

Folkestone Town Meeting

MINUTES of the Full Council Meeting held at the Town Hall, Folkestone on Thursday, 21st September 2023 at 7.00 p.m.

TOWN COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly, Charlie Bain Smith, Bridget Chapman, Jane Darling, Laura Davison, Christine Dickinson, Peter Gane, Nicola Keen (arrived at 7.35pm), Kieran Leigh, Adrian Lockwood, Connor McConville (arrived at 7.35pm), Lucy McGirr, Jackie Meade, Tim Prater, John Renshaw, Belinda Walker, Roger West.

ABSENT:

IN ATTENDANCE: Stephen Nash - Town Clerk, Georgina Wilson - Executive Assistant and Ian Bishop - Town Sergeant.

No questions were received.

1986. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Liz McShane.

RESOLVED: To accept the apologies from Councillor McShane.

Proposed: Councillor Jackie Meade

Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

Voting: F: 15, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1987. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Jackie Meade made a personal declaration of interest in Living Words Arts, Councillors Adrian Lockwood and Bridget Chapman made personal declarations of interest in Sunflower House, Councillors Tim Prater and Charlie Bain Smith made personal declarations of interest in HG Wells Short Story Competition.

1988. MINUTES

The Council was asked to receive and authorise the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 10th August 2023 and to ask the Town Mayor to sign them as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 10th August 2023 be received and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor Jackie Meade

Seconded: Councillor Jonathan Renshaw

Voting: F: 14, Ag: 0, Ab: 1

1989. TOWN GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Mayor invited applicants to speak and answer questions on their grant applications.

1990. MAYORS COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported on a busy few months since the last meeting including a visit from the Princess Royal to mark the 50th Anniversary of the NCI. The Mayor also thanked the organisers of these events as well as the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Akuffo Kelly, and Past Mayor, Councillor Nicola Keen for standing in for events she was unable to attend and thanked her Consorts for accompanying her.

(Councillors Nicola Keen and Connor McConville arrived)

1991. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee's meetings of 27th July 2023 be received and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor Charlie Bain Smith

Seconded: Councillor Christine Dickinson

Voting: F: 17, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1992. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of 15th June 2023 be taken back to the Finance and General Purposes for approval as per normal procedure.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Jackie Meade

Voting: F: 16, Ag: 0, Ab: 1

1993. MATTERS AND RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMITTEES

- i. **Finance and General Purposes Committee – 2023/24**
See above resolution.

1994. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED: To approve the membership changes to the Planning Committee; remove Cllrs Keen and Meade, replace with Cllrs McGirr and Darling.

Proposed: Councillor Belinda Walker

Seconded: Councillor Nicola Keen

Voting: F: 17, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1995. WILLIAM HARVEY SUNDAY COMMEMORATION REPORT

RESOLVED: To receive and note report C/23/341 and reduce the current budget from £1,000 to £150 for 2024/25.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded: Councillor Jackie Meade
Voting: F: 17, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1996. SAMUEL PLIMSOLL COMMEMORATION REPORT

RESOLVED: To receive and note report C/23/342, to adopt the Samuel Plimsoll Commemoration at St Martin's Church as a civic event and set a budget of £200 for this Commemoration.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded: Councillor Laura Davison
Voting: F: 17, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The remainder of the Agenda has classified item 12, Minute number 1997, as disclosing exempt information under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) thereby excluding the press and public from the meeting whilst this item is debated. Press and members of the public left the meeting.

1997. TOWN GRANT SCORES

RESOLVED: To approve full awards as set out in the exempt list for Strange Cargo, Folkestone Gospel Singers, Screen South, Cheriton Baptist Church, Disabled Friends and Family and St Eanswythes School.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane
Seconded: Councillor Charlie Bain Smith
Voting: F: 17, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

RESOLVED: To approve a full award (£600) for H G Wells Short Story Competition.

Proposed: Councillor Belinda Walker
Seconded: Councillor Bridget Chapman
Voting: F: 15, Ag: 0, Ab: 2

RESOLVED: To approve a full award (£2,500) for Living Words Arts.

Proposed: Councillor Belinda Walker
Seconded: Councillor Nicola Keen
Voting: F: 16, Ag: 0, Ab: 1

RESOLVED: To approve a full award (£2,000) for Sunflower House.

Proposed: Councillor Belinda Walker
Seconded: Councillor Roger West
Voting: F: 15, Ag: 0, Ab: 2

RESOLVED: To approve a full award (£2,500) for Folkestone Optimist Hockey Club.

Proposed: Councillor Belinda Walker

Seconded: Councillor Jackie Meade

Voting: F: 17, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

1998. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

16th November 2023 at 7.00 p.m. – Ordinary Full Council Meeting

The meeting concluded at 8.20 pm.

.....Town Mayor