

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020, HELD VIA ZOOM

PRESENT: Cllrs David Romney (Chair), Adam Lowe, Sally-Anne Wadsworth, Zoe Neal, Paul Buxton, Clerk to the Council

ABSENT: Cllr Jean Denyer MBE

IN THE PUBLIC GALLERY: None

The Chairman requested a minute's silence as a mark of respect following the recent death of Colonel James Weir OBE

135/20 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Denyer. Proposed these be accepted by Cllr Buxton, seconded by Cllr Neal, and unanimously resolved

136/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

137/20 MINUTES

Proposed by Cllr Wadsworth, seconded by Cllr Neal and resolved with 4 votes for and 1 abstention to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2020 as a true record of that meeting

138/20 DEPUTATIONS BY THE PUBLIC

None

139/20 COUNCILLOR'S QUESTIONS

None

140/20 CLERKS REPORT, ACTIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVE

General Maintenance

- Painting of 5 sets of swings in Cutts Close
- Painting metal work on the bandstand in Cutts Close
- Painting exercise equipment in Royce's park
- The bird nesting boxes in Cutts Close have been cleared out
- The litter bin in Crown Street has been reinstalled

Council Play Areas and Parks

- Bench and picnic table to be installed in Royce's park week commencing 5th October 2020

Other

- The towns floral displays will be removed week commencing 5th October 2020
- In September 2020, new regulations came into force making it a legal requirement for venues to log details of visitors, customers, and staff. The Council premises now has the system in place and a poster displaying Councils registered official NHS QR code

Correspondence received

- Letter from a resident regarding the temporary one-way system (supplementary document circulated)
- Email from a visitor to the town applauding the towns lovely floral displays and hanging baskets

Actions

Item	Date	Min Ref	Action	By Whom	Action/update
Tennis Club	15/07/20	101/21	A commercial Surveyor has been instructed to carry out a valuation	Office	Ongoing
Princess Avenue	12/08/20	114/20	A work order for 3 parking studio signs has been raised	Office	Ongoing. Signs have arrived. Installation due week commencing 28 th September 2020

141/20 CHAIRMAN AND MEMBER'S REPORTS

Cllr Romney in his capacity as Chairman gave a verbal report on a recent meeting he attended along with the Vice Chairman, Cllr Wadsworth, and a representative of the Mill Street Traders to discuss ways in which Mill Street could be better promoted to welcome back shoppers during the Coronavirus-era and beyond

142/20 WORKING GROUPS

A verbal report was received from Cllr Wadsworth on behalf of the Christmas working group, regarding the proposed Christmas lights on the shop facades along Mill Street

143/20 MILL STREET

- a) Members discussed ways in which the town could be better promoted to welcome back shoppers during the Coronavirus-era and beyond and considered initiatives of promoting the town in a bid to boost footfall. It was proposed by Cllr Lowe, seconded by Cllr Wadsworth, and unanimously resolved to approve funding for winter planting for the two High Street planters up to £200. To approve funding for a request of a street closure notice to coincide with an inaugural Mill Street late-night opening, and that the Clerk writes to RCC on behalf of the Mill Street Traders to explore the possibility if the first two hours of parking in Oakham carparks during December could be free of charge?
- b) Members also considered correspondence received in relation to the temporary one-way system, and determine what further actions are necessary, by the Council. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Romney, seconded by Cllr Neal, and unanimously resolved that on behalf of the Council, the Clerk notifies the Highways department at RCC that it considers the temporary one-way system in Mill Street to be ineffective and is no longer required

144/2 SCHEME OF DELEGATION DURING THE PERIOD OF COVID- 19 CONTINGENCY PLANNING

Proposed by Cllr Lowe, seconded by Cllr Wadsworth and unanimously resolved that due to the current ongoing uncertainty and situation regarding the coronavirus, the Council wishes to exercise its Scheme of Delegation to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman in accordance with Standing order 31, during the period of contingency planning necessary to allow the Clerk to take any appropriate action to respond on behalf of the Council to requests of donations of non-perishable items and financial support for the Rutland Memorial Hospital, Rutland Food Bank and other voluntary organisations

143/20 OAKHAM BANNER CAMPAIGN

Proposed by Cllr Romney, seconded by Cllr Neal and unanimously resolved to approve a banner campaign in the town to encourage shopping locally, and agree in principle nine banners up to an expenditure of £1000, subject to Highways approval. Council to agree the wording and to include on the banner, the Mill Street Traders hash tag

144/20 APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE

Proposed by Cllr Lowe, seconded by Cllr Buxton and unanimously resolved to approve the expenditure in respect of 50% for the commitment of installation dates for the Christmas displays

145/20 TO CONSIDER ANY CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO RUTLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

It was proposed by Cllr Lowe, seconded by Cllr Neal, and unanimously resolved to recommend approval:

- a) 2020/0982/CAT
- b) 2020/0979/FUL
- c) 2020/1010/CAT
- d) 2020/1003/PTA

146/20 2020-2021 NATIONAL PAY AWARD

Proposed by Cllr Romney, seconded by Cllr Lowe and unanimously resolved to note and approve the National Joint Council new pay scales for 2020-21 to be implemented and backdated from 1 April 2020

147/20 EXEMPT ITEM

Proposed by Cllr Romney, seconded by Cllr Lowe and unanimously resolved to exclude the public and press for consideration of the following confidential matter

148/20 TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS BY STAFFING COMMITTEE MEETING 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020

Proposed by Cllr Romney, seconded by Cllr Neal and unanimously resolved that recommendations to full Council that based on a successful appraisal they approve the new pay scale to the Clerk's salary at SCP26 and to agree in principle a part-time member of staff for maintenance and will consider the next steps of the recruitment process

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 19.10

Signed: _____

**Chairman
28th October 2020**