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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18th MAY 2022 AT 6.30 P.M. IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllrs: A. Lowe, Z. Nealson, S-A. Wadsworth, A Buxton, R Garwood, D Romney, C Nix

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** B Tassell (Town Clerk), K. Geraghty (Deputy Clerk) & 7 residents

**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs: Cllr D Graham

**NOT PRESENT:**  Cllr Gilbody

Cllr Nealson opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

**05/2022-01. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Wadsworth was nominated and seconded to become the Chairman and Mayor for the next year. There were no further nominations. A vote was taken with 4 votes for and 2 against (Cllrs Romney and Nealson). Cllr Wadsworth was duly **ELECTED** as the new Chairman and Mayor.

**05/2022-02. DECLARATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Cllr Wadsworth formally accepted the role and signed the relevant paperwork and declaration, countersigned by the Clerk.

**05/2022-03 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Graham who is currently chairing the Victoria Hall committee meeting. it was **RESOLVED:** That the apology and reason received from Cllr. Graham be accepted.

**05/2022-04 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS’ INTERESTS AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION:** there were no declarations or applications made.

**05/2022-05 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

After a discussion Cllr Buxton was nominated and seconded for the role of vice Chairman and Deputy Mayor. This was **AGREED** unanimously by the council and Cllr Buxton accepted the position*.*

**05/2022-06 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS** The Clerk updated the Council that the last vacancy on the Council had now reached the Deadline where an election could be called. The Council could now co-opt into this position if it wished.

Cllr Nealson updated the Council from the co-option committee. There have been three applications for the posts and these were all of high quality. The committee recommended that they all we approved to become full members of the Council (Jamie Tyler, Paul Ainsley and Leah Toseland) This was proposed and unanimously***APPROVED.*** Cllrs Toseland and Tyler were present at the meeting as members of the public and they were invited to join the remainder of the meeting as Councillors which they accepted.

**05/2022-07 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** There were no deputations from the Public

**05/2022-08 FULL COUNCIL**

4.1 Minutes: To confirm the accuracy of the minutes from the meeting

held on 13th April 2022. These were **AGREED** as an accurate record

4.2 There were no further updates

**05/2022-09 COUNCILLOR’S QUESTIONS** There were none.

**05/2022-10 APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTES** councillors were asked to agree membership for the following committees. It was Unanimously **AGREED** that the membership of these standing committees would be as follows:

* Recreation and Planning Committee- Open to all Councillors
* Staffing Committee – Cllrs Wadsworth, Nealson, Romney, Toseland and Tyler.
* Finance committee – Cllrs Romney, Nealson, Buxton, Toseland and Nix.

**05/2022-11 REPRESENTATION ON OTHER ORGANISATIONS** It was Unanimously **AGREED** that the representatives on these organisations would be as follows:

* Citizens Advice – Cllr Garwood
* Trustees of Victoria Hall- Cllrs Nix, Graham and Wadsworth
* Oakham in Bloom- Cllr Garwood
* Trustees of the Memorial institute- Cllr Nealson
* Rutland Access- This is to be reported back if this is still a going concern as an organisation and council to then decide if it requires representation.
* Parish Council Forum- Cllr Wadsworth
* Military commemorations Cllr Gilbody ( Cllr Romney voted against)
* 4Oakham- Cllr Toseland
* Neighbourhood Plan Review panel – it was agreed to defer this committee until as and when the neighbourhood plan is adopted.

**05/2022-12 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS** Councillors unanimously **APPROVED** the schedule of meetings for the 2022-2023 Year aside from the Recreation and Planning meeting due to be held on the 25th May 2022. It was unanimously **AGREED** to cancel this meeting as most business to be discussed will be covered at this meeting.

