



### **Minutes of the Town Assembly held at the Civic Hall 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022**

**Present: Town Mayor Cllr Johanna Maitland (JM),  
Cllrs; Ken Edwards (KE), Helen Ellwood (HE), Roland Edwards (RE) , James Nicholas (JN), Judy Snowball (JS), John Stewart (JCS), Amanda Stott, (AS), Angela Williams (AW)  
Town Clerk; Julie Mason.**

#### **Public Forum**

There were forty-six members of the public present.

#### **Apologies**

Cllr M Fearn due to having an operation.

*There no minutes received from last year 2021.*

Welcome from the Mayor plus housekeeping

#### **Presentations from Cllrs with slides**

**Mayor's Report from 2021/22**- Cllr J Maitland

**Community Grants 2021/22** – Cllr H Ellwood

**Neighbourhood Plan Review** – Cllr K Edwards

**Reducing Carbon Footprint** – Cllr R Edwards

**The Role of a Town Cllr** – Cllr J Snowball

**Bollington in Bloom** – Cllr J Nicholas

**Allotments** – Cllr K Edwards

**The Corporate Plan** – Cllr J Stewart

**Budget v Precept** – Cllr A Stott

Questions and Answers from the Public

- To thank the Town Cllrs for all their hard work and the two Cllrs who have resigned. He wished to ask what efforts the TC were doing to provide youth facilities in the town e.g., a youth café.
- A resident wished the Town Council and the members to noted how much hard works had gone into the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. It was a democratic process and should be applied to all planning applications by the Council.
- A resident had been in the town for 10 years and thought the traffic and the parking had gradually got worse. He felt the Tesco development was generally not wanted but the town and caused a lot of disruption. He wished the town to vote on their feet and not shop there. He felt there was a rumour that the Town Council were considering selling the Town Hall which dismayed him greatly. It was not a wise action to take. He was supported by another resident that felt there needed to be a communication statement sent out form the to explain their intentions and it should be left to the electorate to vote for such an action.

*Cllr JCS explained that it was not a decision, but it was a review of the assets which was being carried out.*

- A resident who was a previous Mayor felt the communication was not as good as the Town Council felt and she had sent a letter to the Mayor and Clerk and never received a reply. It was not within the gift of the TC to say they had supplier a skate park as it was not their actions it was previous elected Cllrs.
- One member wished to ask about more detail on the solar farm and the space it would take up and the location.

*Cllr RE replied that it needed to be flat south facing or sloping southwest and it would need to be 10 acres to accommodate 3,000 panels.*

- One resident with to thank another for all his hard work in the community. He felt the TC knew nothing about Health & Safety and they had never taken him up on the offer of support of his knowledge when the Tesco development was taking place. He asked who approved the Corporate Plan? Who agreed the extra gritting services in the town? He did not feel the communication was very good. Lastly, he wished to know why the salary bill was £20,000 in January 2022 as opposed to an average of £6/7,000?
- There was an enquiry about solar or wind energy power as an alternative. Had the Town Council thought about locations?
- There was an enquiry from a member of the bowling club as she had asked so many times for a shelter to mark scoring cards on wet rainy days. She had asked for years for support, and it was impossible to mark cards whilst holding an umbrella. Twenty bowlers attend every fortnight. She felt the S106 monies should have been considered for the bowlers as well as everyone else.

*Cllr RE reported most of the Section 106 monies had been turned down.*

- A resident asked about the sewage leaking in the river and what actions are being taken and if signage could be installed or a social media post.

*Cllr JS replied on the progress today that it was with the Environment Agency and the raw sewage leak had been resolved but there were still leaks from the treatment works. Mr D Rutley was involved and there were making progress.*

- There was a concern from a member of the Harrop Road allotments about the consideration of the TC to take on a piece of land behind and the impact on parking.
- A resident wished to ask the TC has much benefit had been gained by spending over £5,000 on the planting of daffodils.

*The Mayor felt the feedback had been very good especially on social media.*

The Mayor closed the meeting at 9.00pm and asked everybody to stay for refreshments.

Signed .....

Date: