



Minutes of the Town Council meeting held at the Town Hall on the 7th June 2022 @ 7pm

Present

Town Mayor Cllr John Stewart (JCS), Councillors Ken Edwards (KE), Helen Ellwood (HE), David Kent (DK), Jo Maitland (JM), Miriat Naiga (MN), James Nicholas (JN), Judy Snowball (JS), Amanda Stott (AS).

In attendance: Town Clerk, Julie Mason

Prayers

Rev Nancy Goodrich

The Chair welcomed the Reverend. There was a time for prayer and reflection.

It was noted Cllr D Kent and Cllr M Naiga had signed their Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Clerk.

Declarations of Interest

Cllr JN due to being Chair of the CEC Northern Planning Committee

Apologies

Cllr M Fearn due to work commitments, Cllr A Williams due to holidays and Cllr R Edwards due to moving away from the area.

Public Forum

The Chair allowed these comments in the body of the meeting when the application was debated.

There was one member of the public to discuss the planning application 22/1524D and her upset at the works being completed at 'Limefields' on Long Lane. She also wished it to be noted that the owner was misleading Cheshire East Officers at the site with trees being cut down and the removal of the boundary wall. She had made a complaint to the Head of Planning at Cheshire East and was looking for the Town Council support.

79/22 To receive the minutes of the meeting on 3rd May 2022 (minute ref Nos 58/22-77/22)

RESOLVED: The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

80/22 To receive updates from the minutes

Cllr KE wished the wording of the 'Compassion in Politics' proposal accepted at the last meeting be revisited. He felt the wording was misleading and did not promote the values the Town Council wished to support. He asked the Clerk for advice. As the minutes had been accepted by Full Council the resolution would stand for six months unless five members asked for it to be revisited by a formal request to the Clerk.

Cllr AS supported this action and would arrange.

81/22 To receive the Town Mayor's announcements

The following announcements were noted:

Meeting	Date	Time
Councillor Surgery	04/06/22	Cancelled
Facilities	13/06/22	10.00 am
Community & Environment Committee	14/06/22	7.00 pm
Personnel & Policy Committee	22/06/22	10.00 am
Planning & Town Development Committee	28/06/22	7.00 pm
Full Council	05/07/22	7.00 pm

82/22 To consider planning applications which require comments before the next Planning and Development meeting:

- **22/1591M, 15 Oak Lane, Kerridge, SK10 5BD**
I propose to fit a Velux window (type UK04 size 980 x 1340mm) in the roof of rear aspect of my property, 15 Oak Lane, Kerridge, to provide light to the loft.
RESOLVED NO OBJECTION
- **22/1683M, 24 Dean Way, Bollington, SK10 5DW**
Certificate of lawful proposed development for the installation of solar panels.
RESOLVED NO OBJECTION
- **22/1845M, Pool House, Clarke Lane, Bollington, SK10 5AH**
Proposed new single storey garage building.
RESOLVED OBJECTION
- **22/1855M, 94 Shrigley Road, Bollington, SK10 5RD**
Single storey front and rear extensions and garage conversion.
Deferred due to lack of information.

- **22/1524D, Limefield House, Limefield, Bollington, SK10 5LE**
Discharge of conditions 12 and 13 on approved application 20/0811M – proposed conversion and alteration of the Coach House and Stables into two residential dwellings with amenity space and parking.
RESOLVED NO OBJECTION
- **22/1982M, 3 Hall Hill, Bollington, SK10 5ED**
Proposed rendering to full property.
RESOLVED NO OBJECTION
- **21/5615M, The Summer House, Oak Lane, Kerridge, SK10 5AP**
Conversion and extension to building to form a dwelling and retention of existing log store.
RESOLVED OBJECTION
- **22/1701M, 4 Nab Lane, Bollington, SK10 5RA**
Proposed single storey side extension, porch and amendments to roof to include new twin gables at the front and rear of the property and new roof tiles. Amendments to the elevations, including changes to windows and the installation of roof lights, and internal remodelling works with associated external patio and landscaping.
RESOLVED NO OBJECTION

83/22 To receive the report from Cheshire East Councillors

The report was noted by the Council. Cllr JN pointed out that the Northern Planning Committee meeting on the 8th June had been cancelled and he was still awaiting a decision on the 'call in' for the planning application at St John's Church. Cllr KE asked if a congratulations from BTC is sent to the new Mayor of Cheshire East Council – Cllr David Marren.

