstention to approve the Statement of Accounts to 28th February 2018

(ii) It was proposed by Cllr Lowe, seconded by Cllr Wadsworth and resolved with 10 votes for and 1 abstention to approve the financial budget to 28th February 2018

1. Accordingly, every single expenditure item was considered and voted on:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Cost  £ | Proposed | Seconded | U | F | A | Ab |
| Bunting | 750.00 | Cllr Romney | Cllr Brookes | U |  |  |  |
| Wallgate Service Contract | 317.00 p/a | Cllr Lowe | Cllr Wadsworth |  | 10 | 1 |  |
| RCC Tree Assessment | 218.26 | Cllr Lowe | Cllr Woodley | U |  |  |  |

**47/18 RESIDENTS-ONLY PARKING ZONE (Appendix F)**

Members were asked to consider a residents-only parking zone be implemented in Sculthorpe Close. There was no proposer, so the motion fell

**48/18 PARKING ON HACKAMORE WAY (OPPOSITE ALDI) Appendix G)**

It was proposed by Cllr Woodley, seconded by Cllr Lucas and resolved with 9 votes for, 1 against

and 1 abstention by Cllr Lowe to defer this item until more information was received

**49/18 ADDITIONAL DISABLED PARKING SPACES IN OAKHAM (Appendix H)**

It was proposed by Cllr Woodley, seconded by Cllr Brookes and resolved with 10 votes for and 1 abstention by Cllr Lowe, that OTC regrets the proposal was not supported, but will bring to the attention of the Task and Finish Working Group, and for the Clerk to communicate to the Rutland Access Group of their informed reasons

**50/18 EVENTS SUPPORT (Appendices I i)**

It was proposed by Cllr Brookes, seconded by Cllr Romney and unanimously resolved that:

1. Cllrs Haley and Woodley arrange and deliver an interactive training event for all members
2. Cllrs Haley and Woodley develop a bespoke OTC Events Guide and risk assessment template for Council’s consideration.
3. Agenda papers to include a completed risk assessment and cost/benefit analysis

**51/18 REVISION TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS (Appendix J)**

1. It was proposed by Cllr Ind, seconded by Cllr Lowe and resolved with 8 votes for, 2 against and 1 abstention to suspend Standing Order 28 in order that the next item can be considered
2. It was proposed by Cllr Skipworth, seconded by Cllr Romney and resolved with 8 votes for, 2 against and 1 abstention that Financial Regulation 4.1 be amended to:

Expenditure on revenue items may be authorised up to the amounts included for that class of expenditure in the approved budget. This authority is to be determined by the Council for all items over £5,000. For expenditures of £5,000 or less in value the Clerk or the duly authorised deputy shall have executive power. Where expenditure is between £2,000 and £5,000 the Clerk is to seek approval from at least two appropriate members of the Council. Such expenditure is to be notified to the Council as soon as possible.

*At 8.24pm following verbal attacks on and shouted abuse aimed at the Clerk by Cllr Brookes, the Clerk left the meeting in a very distressed state.*

*Cllr Brookes repeatedly breached the Code of Conduct, so at 8.25pm, the Chairman suspended the meeting.*

*Cllrs Woodley and Lowe left the meeting and did not return.*

*Following counselling by the Chairman, the Clerk returned to the meeting at 8.30pm and the Chairman reconvened the meeting*

**52/18 AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS (Appendix K)**

It was proposed by Cllr Skipworth, seconded by Cllr Lucas and unanimously resolved to defer

this item and to seek further clarification

**53/18 ALLOTMENTS LEASE (Appendix L)**

It was proposed by Cllr Skipworth, seconded by Cllr Buxton and resolved with 8 votes for and 1 against by Cllr Brookes to approve the signing of the lease with OHGAS from April 1st 2018 to March 31st 2025

**54/18 ALLOTMENT RENT REVIEW (Appendix M)**

It was proposed by Cllr Ind, seconded by Cllr Lucas and resolved with 8 votes for and 1 against

to approve the recommended rent review increase

*It was proposed by Cllr Romney, seconded by Cllr Skipworth and unanimously resolved to extend the meeting by 15 minutes to 9.15pm to allow for business to be concluded*

**55/18 REQUEST TO USE CUTTS CLOSE**

It was proposed by Cllr Romney, seconded by Cllr Ind and resolved with 8 votes for and 1 abstention to grant permission for Hollands Fair to use Cutts Close from 1st May until Monday 7th May 2018

**56/18 CO-OPTION FOR THE OAKHAM NORTH EAST WARD VACANCY**

It was proposed by Cllr Ind, seconded by Cllr Romney and unanimously resolved to appoint Cllrs Lucas, Skipworth, Denyer and Haley on to the interview panel

**57/18 HEARING AID WORKING GROUP**

It was proposed by Cllr Skipworth, seconded by Cllr Wadsworth and unanimously resolved to appoint Cllrs Lucas, Haley and Ind on to the working group

**58/18 BUS STOP ENHANCEMENTS**

It was proposed by Cllr Romney, seconded by Cllr Ind and unanimously resolved to advise RCC on the following recommendations:

1. An installation of a bus stop flag on the Lonsdale Way and Churchill Road junction
2. A reverse shelter with perched seating on the High Street, outside Timpson’s and Loros shops, to prevent leaning on the window sills
3. An installation of a bus shelter nearest to the Hospital
4. Improvement on existing bus stops and signage

**59/18 EXEMPT ITEM**

It was proposed by Cllr Ind, seconded by Cllr Romney and unanimously resolved to exclude the Press and Public under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended, during consideration of Item 23 on the Agenda as they both concern confidential matters

**60/18** **REPORTS FROM THE STAFFING COMMITTEE (Appendices O i)**

(i) It was proposed by Cllr Skipworth, seconded by Cllr Wadsworth and unanimously resolved that Council offers Miss Erwin a permanent part time post of Office Assistant with the recommendations received from the Staffing Committee

(ii) It was proposed by Cllr Lucas, seconded by Cllr Ind and resolved with 7 votes for, 1 against and 1 abstention to reject the request

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 21.11

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**11 April 2018**

**Chairman**