

## FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held virtually by Zoom on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 at 6.30pm.

**Present:** Councillors Ann Berry, Abena Akuffo-Kelly (Chair), Paul Bingham, Peter Gane, Michelle Keutenius, Belinda Walker and Roger West.

**In attendance:** Jennifer Childs, Town Clerk  
Vicky Deakin, Communities & Events Officer  
Councillor Richard Wallace

### 1135. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Jonathan Graham due to work commitments.

### 1136. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Paul Bingham, Michelle Keutenius and Belinda Walker declared a personal interest in the Museum Report as Friends of the Museum. Councillor Michelle Keutenius declared a personal interest in the Hot Meal Scheme.

### 1137. MINUTES

The Committee were asked to receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and to authorise the Chairman of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 be received and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Councillor Roger West  
Seconded: Councillor Paul Bingham  
Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

### 1138. FAIRTRADE

The Communities and Events Officer updated the Committee in respect of ongoing tasks and their development to achieve the remaining two goals to attain Fairtrade Status for Folkestone Town Council with details of associated projects required in 2021 to re-engage with the local business and residential communities whilst sustaining momentum for this initiative. It was suggested that a Steering Group be re-established to meet quarterly at 5pm with a proposal for the first to be held at the end of February and the Co-Op be invited to submit an article for the community magazine as a strong advocate for Fairtrade. Members were asked to bring any suggestions to the Communities and Events Officer ASAP in respect of a small online event(s) they would like Folkestone Town Council to organise as part of Fairtrade Fortnight which takes place from 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb – 7<sup>th</sup> Mar 2021.

### 1139. TREE PLANTING 2020/21 AND PROPOSALS FOR 2021/22

The Communities and Events Officer and Councillor Richard Wallace updated the Committee in respect of the current planting schedule including key observations and details from Tree Wardens to assist and facilitate considerations for the 2021/22 scheme.

**1140. FLOWER & SHRUB BEDS 2020/21 & 2021/22**

The Town Clerk advised Committee that the schedule provided by the district council covered the annual shrub and flower bed maintenance work for 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23; and in line with Council's commitment to becoming Carbon Neutral by 2030 proposals for planting wildflower verges are currently being developed with the County Council.

**RESOLVED: That £32,500 be released for the 2020/21 Parks, Gardens & Recs budget for the annual shrub and flower bed maintenance.**

Proposed: Councillor Roger West  
Seconded: Councillor Ann Berry  
Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

**RESOLVED: That £32,500 be released from the 2021/22 Parks, Gardens & Recs budget for the annual shrub and flower bed maintenance.**

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane  
Seconded: Councillor Roger West  
Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

**RESOLVED: That £1,275 be released from the 2020/21 local projects budget to support the wild verges initiative.**

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane  
Seconded: Councillor Michelle Keutenius  
Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

**1141. RED TELEPHONE BOX, THE STADE**

The Town Clerk updated the Committee in respect of the Red Telephone Box on the Stade which has been used since 2010 by Shane Record.

**RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk write to Shane Record and thank him for utilising the phone box and advise that the Town Council will no longer be allowing third party use as it is going to be re-utilised to house a community defibrillator.**

Proposed: Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly  
Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane  
Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

**1142. FOLKESTONE MUSEUM REPORT CS/21/279**

**RESOLVED: That report CS/21/279 be received and noted.**

Proposed: Councillor Roger West  
Seconded: Councillor Ann Berry  
Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

#### **1143. ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP REPORT CS/21/280**

**RESOLVED:** That report CS/21/280 be received and noted; and to recommend to Full Council that the revised Committee Structures together with associated Terms of Reference, Schedule of Dates and Budget Allocations be implemented for the 2021/22 Municipal Year.

Proposed: Councillor Belinda Walker

Seconded: Councillor Ann Berry

Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

#### **1144. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING AND FESTIVITIES REPORT CS/21/281**

Committee asked that any repairs necessary for the ceiling of lights in Rendezvous Street be monitored and should replacement be needed, braids or baubles are to be utilised to reduce ongoing costs.

**RESOLVED:** That report CS/21/281 be received, noted and option 1 to maintain the status quo with regard to re-utilising the current infrastructure be approved.

Proposed: Councillor Roger West

Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

#### **1145. TOURISM REPORT CS/21/282**

Further to the presentation provided by Alex Ridings and Nina Jackson of MyFolkestone ahead of the meeting, committee considered the request for support to provide a virtual high street to enable local businesses to recover from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic against the tourism service already being provided by Council.

**RESOLVED:** That report CS/21/282 be received and noted.

Proposed: Councillor Roger West

Seconded: Councillor Belinda Walker

Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

**RESOLVED:** To participate in the MyFolkestone Discover Package for a maximum of 12 more months at a rate of £149 a month; after which MyFolkestone be advised to apply for funding via the Councillor grant schemes.

Proposed: Councillor Peter Gane

Seconded: Councillor Roger West

Voting: F:5, Ag:1, Ab:1

#### **1146. HOT MEAL SCHEME REPORT CS/21/283**

Councillor Michelle Keutenius moved a vote of thanks for the Communities and Events Officer for co-ordinating the Christmas Hot Meal Scheme at such short notice.

**RESOLVED:** That report CS/21/283 be received and noted.

Proposed: Councillor Paul Bingham

Seconded: Councillor Michelle Keutenius

Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

**RESOLVED: That £3,000 be released from the Xmas Meals budget to provide hampers during the April half term holiday to families in need that do not qualify for Free School Meal vouchers from the County Council.**

Proposed: Councillor Michelle Keutenius

Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

**1147. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021 @ 6.30pm**

The meeting concluded at 19.30pm

**Chairman** .....

**Date** .....

DRAFT