84/22 To receive the minutes from the Council Committees and accept their recommendations to Resolve their decisions:

Community & Environment Committee 10/05/22 (CE 57/22 – 72/22)

To agree the formation of a Youth Council

RESOLVED Full Council wished to form a Youth Council to empower young people across Bollington to allow them to have a voice.

RESOLVED the concept would be agreed at the Community & Environment Committee.

It was noted the TOR circulated would be redrafted in less detail.

Cllr J Snowball asked for the following amendment.

CE67/22 To receive the report on support to Ukraine – Cllr Maitland

Cllr JM recommended that the council supports families once they have arrived, and Cllr JS suggested the Council would invite Refugees Welcome to attend the committee to provide an update on the work they are doing.

RESOLVED subject to the above amendment the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Planning & Town Development Committee 17/05/22 (PT 51/22-65/22)

RESOLVED the TC did not support the Committees proposed spend of the £8,000 from approved Section 106 monies to compile a Master Plan for the Recreational Ground by ANSA.

RESOLVED the Ward Cllr AS would approach the Section 106 officer to enquire if any other options were available to the Town Council after the research they had already completed.

RESOLVED the Council agreed to pursue the installation of the Solar lights at the Skate Park.

Cllr J Snowball asked for the following amendments in the TOR number 19." Trees – making observations on Tree Preservation Applications and all other applications referring to trees."

RESOLVED subject to the amendment the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Finance & Audit Committee 23/05/22 (FA 08/22 – FA 15/22)

RESOLVED to accept the circulated the final reconciled budget from 2021/22

RESOLVED to accept the final drafted budget for 2022/23.

RESOLVED to accept the amendment in the Terms of Reference for the Finance & Audit Committee to agree the Committee has the power to approve up to a £1,000 spend AND the allocate the grants budget as requested by organisations of the town.

RESOLVED to accept the Valuation Cost of the Civic Regalia

RESOLVED subject to the amendment the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

85/22 To receive the minutes from the Town Hall Task Group

The Chair apologised for the lack of information from the Task Group, but the EPC certificates had been delayed which had stalled the progress of the group. The minutes were accepted by the group.

RESOLVED due to the departure of Cllr Jon Weston from the group Cllr MN would fill the vacancy.

86/22 To agree the new Committee Structure

RESOLVED the new Committee structure would be accepted.

87/55 To receive a report from the Mayor on the proper working of a Town Council

The Mayor had drafted a report on the manner in which he would like the Town Council to operate in his Mayoral year. He had considered the manners within the team and how we should work together to achieve results and ultimately the Corporate Plan.

RESOLVED the Council supported the report and the proposal for it to be part of his working Council over the next year.

Appendix 1 as below.

88/55 To accept the revised circulated Standing Orders

RESOLVED to accept the Standing Orders

89/55 To note the period of Public Rights and to note it will be between Monday 13th June and Friday 22nd July 2022.

RESOLVED to accept the notice will be published on Monday 13th June on the website and Noticeboard

90/22 To approve the Annual Internal Audit Report 2020/21, part of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22

RESOLVED to accept the Internal Auditors report and comments.

91/22 To receive and resolve to approve Section 1 The Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22.

The Town Mayor read each question out to the members and the council considered each and voted.

RESOLVED the approval of Section 1 of the Audit 2021/2 and the Chair signed.

92/22 To receive and resolve to approve Section 2 The Accounting Statements 2020/21 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22 together with the supporting documents.

RESOLVED the approval of Section 2 of the Accounting Statement prepared by the Clerk/RFO and for the Chair to sign.

93/22 To note the balance of accounts Co-op Current £6,547.99 Co-op Deposit £20,052.46, Natwest Current £145,301.47 Santander Deposit £70,000.00 = £241,901.92.

RESOLVED to approve the Accounts for Payment dated 07/06/22 at £21,609.24+ £1,022.10 = £22,631.34

The information was inspected by the Town Mayor Cllr J Stewart and the Chair of Finance & Grants Committee Cllr Amanda Stott

RESOLVED: That the balance of accounts and payments dated 07/06/22 were approved.

