

## Folkestone Town Council

**MINUTES of the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Folkestone Town Council held virtually on Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 6.30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly, Paul Bingham, Peter Gane, Michelle Keutenius, Jonathan Graham, David Horton, Ray Field, Dylan Jeffrey, Nicola Keen, Mary Lawes, Connor McConville, Jackie Meade, Tim Prater, Belinda Walker, Richard Wallace and Roger West.

**In attendance:** Jennifer Childs (Town Clerk)

**The Town Clerk led Prayers.**

### **1750. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None, but Councillor Ann Berry advised that she arrived late and attempted to attend the meeting but it had already concluded.

### **1751. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

### **1752. MINUTES**

Council was asked to receive the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and to authorise the Town Mayor to sign them as a correct record.

**RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020 be received and signed as a correct record.**

Proposed: Councillor Roger West  
Seconded: Councillor Jonathan Graham  
Voting: F:16, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

### **1753. PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

No public questions were received.

### **1754. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Town Mayor advised that the festive season had been busy and she had been involved in the Free Hot Meals over Christmas and Christmas Present Scheme along with many volunteers and gave thanks to all of those involved who helped provide much needed food and Christmas cheer to vulnerable families.

### **1755. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2021/22**

The schedule of provisional meeting dates for 2021/22 was considered.

**RESOLVED: To approve and accept the schedule of dates for 2021/22**

Proposed: Councillor David Horton  
Seconded: Councillor Jackie Meade

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

**1756. FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2021/22**

**Report C/21/277** concluded the budget making process for the Town Council's Precept requirements for 2021/22 with a recommended Precept of £873,950, however, following confirmation that the Principal Council have confirmed a reduction in the tax base there was debate regarding the Finance & General Purposes Committees proposal for a zero increase in the precept and the budget shortfall being met from the General Reserve and need for a 1.9% increase to precept £873,950.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1. To receive and note Report C/21/277**
- 2. To approve the Town Council's budget for 2021/22 as set out in the Appendix attached to report C/21/2771**
- 3. To confirm the Precept for 2021/22 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.**

Councillor Dylan Jeffrey requested a recorded vote.

Proposed: Councillor Nicola Keen

Seconded: Councillor Jackie Meade

Voting: F:11, Ag: 4, Ab: 1

Abena Akuffo-Kelly	For
Paul Bingham	For
Michelle Keutenius	For
Ray Field	Against
Peter Gane	For
Jonathan Graham	For
David Horton	Against
Dylan Jeffrey	Against
Nicola Keen	For
Mary Lawes	Against
Connor McConville	For
Jackie Meade	For
Tim Prater	For
Belinda Walker	For
Richard Wallace	Abstain
Roger West	For

**1757. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS**

18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 6.30pm

The meeting ended at 18.47 pm

.....Town Mayor

..... Date