

## **FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Climate and Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 at the Town Hall at 7pm.**

**Present: Councillors Abena Akuffo–Kelly (Chair), Jane Darling, Lucy McGirr, John Renshaw and Roger West.**

**Absent: Councillors Charles Bain-Smith and Jackie Meade**

**In attendance: Vicky Deakin – Communities & Events Officer**

### **78. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillors were asked to receive apologies from Councillors Liz McShane and Kieran Leigh.

**RESOLVED: To accept Councillors Liz McShane and Kieran Leigh apologies.**

Proposed: Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly

Seconded: Councillor Liz McShane

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

### **79. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **80. MINUTES**

The Committee was asked to receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Climate & Environment Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and to authorise the Chair of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 be received and signed as a correct record.**

Proposed: Councillor Roger West

Seconded: Councillor Lucy McGirr

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

### **81. CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

The Committee were asked to consider merging with the Community Services Committee and Best Practice Terms of Reference being created whilst determining the working practices of the future. Any changes the Committee resolved to make must be approved by Full Council at a future meeting.

After much debate it was

**RESOLVED: That the committees should not merge and that the two respective meetings be held on consecutive weeks both commencing at**

**7pm on a Tuesday or Thursday subject to a review of the Schedule of Meetings by Full Council.**

Proposed: Councillor Lucy McGirr  
Seconded: Councillor Roger West  
Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

**82. REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

In line with the Town Council's adopted Standing Orders, the Committee was asked to consider the Terms of Reference for the Climate & Environment Committee. Any changes the Committee resolved to make must be approved by Full Council at a future meeting.

**RESOLVED: That the following amendments and additions be made to the existing Terms of Reference:**

- a) Item 1. To exercise the powers and duties of the Town Council on the following highways and transportation matters and where appropriate, submit proposals to the responsible authority further to engagement with Highways England, Kent County Council and Folkestone & Hythe District Council:
- b) Item 1. d) Traffic and Parking
- c) Item 2. To exercise the powers and duties of the Town Council on the physical environment of the town further to engagement with all associated stakeholders, including:
- d) Item 2. j) Beaches and Harbour – Engage with relevant stakeholders including Southern Water and The Harbour Company
- e) Item 3. a) Support for projects and organisations in Folkestone which aim to: promote biodiversity and wildlife *habitats*, improve air quality and support renewable energy generation
- f) Item 3. d) Facilities and engagement for young people

Proposed: Councillor John Renshaw  
Seconded: Councillor Lucy McGirr  
Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

**83. COMMUNITIES & EVENTS OFFICER REPORT CS/23/346**

The committee was asked to receive, note and consider the recommendations in the report.

**RESOLVED:**

- a) **To receive and note Report CE/23/346 and that a vote of congratulations be recorded in respect of achieving Fairtrade Town Status for Folkestone.**

Proposed: Councillor John Renshaw

Seconded: Councillor Roger West

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

- b) i. **That the current 2023 /24 remaining tree planting budget of £4,891 be vired to General Reserves for the purpose of grounds maintenance.**

- c) ii) **That sponsorship of F & HDC owned flower and shrub beds ceases immediately and that the existing 2023 /24 FTC earmarked budget of £33,264 is vired to General Reserves for the purpose of purchasing equipment and plants to maintain FTC planters.**

Proposed: Councillor Roger West

Seconded: Councillor Lucy McGirr

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

**84. BUDGET 2023/24 – POTENTIAL GROWTH ITEMS**

At this juncture the Committee was asked to consider proposals for possible growth items and non-recurring revenue expenditure for climate & environment projects and initiatives for next year. The Finance & General Purposes Committee will consider the full list of proposals put forward by all Committees at its meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

**RESOLVED: There were no budget proposals made.**

Proposed: Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly

Seconded: Councillor Lucy McGirr

Voting: F: 5, Ag: 0, Ab: 0

**85. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7pm (TBC)

The meeting concluded at 7.50pm.

**Chairman .....**

**Date .....**