



## Minutes of the Town Council Meeting

2 February 2021 7.00pm  
Using Microsoft Teams

### Present:

Town Mayor Cllr John Stewart, Deputy Town Mayor Cllr Johanna Maitland.  
Cllrs: Amanda Stott, James Nicholas, Roland Edwards, Angela Williams, Jon Weston, Mark Fearn, Ken Edwards and Sara Knowles.  
David Naylor Town Clerk

Three members of the public were present. There were no requests to speak on any item.

**8082. To receive and approve apologies for absence:** There were none

**8083. To receive any declarations of Interest:**

There were none.

**8084. To receive and confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting 05/01/21 (Minute Nos. 8069-8081).**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes as a true record.

**8085. To receive updates from the Minutes:** There were none

**8086. To receive the Town Mayor's announcements**

All meetings are to be held via Microsoft Teams during the COVID-19 pandemic unless otherwise stated.

- |   |          |                 |
|---|----------|-----------------|
| • Planning & Development Committee              | 16/02/21 | 7.00pm          |
| • Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Working Group | 22/02/21 | 7.00pm          |
| • Community Services & Environment Committee    | 23/02/21 | 7.00pm          |
| • Personnel Committee                           | 24/02/21 | 10.00am         |
| • Council Meeting                               | 02/03/21 | 7.00pm          |
| • Town Assembly                                 | 09/03/21 | 7.30pm          |
| • Facilities & Infrastructure Committee         | 10/03/21 | 7.00pm          |
| • Planning & Development Committee              | 16/03/21 | 7.00pm          |
| • Strategic Planning Committee                  | 23/03/21 | 7.00pm          |
| • Elections (timetable for nominations)         | 06/05/21 | (Election Date) |

A Notice of Casual Vacancy would need to be displayed on BTC notice boards and on our website and sent to CEC before 8/3/21 for an election to be held on 6/5/21.

- Note: Information from NALC 27/1/21 Extending the remote meeting regulations. The government is not currently planning to extend the remote meeting regulations beyond 7/5/21. Along with other local government bodies, NALC is continuing to press for this extension. It is also preparing guidance for local councils on preparing for and managing the return to physical meetings in May and beyond.

### **8087. Report from Cheshire East Councillors**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive the written report provided by the Cheshire East Councillors and to note its contents.

Cllr Stott advised that the Agenda for Cheshire East Council's (CEC's) Northern Area Committee was published that day for next Wednesday and the Crown Public House planning application was being heard. Speakers needed to be co-ordinated with the Town Clerk, CEC would also need to be informed beforehand of all speakers.

Cllr Stott was congratulated on CEC being able to set a balanced budget for 2021/22. Cllr Roland Edwards advised that he had started the response to CEC's Air Quality Strategy Review.

### **8088. Reports from Council Committees and Representatives**

#### **a. Community Services & Environment 12/01/21**

The minutes of this meeting were received, and it was **RESOLVED** that their contents be noted.

**The Christmas Working Group Report.** There were five proposals attached to the report i.e.

- I. Review the feasibility of developing the Civic Hall outdoor space including obtaining quotes for work and defining a budget and project plan.
- II. Develop a project plan for further outdoor Hub events to take place throughout 2021 e.g. to mark auspicious dates such as St Valentine's Day, Easter, Midsummer, Bank Holidays etc.
- III. Define a plan and budget for Christmas 2021. Factor in expertise required, suppliers and other stakeholders.
- IV. Explore how we can further engage with and support Canalside Radio as a community support and communication channel. This should form part of a wider plan to address participation, inclusion and communication via non-digital (web and social media based) channels.
- V. Send formal thankyou's to all involved: Nick at Canalside, Paul Berry, Neil Shaw-Hulme and Nicola Walker-Jakubowski.

It was **RESOLVED** to thank Cllr Knowles for an excellent report and for a good Christmas program and to revisit these proposals with the benefit of inputs from the Civic Functions & Events and Facilities & Infrastructure committees (or their successors in the new committee structure) and the Friends of the Bollington Recreation Ground. There was also a Christmas Planning meeting already planned for May. Regarding the first proposal, the budget had already been set for 2021 and any such proposals would have to be accommodated within it.

