

CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL meeting held in the Council Chamber on Monday 17 December 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT

Cllrs: Mrs K. Head (Chairman), C. Aslett, M. Best, P. Bradly, B. Hodgson, Mrs. R. Jackson, R. Pailthorpe, Miss K. Pritchard, Mrs A. Singleton, Mrs A. Stuart and D. Wakeman.

In attendance:

Town Clerk Mr P. Davidson, Deputy Clerk Ms L. Gowers and 3 members of the public.

144 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

18/19

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. N. Sturtivant (personal).

145 OPEN FORUM

18/19

The owner of the property referred to in planning applications 18/02562/FUL and 18/02563/LBC introduced himself and offered to answer any questions Councillors might have on the applications.

146 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

18/19

Cllr. Aslett expressed the view that the draft minutes did not properly reflect the concern expressed at the meeting by Cllr. Bradly regarding the level of investment required in the food festival. After further discussion, it was **AGREED that the minutes of the meeting of Crewkerne Town Council held on Monday 26 November 2018 be APPROVED subject to the following two amendments:**

Minute No: 136 18/19 – ‘Councillors expressed their full support to the proposed food festival organised by Eat Festivals, although it was recognised that it would be important to engage local businesses and to seek additional sources of funding’ to be amended to: ‘Concerns were raised regarding the level of investment required for the proposed food festival organised by Eat Festivals but, overall, Councillors were supportive of the proposal, recognising that it would be important to engage local businesses and to seek additional sources of funding’

Minute No: 140 18/19 – Typographical correction: the word ‘no’ to be inserted into the second paragraph, last sentence, which should read: ‘Councillors agreed that, regrettably, there appeared to be no means to apply leverage’.

147 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

18/19

on items on the agenda

Cllrs. Mrs Head, Mrs Jackson, Best, Hodgson and Pailthorpe declared a personal interest in agenda item 8a (planning applications 18/02562/FUL and 18/02563/LBC).

Cllr. Mrs Singleton declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 8a (planning applications 18/02562/FUL and 18/02563/LBC).

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Cllrs. Mrs Head and Pailthorpe declared a personal interest in agenda item 8a (planning application 18/03713/LBC).

Cllrs. Best and Mrs Singleton declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 10 (Aqua Centre air handling system).

148
18/19 **TO RECEIVE VERBAL REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

County

County Cllr. Best reported on the following:

- County Council had received funding from Central Government for winter provision but had committed only to refilling existing grit bins for this winter.
- The parking restrictions associated with the newly marked out loading bay on Market Street were not yet being enforced as the required notice had not yet been displayed.

District

Cllr. Mrs Singleton reported that SSDC's Transformation programme continued to be a priority focus for the Council.

Cllr. Bradly asked whether Crewkerne would be subject to the Government's new business rates scheme. In response, Cllr. Mrs Singleton confirmed that the area had been accepted into the pilot scheme, but full details were not yet available.

149
18/19 **CLERKS PROGRESS REPORT**

To receive a report

The Clerk reported on the following:

- The email switch-over to the new service provider had now taken place and was working well. In view of this, the Clerk recommended that all Councillors should use their "crewkerne.gov.uk" email addresses rather than their personal email addresses.
- The SSDC Customer Access Point (CAP) equipment was in place in the front office. It currently allowed access to the websites for SSDC, County Council and the police, but not for Crewkerne Town Council. At the request of the Clerk and Cllr. Best, SSDC had agreed to add the Town Council's website to the CAP "home" screen. With this in mind, the Town Council website had recently been modified to include the addition of a "contact us" feedback form.
- The Lighting Up event and the Christmas market had once again been a great success, thanks largely to the sterling efforts of the Deputy Clerk.

150
18/19 **FINANCE**

- a) To approve the accounts for payment for December 2018 as listed

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Mrs Singleton had verified the accounts for December 2018 in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations and Risk Management.

Accounts for payment in the sum of £34,101.02 + VAT for December 2018 were APPROVED.

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- b) To report the bank reconciliation for November 2018 has been completed

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Mrs Singleton had verified the bank reconciliation for November 2018. It was noted that cash in hand as of 30 November 2018 was £335,077.87.

- c) Draft budget: to consider the second draft of the budget for 2019/20

The Clerk pointed out that the budget showed a very minor increase when compared to the first draft, the reasons for which were highlighted on the budget summary table. Councillors noted the latest draft and acknowledged that the budget would be reviewed again at the Policy and Resources Committee meeting in January.

151
18/19

PLANNING APPLICATION

- a) To consider the following planning applications

Cllr. Mrs Singleton left the meeting room.

18/02562/FUL **Land Rear of 20 South Street, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 8DA**
18/02563/LBC Demolition of existing buildings, the conversion of existing barns to form 2 No. residential dwellings and the erection of 1 No. new dwellinghouse.
RECOMMEND APPROVAL subject to Conservation Officer's report.

Cllr. Mrs Singleton re-joined the meeting.

18/02394/LBC **27 Market Square, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7LL**
The display of signage to shop front.
RECOMMEND APPROVAL

18/03702/ADV **27 Market Square, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7LL**
The display of 1 No. fascia sign and 1 No. projecting sign.
RECOMMEND APPROVAL

18/03082/HOU **11 Redgate Park, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7NL**
Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey glazed extension.
RECOMMEND APPROVAL subject to addressing the Environment Agency's concerns regarding the culvert.

18/03638/HOU **14 Winyards View, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 8HZ**
Erection of rear extension and conversion of existing garage.
RECOMMEND APPROVAL subject to the parking provision being increased to 3 spaces, as per Highways comments.

2

18/03713/LBC **8 Church Street, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7HR**
Internal alterations including replacement of party wall with brick wall and relocation of staircase.
RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Parish of Misterton

18/00619/OUT **Rydings, Station Road**
Erection of new boundary wall to replace hedge, erection of carport and new entrance gates.
Noted.

b) To receive planning decision notices from District Council

Permission granted with conditions for the following applications:

18/01499/LBC **Bonsoir House, 3 Abbey Street, Crewkerne, TA18 7HY**
The carrying out of internal alterations to part-remove internal wall at ground floor and removal of ceilings at second floor (implemented).

18/01508/S73A **The Shirt Factory, Abbey Street, Crewkerne, TA18 7HY**
S73A Application to vary condition 12 of planning permission 17/04617/S73A to allow pavement to be constructed no later than 30 November 2018

18/02022/FUL **Riblesdale, Broadshard Road, Crewkerne, TA18 7NF**
Alterations to front drive area to include widening of access and raising levels to reduce steepness.

18/02363/FUL **North Street Trading Estate, North Street, Crewkerne, TA18 7AW**
Demolition of 1 No. dwelling and the erection of 44 No. dwellings and associated works, including vehicular and pedestrian access onto North Street, a new school playing field and parking for Ashlands School (revised application of 15/04770/FUL)

18/02787/LBC **19-23 Kingfisher House, Market Square, Crewkerne, TA18 7LH**
Rebuild damaged and part demolished stone wall to west of site, widen entrance to 4m, lower height of block wall to east of site and replace with railings, render reconstituted stone walls of modern extension.

To note the following:

An appeal had been lodged in respect of application 18/00619/OUT: land off Longstrings Lane, Broadshard Road, Crewkerne. Outline application for residential development for up to 4 dwellings.

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152
18/19

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPI'S)

To consider the Clerk's report on the outcome of the SSDC investigation into the questions of process raised by Cllr. Bradly relating to DPI's and to approve the recommended actions contained therein

Cllr. Miss Pritchard stated that she was a trustee of the Rotary Club of Crewkerne District and that she had already declared this on her Register of Interests form.

Cllr. Bradly voiced his disappointment that the full response from SSDC had originally not been sent to all Councillors. In response, the Mayor pointed out that the original document from SSDC had been marked "confidential" therefore the Clerk had summarised the contents for distribution to Councillors. The Clerk had since forwarded the full document to all Councillors along with an email from Somerset and Avon Police declaring the matter to be closed.

Cllr. Bradly made the point that he had taken independent advice which supported his concerns regarding DPI's. He also stated that he was challenging the findings from the SSDC officer. In response, the Clerk emphasised that Crewkerne Town Council took its lead on matters of governance from SSDC, its principal authority. Regardless of personal views held by Councillors, it was necessary for the Council, as a body, to comply with the ruling from its principal authority.

Cllr. Miss Pritchard proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr. Bradly for drawing the issue of DPI's to the Council's attention. Cllr. Aslett supported this proposal. Cllr. Bradly requested that a recorded vote be taken.

- Cllr. Aslett – Abstain
- Cllr. Best – Against
- Cllr. Bradly – Abstain
- Cllr. Mrs Head – Against
- Cllr Hodgson – Against
- Cllr. Mrs Jackson – Against
- Cllr. Pailthorpe – Against
- Cllr. Miss Pritchard – For
- Cllr. Mrs Singleton – Against
- Cllr. Mrs Stuart – Against
- Cllr. Wakeman – Against

Motion not carried.

Following further discussion, it was **AGREED that the recommendations put forward by the Clerk regarding DPI's should be accepted.**

The Chairman concluded by expressing her view that she now regarded this matter as closed, a sentiment echoed by a number of Councillors.

153
18/19

AQUA CENTRE AIR HANDLING SYSTEM

To consider a request from Crewkerne Leisure Management (CLM) to undertake minor building modifications as part of the replacement of the Aqua Centre's air handling system

Cllrs. Best, Mrs Jackson and Mrs Singleton left the room.

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Prior to leaving the room, Cllr. Best made a statement regarding the air handling system. He advised Councillors that CLM were about to replace the Aqua Centre's air handling system, funded entirely at CLM's expense and in accordance with their obligations with respect to the lease. The replacement system would improve the effectiveness of the air handling and was expected to address, at least to some extent, the issues of condensation.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED to approve CLM's request to undertake minor modifications to the building in order to install the replacement air handling system, subject to CLM making good any consequential damage to the building.**

154 **STAFF OVERTIME**

18/19 To authorise the payment of staff overtime in support of the Lighting Up event and the Christmas market

It was **AGREED to authorise the overtime payments to grounds staff for their work during Lighting Up and the Christmas market, in accordance with the details supplied by the Clerk.**

155 **CORRESPONDENCE**

18/19 To receive correspondence from Mr Bucke regarding the planned food festival and to consider the draft response prepared by the Clerk

After discussion, it was agreed that the Deputy Clerk would amend the draft response to Mr Bucke in line with the comments made at the meeting and then circulate to Councillors. Any final comments would be collated by the Mayor and Deputy Clerk and the letter would be sent to Mr Bucke before Christmas.

156 **OUTSIDE BODIES**

18/19 To receive a report from Crewkerne Action for the Disabled

The report was noted.

157 **TO RECEIVE ANY MATTERS OF REPORT**

18/19

It was noted that the streetlights were not working by the Henhayes Centre and at Cousins Lane. The Deputy Clerk would report the problem.

Cllr. Mrs Singleton reported that the Twinning Association was planning a visit from Igny from 30 May to 2 June 2019. She reminded Councillors that the visits were important events in the French civic calendar and she suggested that the Town Council might wish to consider some form of formal event for the Igny delegates.

158 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

18/19

Monday 28 January 2019 in the Council Chamber.

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Signed: 

Dated: 29.1.19

tc17Dec2018