Oakham Town Council

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**MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2023 AT 6.00 P.M. IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllrs: S-A. Wadsworth, (Chairman) C Nix, P Buxton, P Ainsley, A Lowe, P Wildbore, A Lowe, J Lucas, C Clark

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** C Evans (Clerk) K Geraghty (Deputy Council) plus one member of the public.

Cllr Wadsworth opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

**14/2023-01**

**APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**: Cllr S Pryer would be late and Cllr H Williams could not attend due to work commitments. Cllr A Lowe proposed, and Cllr C Clark seconded. Carried

**14/2023-02**

**DECLARATION OF MEMBERS’ INTERESTS AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION:**

None.

**14/2023-03**

**DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** An opportunity for members of the public to speak in accordance with Standing Orders 1 (d)- 1(i)

None.

**14/2023-04 CHAIRMANS REPORT:**

The Chair stated that there was nothing of significance to report.

 **14/2023-05 TREE CONTRACT:**

The Chair introduced this matter, which was to address the required Tree Works within Oakham highlighted by the recent Tree Survey.

The Chair proposed for this agenda item that Standing Order no 18-section d, be suspended. The Chair explained that this is so the tender process could be expedited to ensure that the urgent tree works could be addressed before April next year.

Proposed by Cllr P Ainsley and seconded by Cllr J Hall. Carried

The Clerk indicated that he had been in contact with LRALC to ensure this process was correct including the late delivery of the three quotes. The Clerk explained that unfortunately one company had pulled out of the bidding process so he decided to give the members details of the three companies involved so they could research their credentials but decided to withhold the two bids he had obtained until all the bids were obtained to ensure a level playing field.

Because the trees in Cutts Close are in a conservation Area a Tree Works application would need to be made.

As could be seen all the bids were fairly close and it was up to members as to how to proceed although there clearly was a significant discount if all the priority items were addressed together

There was some debate over the optimum time for any works to take place, but in the end, members agreed that the exercise should proceed on all the priorities listed early next year.

Cllr P Ainsley proposed that the quote by George Walker Tree Services be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr S-A Wadsworth. Carried

**Meeting Finish at 6:25pm**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_