



**Minutes of The Meeting of Corfe Mullen Town Council**

**Held on Tuesday 22 September 2020 at 7pm on Zoom online**

**Present:** Councillors  
D Sowry-House (Mayor)  
M Barron  
A Craven  
D Everett  
A Holland  
P Holland  
B Honeyman  
T Howard  
S Jefferies  
J Lortie  
D Mattocks  
P Purvis  
J Stennett

In Attendance: Nicola Gray (Town Clerk)

No Members of Public were present

**TC 20/60 To Receive and Accept apologies for absence** (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

Apologies were received from Cllr Paul Harrison who had not been able to join the meeting due to technical issues.

**TC 20/61 To Record any declarations of interest** Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

There were no declarations of interest made.

**TC 20/62 To Approve minutes of meeting held on 25 August 2020** LGA 1972, sch 12, para 41 **A**

Cllr Lortie noted errors at minute numbers TC/20/49, misspelling of resolved, and TC 20/54 misspelling of Cllr Jefferies.

Subject to the above amendments, the minutes were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

**TC 20/63 To note approved minutes of Committees: -** **B**

- **Planning Committee held 11 August 2020**
- **Community Services held 11 August 2020**

Cllr Craven noted the use of plastic shed bases. The Clerk clarified the bases recommended for purchase were purpose made as an alternative to slabs. Details could be found via a link provided within the Community Services reports.

The minutes were NOTED.

**TC 20/64 To Approve Accounts for Payment C**

Cllr Stennett asked why the September salaries had not been included. The Clerk confirmed they had been included in the accounts for payment which had gone to Community Services Committee earlier in the month.

Cllr Craven asked if the costs of BCP work would reduce following the recruitment into the Grounds Staff Team. The Clerk confirmed there were some items which would still be required as the team did not have the equipment to carry out such tasks, albeit they now had the manpower in place. The equipment issue would hopefully be addressed within future budgets.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts for payment.

**TC 20/65 To Approve Calendar of Meetings for 2020/21 D**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Calendar of Meetings for 2021.

**TC 20/66 To Approve the Office IT resilience and associated expenditure E**

The Clerk provided a summary of the submitted paper which provided information on a recommended system to enable all office staff to work from home should the need arise. For example, due to the Covid-19 pandemic or bad weather. The system was a cost-effective alternative to other systems and would provide resilience to the Council until such time as the IT provision could be reviewed.

Cllr Craven asked why Microsoft 365 had not been considered to enable cloud-based working. The Clerk advised this had previously been set up through a personal account by the previous clerk and had been costly to reverse when GDPR issues had been identified. There was a subscription for TEAMS for the office which worked well. However, Microsoft 365 was not compatible for the various applications which were PC based, such as the allotment and cemetery software, which meant they could not be accessed anywhere other than in the office.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the proposed office IT resilience software and associated expenditure.

**TC 20/67 To Approve the Resolutions from Community Services Committee F**

Council discussed the resolutions from Community Services and Cllr Craven asked if there was anything being stored in the community shed which needed consideration if it were to be dismantled. The Clerk advised there was a rotavator and a table in the shed which would need storing elsewhere, but she would be liaising with the allotment association in this regard.

Cllr Jefferies noted it was too late to carry out the footpath survey and suggested it should be put on hold and planned for June next year. The Clerk apologised for the office not having had the time to produce the necessary maps but would ensure this was planned in for next year.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the resolutions from the Community Services Committee except for the Footpath Survey which would be carried out in June 2021.

**TC 20/68 Burial Plots Verbal**

Cllr Sowry-House provided a history of the lack of burial plots within the parish and noted the large number of plots available at the Woodlands Burial Ground, just outside of the parish.

Cllr Stennett noted it would be cost prohibitive to purchase land within the parish.

Cllr Howard noted the increase in cremations generally and how purchasing land would be a provision for a relatively small number of people. Therefore, it would be prudent to encourage people to opt for the Woodlands Burial site.

It was **RESOLVED** to cease the search for land to purchase within the parish for burial plots.

**TC 20/69 Remembrance Sunday Verbal**

Cllr Sowry-House noted the guidance from the Royal British Legion was no parades or mass gatherings would take place under the new restrictions, other than the formal organised event in London. Therefore, a road closure had not been applied for.

Cllr Sowry-House suggested he could contact the Corfe Mullen Royal British Legion to establish what representation would be made on Remembrance Sunday. Cllr Sowry-House would be happy to lay a wreath on behalf of the Council, alongside their flag bearer and a representative from the Scouts and Guides Associations, all of which would be compliant with the government restrictions on numbers. This would fulfil the desire to pay respects on Remembrance Sunday and demonstrate to the community the day had been acknowledged.

Cllr Purvis suggested contacting the Corfe Mullen Royal British Legion and liaise with them for nominating who they would like to lay a wreath, should there be more than 6 organisations wishing to do so. Cllr Sowry-House confirmed the Council would take its lead from the Corfe Mullen Royal British Legion.

**TC 20/70 Mayor's Report Verbal**

Cllr Sowry-House noted he had recently had a conversation with a parishioner and, as a result, felt there would be a heightened sense of anxiousness due to the latest government announcements. The Council should be mindful that contact may increase from those within the parish who needed support.

Cllr Sowry-House noted October was breast cancer awareness month and, as it impacted both men and women, he had devoted his October link article to the cause.

**TC 20/71 Dorset Councillors' Report Verbal**

Neither Dorset Councillors' were present to provide a report.

**TC 20/72 Matters for Forthcoming Agendas** No decisions can be taken<sup>1</sup>

*Cllr Mike Barron joined the meeting.*

- Planning White Paper response – Cllr Holland

<sup>1</sup> Councils cannot lawfully decide items of business which are not specified in the summons/agenda (LGA1972 sch 12, paras 10(2)(b) and Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119)

- Update on the Hope Farm Planning issues – Cllr Barron

**TC 20/73 To Agree a date and time for the next meeting**

It was noted the date of the next meeting would take place at 7.45pm on Tuesday 27 October 2020.

**TC 20/74 To Resolve to exclude members of the press and public** – to agree that agenda items TC 20/75 be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

**TC 20/75 Defibrillator Contract**

**G**

The Clerk noted the submitted report with costs and service provision for a leased Defibrillator from South Western Ambulance Foundation Trust (SWASFT) versus the purchase of a Defibrillator by the Council. There were several additional items which were beneficial to the Council, such as the community awareness days and providing replacements if vandalised or stolen

Cllr Craven noted it was a sensible proposal given the benefits being offered which would all be additional costs if the Council purchased its own machine.

Cllr Jefferies asked how many times the Defibrillator at the Recreation Ground had been used. It was noted its use had not been required to date.

Cllr Purvis noted the contract for provision of a leased Defibrillator from SWASFT was extremely good and it would be a prudent decision given they would always provide the latest model at no extra cost, whereas the Council would be required to purchase updated models at further expense in the future.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the renewal of the Defibrillator contract with South Western Ambulance Service.

**TC 20/76 Close of meeting**

The meeting closed at 7.51pm.

*Signed* .....

*Date* .....