

FERRYHILL TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **COUNCIL MEETING** of the Council held online via Zoom, on **THURSDAY, 22 April 2021** at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: **Councillor:** J Makepeace (Chair)

Councillors: C Atkinson, P Atkinson, J Cansella, K Conroy, D Farry,
 J Lindsay, Z Roddam, M Walton, C Woods

Officials: D. Anderson, Town Clerk
 K. Younghusband, Events & Projects Officer
 D. Shingleton, Consultant Accountant
 S. Hewitson, Committees & Civic Administrator

Before the meeting commenced Councillor Joe Makepeace thanked those members that would not be seeking re-election at the forthcoming elections for their contribution.

Councillor Makepeace gave a special mention to Councillor J Cansella for her support as Deputy Mayor during his term in office as Mayor of Ferryhill.

97.20-21 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors G Barker, K Campbell, K Graham, N Jones, M Seymour, L Smith and R Smith.

98.20-21 **MEMBERS DISPENSATION**

There were no members' dispensations in relation to any item of business on the agenda.

99.20-21 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

100.20-21 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were 3 members of the public present but no questions were raised.

101.20-21 **MINUTES**

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of:-

- 1) Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 17th March 2021.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Council held on 17th February 2021 be agreed as a true and accurate record subject

102.20-21 **STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND INCOME**

Members considered the monthly statement of accounts and income.

Moved by Councillor P Atkinson to approve the Statement of Accounts & Income.

RESOLVED

That the Statement of Accounts and Income be received.

103.20-21 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020/21

Members considered the Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21 which was previously circulated.

Moved by Councillor D Farry to accept the recommendations of the report.

RESOLVED

That Members approve the annual governance statement in relation to the year ended 31 March 2021.

104.20-21 BANKING ARRANGEMENTS

Members considered a report from the Town Clerk, which was previously circulated. The Town Council currently held accounts with CCLA and the Co-Operative Bank. It was suggested that it would be prudent to open an additional account to spread the risk, which was low but nevertheless a risk, to further safeguard the Council's resources. Details of suitable accounts were made available for members to consider.

RESOLVED

That a Nationwide 35 Day Saver account be opened in accordance with Financial Regulations.

105.20-21 ANNUAL PROGRAMME OF EVENTS 2021-2022

Members considered a report from the Events & Projects Officer, who was in attendance and advised the meeting that a decision was needed on this years Summer Gala due to be held 7th & 8th August. Restrictions weren't due to be lifted until June and the Safety Advisory Group required 3 months notice of an event. Members were advised that most other Councils in the County weren't organising events until October. Costs would be incurred if the Council made arrangements for it to be held and it had to be cancelled.

The Town Clerk advised Members that direction was needed with regard to this event, should the Council plan ahead, scale back to reduce costs or cancel the event.

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Cansella to make arrangements for the Summer Gala.

Councillor D Farry also proposed that following a rumour that the Northern Bygones Society Car Rally to be held in King George had been cancelled a press release should be put out confirming this is not the case and the event will be going ahead.

The Events & Projects Officer advised members that she was currently looking at options for the Annual Town meeting

RESOLVED

That Members approve the revised Annual Programme of Events for 2021-2022, subject to Government restrictions, and approval by the Safety Advisory Group and arrangements be made for the Summer Gala.

A press release be circulated confirming the Northern Bygones Society Car Rally event to be held in King George V Playing Field has not been cancelled and will be going ahead subject to restrictions.

106.20-21 PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS AND EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING DOG WALKING AREA AT DEAN BANK RECREATION PARK

Members considered a report, previously circulated from the Events & Projects Officer

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor P Atkinson to accept the recommendations of the report.

All Members agreed.

Councillor J Cansella asked that the Council advertise the availability of allotments and the positive benefits of having one. Members agreed.

RESOLVED

That:

1. The contents of the report be noted.
2. Further consultation be undertaken to identify the level of support for making the Dog Walking Area and proposed extension a permanent facility.
3. Subject to public support, a request be made to the Secretary of State to approve the permanent use of the current area and extension as a Dog Walking Area.
4. Vacant allotments be advertised as per the statement above.

107.20-21 INVESTORS IN THE ENVIRONMENT PROCESS, PROCUREMENT SPECIFICATIONS FOR RENEWABLE TECHNOLOGIES, AND INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS

Members considered a report from the Events & Projects Officer

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor C Atkinson, to accept the recommendations of the report.

RESOLVED

That:

1. The report be noted.
2. The draft Travel Plan be approved.
3. Projects be prioritised in accordance with the availability of grant funding, taking into account the reduction in carbon footprint and payback period.
4. Applications for funding be made as appropriate grants become available within the Council's capacity to successfully deliver projects.

108.20-21 GANG MOWER GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT
Members considered a report from the Town Clerk

Moved by Councillor D Farry, **Seconded by** Councillor J Cansella, to accept the recommendations of the report.

RESOLVED

That the lowest quotation received from IC Liddle Services in the sum of £20,342.08 fixed price for three years (2021/22 – 2023/24) be agreed.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8pm.

CERTIFIED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR.....

DATE.....