**05/2022-13 APPOINTMENT OF WORKING GROUPS** After discussion it was AGREED that the membership of the following working groups would be:

* Policies and Procedures – discussion was had as to whether this needed to be a standing working group. It was **AGREED** (with 2 votes against) to disband this working group and to bring all outstanding procedures that require review to the next full council meeting.
* Events – it was unanimously **AGREED** to disband this working group and to subsume it into the Recreation and Planning committee.
* Floral – Cllrs Buxton, Wadsworth and Garwood
* Business Liaison- Cllrs Nix and Tyler
* Media – It was **AGREED** to combine this with the Communications Officer role. This would include the Chairman, the Clerk and Deputy Clerk.
* Communications Officer – See Above.
* The Shelter – this is now defunct and **AGREED** to remove this working Group
* Centenary Field– this is now defunct and **AGREED** to remove this working Group
* Public toilets– this is now defunct and **AGREED** to remove this working Group
* Armed Forces Champion- It was **AGREED** to defer this decision until Cllr Gilbody could indicate what is happening with this role.
* Cutts Close Representative- Cllr Tyler
* Willow Crescent Representative- Cllr Tyler
* Royces Recreation Ground representative- Cllr Romney
* Centenary Field Representative- Cllr Toseland
* Oakham Hopper Liaison- Cllrs Nealson, Romney, Wadsworth and Toseland
* Skate Park working Group – Cllrs Nealson, Romney and Nix.

**05/2022-14 SYSTEMS OF INTERNAL CONTROL** Councillors **AGREED** ( with one abstention) to adopt the internal control protocol for the 2022-2023 year.

**05/2022-15 CHAIRMANS ALLOWANCE** Under section 15(5) of the local government act 1972 the Council were asked to approve the chairman’s allowance of £3,000 for the forthcoming year. This was unanimously **AGREED**

### 05/2022-16 CLERK’S REPORT: The Clerk updated the council. This was noted.

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### 05/2022-17 CHAIRMAN’S REPORT: There was nothing to report from the new Chairman.

**05/2022-18** **WORKING GROUPS AND OUTSIDE BODIES** There were no updates from any working groups or outside bodies.

**05/2022-19 LIGHTING CUTTS CLOSE** discussions were had on paper 15.06 submitted by Cllr Romney. It was unanimously **AGREED** to accept this order for the works and installation. It was further **AGREED** to do a press release one these works were underway.

**05/2022-20** **TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVE**

20.1 – Request from Clare Caro regarding magic lantern walk on Cutts Close. There were no objections to this proposal.

20.02- To discuss next steps regarding Oakham Hopper Service provision*.* It was **AGREED** to defer this until the next meeting once a draft SLA has been seen and discussed by the Oakham Hopper Liaison Working Group

**05/2022-21 FINANCIAL AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

21.1 Payments for Approval (up to 01.05.22)

These were **AGREED** by the Council. Cllr Romney queried whether the payment to

‘Hoagies’ was billed to the Mayor’s allowance or the events budget heading. The

Clerk Agreed to provide this information at the next meeting.

21.2 Late Payments for approval

*Apogee Ltd S111/112 Photocopier rental £91.42*

*Mr K P Black S19 Park cleaning £425.00*

*Mr K P Black S19 Park cleaning £400.00*

*Alldrains services S19 Church Street Drains £102.00*

*Millennium Ltd s19 Licences £115.68*

These Were **AGREED** by the Council

21.3 Bank Reconciliation as at 1st May 2022

*HSBC Current account – £216,930.96*

*HSBC BMM Account - £250,016.83*

*Cambridge Building society Account - £60,000*

These Were **AGREED** by the Council

21.4 Bank Signatories – To confirm the signatories for the OTC bank accounts for the financial year. It was unanimously **AGREED** to leave the bank signatories for all accounts as they were in 2021/2022 year.

**05/2022-22**  **UKRAINIAN APPEAL** It was unanimously **AGREED** to forward the funds the Council has raised to the Disasters Emergency Committee charity. |cash will be paid into the OTC bank account then sent to the charity via bank Transfer.

**05/2022-23. UPP BROADBAND** The presentation was received and noted.

**05/2022-24** **EVENTS WITHIN OAKHAM** the proposal was discussed and amended. It was **AGREED** ( with 2 against and 4 Abstentions) that the money would be granted for the road closures on the proviso that at all events 10 spaces would be made available for OTC so they could offer a pitch to smaller local stores.

**05/2022-25** **RETURNING AGENDA ITEMS:** This was discussed and noted that the proposals require bringing to full council as the original paper.

**05/2022-26**  **SWIMMING PROVISION OAKHAM** following a press release from the County Council that they had agreed for the site to be demolished, this item was withdrawn.

**05/2022-27**  **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** 8 June 2022 @ 6.30 p.m.