

BANBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Banbury Town Council held on Tuesday, 21 June 2022 at 6.30pm at the Town Hall, Banbury.

Present: Councillor Strangwood (Town Mayor)
Councillors: Ahmed, Ayers, Beere, Biegel, Bishop, Bunce, Cherry, Donaldson, Garrett, Hussain, Ilott, Kilsby, Mallon, Mears, Powell, Reeves, and Richards.

Officers: Mark Hassall (Town Clerk/RFO)
Paul Almond (Director of Environment)
Martyn Surfleet (Executive Officer)

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Hodgson, Councillor Bunce

C.10/22 Declarations of Interest

None.

C.11/22 Minutes of the Last Meeting

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 May 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.

C.12/22 Communications

The Town Mayor on behalf of Banbury Town Council presented Mr Mark Recchia previous Town Clerk on the occasion of his retirement, a gift of thanks for his tireless dedication to both the Council and the residents of Banbury.

Upon receiving the gift Mr Recchia stood before the council to say a word of thanks and to wish all the best of luck to Banbury Town Council, its members and officers.

Several councillors then took the time to stand before the council and say a few words of appreciation and thanks for Mr Recchia's dedicated service to Banbury Town Council, offering his patience and guidance throughout his time as Town Clerk. And wished him a long and happy retirement.

C.13/22 Questions - Elected Members and Members of the Public

A question was asked by a Councillor to the Leader of the Council –

“As CCTV surveillance is fully supported by the neighbourhood police team: can the leader update Ruscote ward councillors on CCTV installation of Princess Diana Park? “

The leader of the Council responded by stating that the installation of CCTV cameras is not a fix all answer, and that there are no plans currently to install further CCTV in other parks, but there are plans to lift the crowns and thin trees within the park, as well as improve the lighting with LED downlights, to improve visibility for the currently installed CCTV within Peoples Park.

Further Questions were asked by members of the Council that were responded to by the Leader of the Council.

C.14/22 Approval of Accounts and Annual Return 2021/22

The Council considered a copy of the Internal Audit Report, Annual Return and the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (unaudited), along with a draft Notice of Electors rights. **It was RESOLVED** that:

- 1) That the Annual Internal Audit Report (page 3 of the Annual Return) be received and noted.
- 2) That the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 on the Annual Return – attached as Appendix 1), where questions 1 to 3 and 5 to 9 were answered yes, and question 4 and 7 were answered no (but an explanation was given in paragraph 6.1 of the covering report for this and how the weakness identified is being addressed) be approved, and signed on behalf of the Council by the Leader of the Council and the Town Clerk.
- 3) That the Accounting Statements (Section 2 on the Annual Return – attached as Appendix 2) for the year ended 31 March 2022 be approved and be signed on behalf of the Council by the Leader of the Council and the RFO.
- 4) That the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (unaudited) (attached as Appendix 3) be approved and signed on behalf of the Council by the Leader of the Council and the RFO.
- 5) That the Notice of Electors Rights (attached at Appendix 4) be approved.

C.15/22 Financial Risk Assessment 2022/2023

The Council considered a report from the Town Clerk and RFO submitting the 2022/23 Financial Risk Assessment. It was proposed by Councillor Mallon and seconded by Councillor Powell and **RESOLVED** that the Financial Risk Assessment for 2022/23 be approved.

C.16/22 Planning Committee

It was proposed by Councillor Ilott, seconded by Councillor Ahmed and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 4 May be received.

C.17/22 General Services Committee

It was proposed by Councillor Donaldson, seconded by both Councillor Powell and Councillor Ahmed, and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the General Services Committee meetings held on 22 March, and 7 June 2022 be received.

C.18/22 Resources Committee

It was proposed by Councillor Mallon, seconded by Councillor Ahmed, and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on 29 March be received. It was also proposed by Councillor Powell, seconded by Councillor Strangwood that the minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on the 14 June 2022 be received.

C.19/22 Resolutions Moved on Notice - Resolution No 60 (Platinum Jubilee)

It was proposed by Councillor Mallon, seconded by Councillor Reeves that:

"This Council warmly congratulates Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, on her Platinum Jubilee.

The members of this Council are proud of our Queen and her nation's history, and we convey our heartfelt thanks to all residents of this town, the staff and officers of the Town Council, HM Armed Forces, our public services and this great county's voluntary and private sectors, who contributed towards the success of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee.

God Save The Queen."

There then ensued a discussion on the motion, with all speakers in favour of the proposals.

A vote was taken upon the motion which It was then **RESOLVED** by majority that the motion be adopted.

C.20/22 Resolutions Moved on Notice – Resolution No 61 (Anti-Litter Campaign)

It was proposed by Councillor Biegel, seconded by Councillor Hussain that:

"This Council believes that the minimisation of litter around Banbury is desirable for all residents and visitors.

This Council notes that despite the hard work of Banbury Town Council and Cherwell District Council Personnel, helped by voluntary litter pickers, litter still plagues our streets across the town because many people continue to drop their rubbish.

This Council resolves to undertake a new proactive anti-litter campaign across Banbury to educate and discourage more people from dropping litter in the first place."

A vote was taken upon the motion to which it was then **RESOLVED** unanimously that the motion be adopted.

The Meeting ended at 7.15pm.