94/22 To agree a proposed motion to be submitted to CHALC at their Annual Meeting

RESOLVED To agree the submitted proposal to CHALC for their annual meeting.

95/22 To note the next Full Council meeting to be held on 5th July 2022 at the Town

Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed:.....

Date:.....

Appendix 1

The Proper Working of The Town Council Summary

The Bollington Town Council (the Council) is a highly active public body. Its purpose is to serve the community of Bollington. The Council consists of a hard-working Town Hall Team (the Team) who act on behalf of the Members to deliver the projects voted on by Council, as well as supporting those in the community who need help and guidance on a wide range of issues.

The Town Council unanimously voted to adopt the Corporate Plan in 2021/22. This was circulated widely in the Town through newsletter and social media and presented to the Town Assembly. The Plan is the beginning of a blueprint for the Council to focus on projects that address the needs of the community. These projects will form the backbone of what we deliver as a Council in 2022/23 and beyond.

In order to deliver everything that we want, the Council must operate as efficiently and effectively as possible. We have limited resources: the Town Hall team only has so many hours per week and the Members have only a finite capacity, on a voluntary basis. Therefore, we need to ensure that we are not blown off course from our objectives, nor spend too much time on activities that are not aligned with our Plan.

Current Relationship Between the Town Hall team and the Members

1. A completely new Town Hall team is now in place. The relationship is building well and a lot of ground is being covered. The disruption in 2021/22 was significant and our Town Clerk has managed that period incredibly well under extreme circumstances.
2. 50% of the Members have been in post for less than three years. In fact a third have only been in post for a year or less. This is an opportunity to bring in new ideas and also to reiterate how we should operate, through the Standing Orders, and also in an environment of mutual respect, trust and compassion. Now that we are able to circulate freely and interact face to face, it is easy to pop into the Town Hall, to engage directly with the Town Clerk or members of the Team. This is not to be discouraged. However, we need to be considerate when doing so. The smooth running of the Council relies on its Members to bring things to Council through the proper channel. This means ideas, potential projects, thoughts on how we operate et cetera, are brought to Council via the Working or task Groups, then into Committees to be considered and voted on. If not in the current budget, they should then be brought to full Council for consideration and resolution. This way, the proper working of Council is maintained. It should be noted that Council does not conduct its business by email. Another unwelcome distraction is the use of social media by individual Members to score political points against their fellow Council Members. Especially when these posts contain material inaccuracies. Again, Council business will not be conducted through social media, only through the proper working of Council.
3. There will be an election of Members in 2023. This will focus the minds of Members, as how we perform and deliver this year will have a bearing on our chances of re-election, for those who stand. This should not, however, be a reason to stray from the path of collective responsibility and accountability. On the contrary, by working as a team, we can deliver the projects that our community needs and wants, for the benefit of all.

The Future Direction In the coming months, we will all be feeling the pinch, as the prices of things inflate further. Our Community will feel the strain like any other. It is up to the Council, more than ever, to ensure that every penny of the precept is spent wisely and effectively.

This list is not an exhaustive one:

1. Build on the Corporate Plan: extending its horizon to three years, to give the Members, post-election in 2023, a firm foundation and direction, and the continuity our Community deserves.

2. Revisit the Neighbourhood Plan: a process that will take many months and significant resources to complete.
3. Grow the number of allotments in Bollington: acquiring land from CEC wherever possible and ensuring more plots are available to satisfy demand.
4. Manage our assets better: in consideration of the stricter environmental standards required, mitigating the Risks of Ownership by assessing and quantifying the Cost of Ownership and making provision in future budgets.
5. Engage actively with the Community: work in partnership with established Community organisations, encourage members of the public to attend full Council and Committee meetings and participate in Working/Task Groups, seek to understand the needs of the elderly and the young people in our Town, and ensure full representation in line with our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policies.
6. Publicise our achievements: use the newsletter, social media and notice boards to inform our residents what their precept is being invested in or the good of our Community. Conclusion Bollington Town Council has done great things for the Community in the past and is doing great things today.
7. It will continue to do great things in the future. By the Members and the Town Hall Team working together effectively, in partnership with Community organisations, we will deliver what our Town needs and wants for the good of everyone.

Cllr J Stewart – Town Mayor