

MINUTES OF THE STATUTORY MEETING OF THE BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 13TH. OCTOBER 2020 AT 7.30 pm.

THIS MEETING WAS HELD 'REMOTELY' IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND POLICE AND CRIME PANELS (CORONAVIRUS) (FLEXIBILITY OF LOCAL AUTHORITY AND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL MEETINGS) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2020, enable meetings to be held remotely, and allow local authorities to hold and alter the frequency and occurrence of meetings without the need for further notice. The changes in legislation have been made in order to help smaller authorities in the performance of their duties as a result of the restrictions of movement and limitations on social contact necessary to limit the spread of the Covid-19 virus.

Present: - Councillor Ron Pratt CC (Town Mayor),
Councillors: – Vanessa Bell (Deputy Mayor), Bob Calver, Mary-Ann Munford,
Also in Attendance: - Planning Clerk/RFO, Kevin B. Money.

333 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Apologies were received from Cllrs J. Donnelly, Wendy Stamp, Neil Pudney & Town Clerk Sarah Grimes.

334 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

All Town Councillors have completed their Statutory Declarations of Interests in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Code of Conduct for Members adopted by the Town Council.

Members are required to declare the existence and nature of any 'personal or prejudicial' interests relating to items on the Agenda having regard to the Code of Conduct for Members.

Members are reminded that they are also required to declare interests as soon as they become aware should the need arise throughout the meeting.

None Declared

335 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Seriously curtailed due to the virus
- All future meetings have been cancelled in the area
- Remembrance Day - The Royal British Legion are not holding an event but a small gathering at the church. Where the Town Mayor will be laying a wreath on behalf of BOC residents

336 MINUTES

To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on Friday 4th. September 2020 and the Meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday 8th. September 2020

RESOLVED: All Agreed

337 PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

To receive and sign the Minutes of the Planning Meetings held on Tuesdays 8th. September and 22nd. September 2020. **RESOLVED: All Agreed**

338 STAFFING COMMITTEE MINUTES

To receive and sign the confirmed Minutes of the Staffing Committee Meeting held on Thursdays 10th. September. **RESOLVED: All Agreed**

339 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Q. I understand the difficulties in the current situation, but please can the council quickly implement a plan to regularly update the content of the website – Without current interesting information, residents won't even bother looking'. Maybe to appoint a professional organisation

A. The Town Mayor – I will put this to Cllr J. Donnelly and an appropriate Agenda Item will be

scheduled for a later date.

340 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. **Noted by Councillors**

341 DIARY DATES

None to report.

342 CO-ORDINATORS' REPORTS

- Conservation Area – No Councillor was nominated
- Environment – Little to report. Litter picking did not take place. All Litter picking equipment has been purchased and local residents can obtain these from Cllr V. Bell. Meeting with Steven Butcher and other Officers at MDC regarding Riverside Park with new equipment have been installed and repairs carried out.
- General Purposes – No report given
- Highways – Cllr B. Calver report was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.
- Website – No report was given

343 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr A. Hull reported that with COVID-19 virus MDC has had a full inspection. However, the moral in the MDC Officers is very low.

Cllr V. Bell informed the meeting that the Independent group is now the largest party on MDC

344 TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

The Town Mayor asked if this item be postponed until we have full complement of Councillors to attend the next River Crouch Coastal Community Team Steering Group on Tuesday 24th. November 2020 at 10am. **All Agreed**

345 ACCOUNTS AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS

- a) To approve the payment of Accounts for October 2020 and to agree a transfer of funds to meet the Town Council's financial requirement

RESOLVED: - the payment of Accounts for October 2020 be approved and signed. Agreed

- b) To receive the comparison of actual to budgeted payments and receipts to October 2020. Councillors noted the comparison
- c) To receive the bank reconciliation. This was presented to Councillors and was noted.

346 GRANTS AND DONATIONS

No Grant requests have been received for this meeting

347 ALLOTMENTS

The Town Mayor informed the meeting that the Solicitors are still involved. He had nothing further to add to this item

348 CASUAL VACANCIES IN THE NORTH AND SOUTH WARDS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

The Planning Clerk informed the meeting that MDC has responded to his request for an update, but the have not looked at the Vacancies yet. Cllr V. Bell stated that this was very disappointing.

349 CHRISTMAS

Cllr V. Bell informed the meeting that a letter has been received for an Official switch-on and ceremony. However, under the COVID-19 rules no such ceremony can take place. Any excess monies left over to be contributed to local shops to brighten up the area. A festive High Street this year is essential and will enable to boost morale.

Cllr V. Bell proposed to consult with businesses to participate in festive lights in the high street. Up to £4,000 to be spent by BTC on purchasing such lights. Cllr B. Calver seconded.

RESOLVED: BTC to purchase additional Christmas lights up to £4,000. All Agreed

350 FLYPOSTING

Cllr V. Bell has been fighting the scourge of fly tipping. Zero tolerance approach in BOC. CPO's have assisted in this problem. Flyers have appeared promoting the Bed and Mattress store in BOC. Flyposting is a criminal offence and tarnishes the image of the Town. Cllr V. Bell proposed to ask that in the first instance the CPO to issue a community protection warning. The next step is to issue a letter not to fly post. The third option is then to continue onto the legal route.

Street furniture also applies to fly posting

Cllr R. Pratt told the meeting that this is an MDC issue and that BTC could write to MDC to agree to enforce this problem.

351 BURNHAM BUSINESS BOARD

No Councillor was nominated to attend this meeting. The Town Mayor then said he would defer this item to the next meeting when a Full Council is in place.

BTC is to write to Jack Ellum to support this Burnham Business Board and will also nominate a Councilor to attend the meetings

352 SOUTH ESSEX PARKING PARTNERSHIP (SEPP)

The Town Mayor does not support this item.

Cllr B. Calver asked if the Town Clerk could contact MDC and ask CPO's to enforce parking in BOC. This item was deferred to another meeting

353 ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL LOCALITY FUND

The Town Mayor, as ECC Councillor, has been given a budget to of £10,000 to locally distribute among his 13 Parish/Town Councils. This money must be spent by 31.03.21

RESOLVED: BTC to ask ECC Cllr R. Pratt for £2,000 from his Essex County Council Locality Fund to go towards enforce the parking problems in BOC. All Agreed

354 PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE WHITE PAPER CONSULTATION and TRANSPARENCY AND COMPETITION: A CALL FOR EVIDENCE ON DATA ON LAND CONTROL CONSULTION

BTC Councillors agreed to support the response by MDC on the consultation response as the planning authority. Cllr R. Pratt proposed Cllr. V. Bell seconded. **All Agreed**

355 PUBLIC FORUM

No questions from the public

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Budget meeting – to be determined

Town Council Meeting – Tuesday 17th. November 2020 at 7.30 pm via Teams

356 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Councillors to Resolve that by virtue of the provisions of Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded during discussion of the following business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Cllr R. Pratt proposed and Cllr B. Calver seconded. **All Agreed**

357 ALLOTMENTS

To receive an update and an alternative proposal from Cllr. W. Stamp

Nothing further to add. Much problem with the solicitors as no communications have taken place.

This issue has not proceeded very well.

359 STATION HOUSE

To receive an update from the Town Mayor

A meeting took place between Councillors and representatives of Abellio Greater Anglia.
The future of the Station House will be resolved in due course.

358 STAFF MATTERS

To receive a report from the staffing committee following it's meeting on Friday 9th. October 2020

360 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

To close the Meeting having considered and determined all items of business.

Having considered and determined all items of business, the Meeting was closed at 9.10 pm.

Chairman

Date

DRAFT