



BURNHAM ON CROUCH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH TOWN COUNCIL EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18th April 2023 AT 7.30pm AT THE CHAMBER HALL, COUNCIL OFFICES, CHAPEL ROAD, BURNHAM ON CROUCH, ESSEX.

Attendance: Chief Officer Nichola Payne, 12 Members of Public in attendance.
Present: Councillors B. Calver (Town Mayor), D. Rawlinson, (Deputy Mayor), J. Donnelly, P Calver, J McInnes
(meeting commenced at 7:35pm)

314 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies received, noted that Cllr McInnes will be running late.

315 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.

316 TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

A quiet month for the mayor this month, it is noted that the remaining Mayors allowance be donated to the Dengie Food Bank. Chief Officer to organise payment.

317 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA Question 1 – Can you update as to the negotiations with MOAT housing and the allotments?

Negotiations with the legal team are progressing to gain adverse possession, following the mistake of transferring deeds from BTC to MDC and then to Moat. We are not selling the allotments and there is no chance of building, we are reclaiming the ownership it is just a lengthy process to follow.

Question 2 – Councils decision to have a party in the park. Why are taxpayers paying to celebrate the wealthiest family in the world?

Do you think it is wrong that we have a celebration for the people of Burnham to have a party? Your point is noted.

Question 3 – Are you aware of 15 minute cities being planned and in the pipeline for areas across the country.

They may well be but there is no relevance to Burnham.

Question 4 – Cllr Donnelly previously discussed using scatter cities to work out our net 0 for carbon footprint. They are a weird company with Bill Gates as part of their supporters.

Signed

Councillor Bob Calver (Town Mayor)

Scatter cities is a UK based support company designed to assist town councils and is completely free, this is recommended body by the UK government.

318 ACCOUNTS AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS

a) To approve and sign the monthly reconciliations for March 23

Agreed

b) To agree the transfer of funds for April 2023 to meet the Town Councils financial commitments

Agreed

c) To agree the comparison of actual to budgeted payments and receipts to March 2023.

Noted that the Mayors Allowance requires adjustment as the previous mayor's allowance needs adding. Chief Officer to adjust this in time for the final account submission on June 23.

d) To receive the budget sheet for 2023/24

Agreed and noted that this will be passed to the new council to receive and work with.

e) To agree payment set up of staff salaries, to ensure that they are paid automatically.

Cllr Donnelly requested a recorded vote.

Vote recorded as follows:

4 votes for

1 vote against

Motion Passed.

f) To agree payment for all service level agreement contractors to be set up and paid by monthly direct debits.

Cllr Donnelly requested a recorded vote.

Vote recorded as follows:

4 votes for

1 vote against

Motion Passed.

319 REVIEW OF TOWN COUNCIL POLICIES

318 KINGS CORONATION - RESOLVED

The application for the hire of the park has been approved, Chief Officer to sign agreement to secure the event dates.

The original agreed budget was provisionally secured at £5000 An additional £7000 is required to allow for the events to proceed for the 2 days.

The funding applied for via the National Lottery was declined on this occasion.

Cllr Calver proposed that we supplement unspent budgeted costs from the 2022/23 budget to cover the additional costs to allow the event to proceed.

5 votes in favor

The coins are given to all primary school age children at both primary schools and those in home education and SEND groups.

Chief Officer provided copies of risk assessments for Councillors to review prior to that and the Event plan being submitted to Maldon District Council.

Cllr Donnelly suggests the mayor attends Burnham County in the Morning and St Marys in the afternoon. Chief Officer to liaise with the schools for timings and numbers.

Site visit to be arranged with the screen hire company to agree siting of the screen.

Signed

Councillor Bob Calver (Town Mayor)

Cllr McInnes to join the working party for the Coronation with Cllr Donnelly and Chief Officer.

306 GRANTS AND DONATIONS - RESOLVED

A previous application from St Marys church for the support in the purchase of toilets for a volunteer event was not reviewed, however the chief officer can confirm on voting and decision making within Arnold Clark 'It must be made by the majority of members present and voting, provided that there is a quorum present it is imaterial that the quoram members take part in the voting'

Following previous presidents set that we purchase the toilets Cllr Donnelly proposed support Cllr McInnes seconded.

307 TOWN AND COUNCIL OFFICE MAINTENANCE

We have received the annual renewals from Skippers and Garwoods with increases in line with annual inflation. Council to agree the increase to allow the contracts to continue.

5 votes in favor.

Chief Officer to clarify the additional quote for works at brickwall close/station road.

Reliable fire risk assessment has been carried out and recommendations have been given to install fire doors within the office and the chambers to ensure compliance. Chief Officer to obtain additional quotations for the work.

Chief Officer to liaise with the conservation officer regarding the type of materials to be used.

308 ACCOUNTS AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS - RESOLVED

a) Revised accounts for February 2023 received – **AGREED.**

b) Budget spend to date, Chief officer confirmed the original documents presented were correct and there have been no changes, this is due to this being income and not expenditure. – **AGREED.**

309 COMMORATIVE BENCHES - RESOLVED

In order to purchase the previously agreed 2 benches additional funding of £900.00 to add to the locality funding is required to proceed.

The current benches in the dementia garden are concrete upstands and will be removed during the refurbishment of the patio area. This will include for the addition of a disabled access ramp. The remaining bench in the dementia garden will be relocated, in conjunction with the Bench condition survey.

Cllr Calver proposed that we supplement unspent budgeted costs from the 2022/23 budget to cover the additional costs to allow for the purchase of the benches.

5 votes in favor

310 PUBLIC FORUM

Question 1 – Can the benches be repurposed

Answer – 1 wooden bench and 2 concrete ones will be upcycled where possible.

311 EXCLUSIONS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

Signed

Councillor Bob Calver (Town Mayor)

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.

312 ALLOTMENTS

To discuss and pass resolution where necessary on the confidential items discussed.

313 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

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

Signed

Councillor Bob Calver (Town Mayor)