It was agreed to thank the people listed in the report.

**b. Facilities & Infrastructure Committee 13/01/21**

The minutes of this meeting were received, and it was **RESOLVED** that their contents be noted.

It was also **RESOLVED** to approve all its recommendations i.e.:

**Minute 5a and b.** To approve entering into a contract with Engie for the Town Hall and Civic Hall for the period January – October 2021

**Minute 6b.** To approve the lease to BHL to match the expiry date of the existing lease from CEC to BTC or a very slightly shorter lease if it was not legally prudent to exactly match the expiry date

**Minute 7c.** To ratify the decision taken by the Town Clerk to pay Electricity North West for their work on the first phase of the EVC project.

**EVC Charging Proposed Contract Extension.** Cllr Weston advised that the Council's preferred supplier had asked the Council to consider extending the contract from 3 years to the full 5-year duration of the lease. The contractor would be taking all the risks and liabilities and a longer contract would help them to recover their costs and promote and increase participation over the longer period.

After a short discussion it was **RESOLVED** to extend the duration of the contract, which was currently being concluded, to a 5-year period. It was accepted there was no "downside" for the Town Council in agreeing to such a request

**c. Planning and Development Executive Committee 19/02/21**

The minutes of this meeting were received, and it was **RESOLVED** that their contents be noted.

**d. Personnel Committee 20/01/21**

The minutes of this meeting were received, and it was **RESOLVED** that their contents be noted.

It was also **RESOLVED** to approve all its recommendations i.e:

**Minute 5.** To submit the proposed committee structure directly to the Council and that the structure be circulated well ahead of that meeting. Staff comments would be fed into the Council debate.

**The Future Committee Structure was debated.**

It was generally well received. Cllr Roland Edwards was concerned that Future Resilience may not be progressed as thoroughly within this structure. However, he was assured by the Mayor that this would be one of the Council's key delivery areas within its parent committee. There was also a debate about the level of administrative support for the working groups and the level of delegation to the executive committees. There were still some issues which would be further developed at the ongoing working group meetings and details would be brought back to Council in March and the final structure and their meeting frequency would be finalised at the April Council meeting.

**Minute 10.** GDPR Report. The status quo be retained for the forthcoming year and the necessary funding be re-established in the budget 2021-2022.

**e. Strategic Planning Committee 26/01/21**

The minutes of this meeting were received, and it was **RESOLVED** that their contents be noted.

**f. Finance & Grants Committee 26/01/21**

The minutes of this meeting were received, and it was **RESOLVED** that their contents be noted.

It was also **RESOLVED** to approve all its recommendations i.e.:

**Minute 4.** To approve the release of funding for Transition Bollington £200 for Community Gardens Spring Restock, Transition Bollington £700 for Networking and Community Engagement both from the Environment budget and for Bollington Civic Society £1000 for the Heritage Signs from Earmark Reserves

**Minute 5.** To approve the Amended Grants Awarding Policy

**Minute 6.** To earmark the school swimming grant for next financial year

**g. Audit Committee 27/01/21**

The minutes of this meeting were received, and it was **RESOLVED** that their contents be noted.

It was also **RESOLVED** to approve all its recommendations i.e.:

**Minute 5.** To approve the Interim Internal Audit and note the recommendation regarding following Financial Regulations

**Minute 6.** To approve the Financial Internal Controls Policy

**Minute 7.** To approve the updated Insurance Schedule

**Minute 8.** To approve the Financial Risk Assessment

**Minute 9.** To approve the Fixed Asset Register

**8089. Accounts for Payment - February**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Accounts for Payment in the sum of **£26,086.11**. The accounts had been scrutinised by Cllr Stewart Town Mayor and Cllr Weston Chair of Finance & Grants Committee.

**8090. Part B Under Standing Orders 3d – Exclusion of the Public**

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the public from the meeting to discuss the Personnel Working Group findings.

**8091. Date of Next Council Meeting: 2 March 2021 at 7.00pm**

Signed .....

Date: 2 March 2021