

## **CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of a CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL remote meeting held on Monday 27 July 2020 at 6.50 p.m.

### **PRESENT**

Cllrs. K. Head (Chairman), R. Cottle, B. Hartshorn, B. Hodgson, R. Pailthorpe, J. Roundell Greene, A. Stuart and D. Wakeman.

In Attendance

The Clerk P. Davidson, Deputy Clerk L. Gowers, 1 member of the press and 3 members of the public.

### **59** **TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** 20/21

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. C. Aslett (personal), M. Best (work commitments) and J. Roberts (personal).

### **60** **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS** 20/21

It was **AGREED** that the minutes of the Town Council meetings held on Monday 29 June and Monday 13 July 2020 be **APPROVED**.

### **61** **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** 20/21 **on items on the agenda**

None.

### **62** **OPEN FORUM** 20/21

A member of the public thanked the Council for adding her proposal for a pedestrian sub-committee to the agenda for this meeting. She made the point that the roads and pathways in the town had remained unchanged for decades, despite a huge increase in traffic, which emphasised the need to reconsider pedestrian safety.

### **63** **TO RECEIVE VERBAL REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT** 20/21 **COUNCILLORS**

County

County Cllr. Best not present at the meeting.

District

Cllrs. Pailthorpe and Hodgson reported that SSDC were currently considering the business case presented by Somerset County Council for a Unitary Authority.

### **64** **CLERKS PROGRESS REPORT** 20/21 **To receive a report**

The Clerk reported that he was investigating the purchase of a sound system, to enable face-to-face Council meetings in the Victoria Hall.

65  
20/21

## **FINANCE**

- a) To approve the accounts for payment for July 2020

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Wakeman had verified the accounts for payment in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations and Risk Management.

**Accounts for payment for July 2020, in the sum of £53,158.12 + VAT were APPROVED.**

- b) To report the bank reconciliation for June 2020 has been completed

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Wakeman had verified the bank reconciliation for June 2020. It was noted that cash in hand as of 30 June 2020 was £311,008.35.

- c) To receive the first quarter and expenditure financial report

The report was noted.

66  
20/21

## **GEORGE REYNOLDS CENTRE AIR CONDITIONING**

To consider the two quotations received to install air conditioning in the main hall and the bar area of the George Reynolds Centre

After discussion, it was **AGREED to authorise JNR Ltd to undertake the installation of air conditioning units in the GRC at their quoted cost of £8,500 (+ VAT), subject to Cllr. Best obtaining further detail within the quotation.**

67  
20/21

## **YOUTH SERVICE**

To consider for approval the amended Service Level Agreement between the Council and Active Learning & Skills (ALS) for provision of the Youth Service

After discussion, it was **AGREED to approve the draft SLA between the Town Council and ALS for provision of a Youth Service, covering the period from September 2020 to 31 March 2024.**

68  
20/21

## **CONSERVATION OF THE SEVERALLS WAR MEMORIAL**

To consider the quotation received from a specialist stonemason regarding the conservation of the Severalls War Memorial

After discussion, it was **AGREED to authorise Nicholas Durnan to undertake conservation work on the Severalls war memorial in accordance with their quotation and at the quoted cost of £2,900.**

69  
20/21

## **GRANT FUNDING REQUEST**

To consider a request from the Severalls War Memorial Gardening Club for grant funding support for the purchase of gardening machinery and hand tools

Cllr. Pailthorpe pointed out that the Town Council was in the process of taking ownership of the war memorial and the land adjacent to it. He therefore suggested that, rather than simply providing the War Memorial Gardening Club with grant funding, it would be preferable for the Council to purchase as necessary appropriate machinery and hand tools and then to provide these to the gardening club for their use. Councillors fully supported this approach. The

Deputy Clerk added that storage space for machinery and tools was available at the Severalls allotments site.

It was therefore **AGREED to provide support to the Severalls War Memorial Gardening Club, but not in the form of grant funding. Instead, the Clerk was asked to liaise with the grounds maintenance team and with the gardening club, to establish the club's requirements for machinery and tools, to purchase any necessary items and then to make available to the club the agreed set of machinery and tools.**

70  
20/21 **SOUTH SOMERSET DISTRICT COUNCIL (SSDC) USE OF TOWN HALL OFFICE SPACE**

To consider whether the Council wishes to waive charges to SSDC, given the reduced requirement from SSDC for office space in the Town Hall

The Clerk reported that SSDC no longer required the use of a dedicated meeting room, their only requirement for office space being to locate their Customer Access Point (CAP) facility. In view of this, it was **AGREED to waive any charges to SSDC for their use of office space in the Town Hall for their CAP facility.**

71  
20/21 **PEDESTRIAN SUB-COMMITTEE**

To consider a proposal from a member of the public that the Council establish a 'pedestrian priority' subcommittee, to "look at issues in and around the town where Pedestrian routes need to be created, improved or more clearly defined"

Cllr. Pailthorpe suggested that the subject of pedestrian safety came within the remit of the already existing Community Safety Group. After further discussion, it was agreed that a meeting should be called with the resident who had raised the proposal, together with Cllrs. Best, Hartshorn and Wakeman, to explore the issues to be addressed. This would then allow Councillors to better assess whether the Community Safety Group was the appropriate forum to address these issues.

72  
20/21 **CORRESPONDENCE**

To consider the correspondence received from a resident regarding Happy Valley

Councillors agreed that the issue of anti-social behaviour at Happy Valley was serious and needed to be addressed. Cllr. Hartshorn emphasised the importance of local residents reporting all incidents to the police and proposed that the Council produce a letter to that effect, which could be distributed to all of the local houses around Happy Valley. Cllr. Wakeman added that he would be happy to assist in circulating such a letter, including to the local schools. Councillors fully endorsed this proposal and asked that Cllrs. Hartshorn and Wakeman work with the Clerk and Deputy Clerk to produce an appropriate letter and to distribute it.

73  
20/21 **TO RECEIVE DRAFT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

a) Planning and Highways Committee meeting held on 13 July 2020

Noted.

b) George Reynolds Centre Management Working Group meeting held on 10 July 2020

Noted.

74 **TO RECEIVE ANY MATTERS OF REPORT**

20/21

None.

75 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

20/21

Monday 28 September 2020 at 6.45 p.m.

The meeting closed at 7.48 p.m.

**Signed:** .....

**Dated:** .....