

## Folkestone Town Council

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council held at the Town Hall, Folkestone on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7 p.m.

### **PRESENT: Councillor Jackie Meade – Town Mayor (in the Chair)**

Councillors Ann Berry, Paul Bingham, Peter Gane, Michelle Keutenius, Jonathan Graham, David Horton, Dylan Jeffrey, Nicola Keen, Mary Lawes, Connor McConville, Tim Prater, Belinda Walker, Richard Wallace and Roger West.

**In attendance:** Jennifer Childs (Town Clerk) and Georgina Wilson (Admin Officer)

### **1644. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly sent her apologies.  
Councillors Dan Brook and Ray Field were absent.

### **1645. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations.

### **1646. MINUTES**

The Council was asked to receive the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

**RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 be received, approved and signed as a correct record by the Town Mayor once the amendment has been made to Cllr Wallace's name.**

Proposed: Councillor Roger West  
Seconded: Councillor David Horton  
Voting: F:13, Ag:0, Ab:1

### **1647. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

No public questions were received.

### **1648. MAYORS COMMUNICATIONS AND ACCOUNCEMENTS**

Having attended many engagements since the last meeting, the Town Mayor reported on the following:

- Christmas Card judging
- Folkestone School for Girls opening parade for their CCF
- Christmas Light Switch on for Folkestone and Cheriton
- Mayors Charity do at East Kent College
- Induction of Deputy Constable at Dover Castle
- Christmas Concerts – Mayors Year 6, MASC, Shara, Brockhill
- Boxing Day Dip
- Visit from Castle Hill Community School

The Town Mayor gave thanks to all the contractors, staff and Councillors who worked to ensure that all these significant events went ahead.

**1649. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of the Planning Committee moved that the Council receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee's meetings of 31<sup>st</sup> October and 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019.

**RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee's meetings of 31<sup>st</sup> October and 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 be received and adopted.**

Proposed: Councillor Richard Wallace  
Seconded: Councillor Jonathan Graham  
Voting: F:14, Ag:0, Ab: 0

**1650. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee moved that the Council receive the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

**RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 be received and adopted.**

Proposed: Councillor Mary Lawes  
Seconded: Councillor Dylan Jeffrey  
Voting: F:14, Ag:0, Ab: 0

**1651. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of the Community Services Committee moved that the Council receive the Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019.

**RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 be received and adopted.**

Proposed: Councillor Roger West  
Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker  
Voting: F:14, Ag:0, Ab: 0

**1652. MINUTES OF THE GRANTS COMMITTEE**

The Chairman of the Grants Committee moved that the Council receive the Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

**RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Grants Committee meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019 be received and adopted.**

Proposed: Councillor Roger West  
Seconded: Councillor David Horton  
Voting: F:14, Ag:0, Ab: 0

### **1653. MATTERS AND RESOLUTIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES**

Grants Committee 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019 Minute 128. TOWN GRANTS

Councillors discussed the Town Sprucer and some expressed their support for the scheme. Cllr M Lawes felt it would have been useful to have a report with the history of why the resolution was made and any other information relevant such as the bank accounts for the Sprucer.

It was clarified that Full Council only needed to rescind the previous resolution to enable the Grants Committee to look into providing funding; the Grants Committee are responsible for looking at their accounts etc.

**RESOLVED: To rescind the previous resolution to allow the Grants Committee to consider giving the Town Sprucer a grant.**

Proposed: Councillor Michelle Keutenius

Seconded: Councillor David Horton

Voting: F: 11, Ag: 0, Ab: 3

### **1654. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2020/21**

Due to elections for both Kent County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner in April 2020 a request was made to amend the dates of the Town Assembly for 2020. It was also felt it would be fairer to keep the Town Assembly date in May rather than change it to April, to ensure each Mayor can preside over a Town Assembly within their year of office, a change of date to the Town Assembly in 2021 was agreed.

**RESOLVED: To approve and accept the schedule of dates for 2020/21 and amend the Town Assembly dates to 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021.**

Proposed: Councillor Jackie Meade

Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

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

### **1655. FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2020/21**

Councillor Roger West requested an amendment be made to the budget, around the allotments. A request has been made to replace the gates at the Tile Kiln Lane allotments site.

**RESOLVED: That any underspend from allotments code 4505 is placed in a reserve to replace the gates at Tile Kiln Lane.**

Proposed: Councillor Roger West

Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

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

**RESOLVED:**

**1. To receive and note Report C/20/261**

2. To approve the Town Council's budget for 2020/210 as set out in the Appendix attached to report C/20/261
3. To confirm the Precept for 2020/21 in accordance with the provisions in Sections 39, 41 and 50 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 of £873,950
4. To authorise the Town Mayor to sign the Precept demand on the District Council.

Proposed: Councillor Mary Lawes  
Seconded: Councillor Nicola Keen  
Voting: F: 14, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

#### **1656. QUALITY COUNCIL SCHEME**

The Town Clerk explained that the Folkestone Town Council had been a Quality Council since 2008 with a renewal in 2012 and 2015 when the scheme was rewritten with bands of achievement, Folkestone Town Council were awarded the highest band, Quality Gold. Agreement from Full Council was sought to apply for the Quality Gold Award.

**RESOLVED: To go forward with applying to NALC, confirming that Council meets the criteria outlined for the Quality Gold Award.**

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane  
Seconded: Councillor Roger West  
Voting: F: 14, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

#### **1657. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 7pm

The meeting ended at 7.30pm.

.....Town Mayor  
19<sup>th</sup> March 2020