

CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL meeting held in the Council Chamber on Monday 12 August 2019 at 7.13 p.m.

PRESENT

Cllrs. K. Head (Chairman), C. Aslett, M. Best, B. Hartshorn, R. Pailthorpe, J. Roundell Greene, A. Smith. A. Stuart and D. Wakeman.

In Attendance:

The Clerk P. Davidson, Deputy Clerk L. Gowers, 1 member of the press and 1 member of the public.

64 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

19/20

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. R. Cottle (personal) and A. Vaughan (personal).

65 OPEN FORUM

19/20

A member of the public made a number of comments regarding the Crewkerne sections of the SSDC Local Plan review which was undergoing a consultation period, in particular expressing the following concerns regarding the areas designated as CR2 and CR5:

- Development of the sites CR2 and CR5 would be contrary to the strategic aim of retaining a “green lung” connecting the town centre with the Key Site, which was vital to enable cycleway and pathway access to the town centre for the Key Site residents, thus avoiding further road congestion if residents were forced to drive to the town centre.
- For area CR2, the plan showed two exits but in reality there was only one. In addition, the area had been designated in the Local Plan as being suitable for 100 houses, together with space for formal and informal play areas and for public open space. However, as the site was only 1.4 hectares in area, this would result in an excessive housing density.
- Development of CR2 and CR5 sites would result in the vista from Henhayes being destroyed.

66 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

19/20 on items on the agenda

None.

67 SOUTH SOMERSET DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN (SSDC)

19/20 To consider and collate feedback to SSDC regarding the revision of their Local Plan

Councillors agreed that the points made earlier in the meeting by the member of public were very pertinent. After discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should compile a draft response to the Local Plan, for consideration at the next Council meeting.

68 **PHASED REPLACEMENT OF THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ON MARKET STREET**

19/20 To consider purchase of replacement Christmas lights on a section of Market Street

After discussion, it was **AGREED to purchase replacement Christmas lights for the section of Market Street between the Nationwide and Shear Magic buildings, from the Festive Lighting Company at the quoted cost of £2,628.15 (+ VAT), funds to be drawn from the “Invest in Crewkerne’s Future” Earmarked Reserve.**

69 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

19/20 To confirm that the area to be designated for the Neighbourhood Plan is the whole area within the Crewkerne parish boundary

Cllr. Best pointed out that the proposed housing development on Station Road spanned both the parish of Crewkerne and that of Misterton. He suggested therefore that the Neighbourhood Plan area should encompass both Crewkerne and Misterton, in order to ensure an integrated approach. Councillors supported this proposal and added that similar considerations applied to both Merriott and Haselbury Plucknett. The Clerk was therefore asked to engage with these three parishes, to ensure that they were given the opportunity to participate in the development of the Neighbourhood Plan.

70 **NEWSLETTER**

19/20 To agree the content of the draft newsletter

The draft newsletter was **AGREED.**

Signed:

Dated:

It was AGREED that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it was advisable that the public and press be excluded and were instructed to withdraw.

CONFIDENTIAL SESSION – STAFFING AND CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

71 **FOOD FESTIVAL**

19/20 To gather feedback regarding the food festival and to consider future events of this type

Councillors noted that the recently held food festival had been a success, although with a number of points of learning which would greatly assist in the planning of future events of this nature.

72 **LOCAL INFORMATION CENTRE**

19/20 To consider the future management of the LIC

Councillors discussed possible options for future management and staffing of the Local Information Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Signed:

Dated: