

CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL meeting held in the Council Chamber on Monday 9 September 2019 at 8.01 p.m.

PRESENT

Cllrs. R. Pailthorpe (Chairman), C. Aslett, R. Cottle, B. Hartshorn, B. Hodgson, A. Stuart and D. Wakeman.

In attendance: Town Clerk P. Davidson, Deputy Clerk L. Gowers, Amenities Operations Manager M. Jay and 5 members of the public.

73 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

19/20

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. M. Best (personal), K. Head (personal) and J. Roundell Greene (personal).

74 OPEN FORUM

19/20

No matters raised.

75 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

19/20

on items on the agenda

None.

76 SOUTH SOMERSET DISTRICT COUNCIL (SSDC) LOCAL PLAN

19/20

To agree the Town Council's response to the SSDC Local Plan 'Preferred Options' report

After discussion, it was **AGREED to approve for issue the draft response prepared by the Clerk to the SSDC Local Plan 'Preferred Options' report.**

77 ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP

19/20

To receive a progress report from Cllr. Hartshorn and to agree the next steps

Cllr. Hartshorn reported on progress of the Environment Working Group. Two workshop sessions had been held with Councillors and staff, and an article had been placed in the latest edition of the Council newsletter. Cllr. Hartshorn had also written to a number of local groups. Responses to date had been somewhat disappointing.

Moving forwards, Cllr. Hartshorn now planned to undertake a short online survey and to distribute postcards locally calling for ideas.

78 COFFEE WITH YOUR COUNCILLOR

19/20

to receive a report from Cllrs. Aslett and Wakeman on the recent "Coffee with your Councillor" event

Cllrs. Aslett and Wakeman reported that the "Coffee with your Councillor" session had been a great success, with approximately 14 members of the public attending. On this basis, it was agreed that a second session should be run, hosted as previously agreed by Cllrs.

Hartshorn and Head. Councillors recognised that these sessions were intended to supplement and not replace the existing Councillor surgeries.

79 **POTENTIAL CLOSURE OF ST. MARGARET’S HOSPICE**

19/20 To consider the Council’s position regarding the proposed closure of the Yeovil St. Margaret’s hospice

Councillors agreed that it was important for the Town Council to be showing its opposition to the proposed closure of the Yeovil St.Margaret’s Hospice. The Clerk was accordingly asked to write a letter on behalf of the Council to the Hospice, copied to the local MP.

80 **MATTERS OF REPORT**

19/20

Christmas Market road closure: the Deputy Clerk explained that road closure requests had previously been directed through SSDC and had been free of charge. SSDC had recently been directing such requests to Somerset County Council, who levy a charge of approximately £1,500. Nevertheless, upon the advice of Cllr. Best, the Deputy Clerk had now reapplied to SSDC for a license to close Market Square to allow the Christmas Market to take place there. In response, SSDC had stated that they would deal with this request, albeit with a charge of £210 and a lead time of approximately 10 weeks.

Councillors noted that an alternative location for the Christmas Market had been proposed by using the grounds of St. Bartholomew’s Church. However, Councillors expressed some concerns that this would involve putting stalls on grass and using the narrow pathways. Councillors therefore agreed that Market Square was the appropriate venue for the Christmas Market and that SSDC’s charge was acceptable. The Deputy Clerk was therefore asked to submit the road closure application with some urgency.

The Clerk was asked to ensure that this instruction was formally ratified at the next Full Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.23 p.m.

Signed:

Dated:

