

## **RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021 VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL, COMMENCING AT 7.30PM**

Present: Councillor: Sarah Peacock – Chairman

Councillors: Robin Underwood    Richard Lewis  
Philip Humphrey    Barbara Jenney  
Gill Mercer    Andy Mercer  
David Jenney    Adrian House  
David Coleman    Colin Wright.  
Janet Pinnock    Melanie Coleman [Ex officio]

Town Clerk: Vivienne Prodger

#### **283/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Philip Humphrey declared a 'bias' interest on agenda item 4, Approval of Payments, and left the room when this item was discussed and took no part in discussion and voting thereon

Councillors Janet Pinnock, Richard Lewis, Sarah Peacock, Andy Mercer, Gill Mercer, and Robin Underwood declared an Other Interest in the consideration of agenda item 5, SERVE Community Grant.

#### **284/21 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Steven North.

#### **285/21 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020 had been previously circulated to members and it was

#### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

#### **286/21 APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS**

Members had been circulated with details of payments made since 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 amounting to £41,775.47

#### **RESOLVED**

That payments amounting to £41,775.47 be approved (as attached to these minutes).

## **287/21 COMMUNITY GRANT**

Members considered the following Community Grant application:

- a) SERVE

### **RESOLVED**

This application was deferred as no accounts had been submitted. The Clerk to request 3 years accounts together with a breakdown of costs for the proposed project.

## **288/21 POLICE LIAISON**

Members considered the appointment of a Police Liaison Representative

### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Marian Hollomon is recommended to Full Council to be appointed as Rushden Town Council's Police Liaison Representative.

## **289/21 COVID UPDATE**

The Town Clerk reported that following the latest lockdown the offices would continue to operate on a team A and team B rota with staff working alternative 2 or 3 day shifts within the offices. Neil and Sean will continue with their maintenance and inspection work as before.

As per current Covid guidelines play areas and public toilets will remain open and extra cleaning and sanitizing will be carried out.

The offices will remain closed to the public, except in exceptional circumstances and burial administration will continue as before.

## **290/21 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM**

The Chairman informed members that the new Unitary Council for North Northamptonshire will be based at offices in Kettering. A CEO has now been appointed and interviewing will be taking place for senior staff roles over the next few weeks. The elections of Councillors for the new Unitary will now be dependent on future Covid guidelines.

## **291/21 HIGH STREET WORKING PARTY**

Councillors Lewis and Humphrey reported that in their capacity as Chairmen of the High Street and Business working parties they had met via Zoom with Graham Galpin (consultant recommended by Greg McDonald). They both felt Graham was suitable experienced and qualified to help RTC shape their '4 page' aspirations for both the High Street and Business and Economic Growth.

Members had been circulated with Graham Galpin's proposals and they were discussed at length. After much consideration it was

**RESOLVED**

That all members have a Zoom meeting with Graham Galpin in a Q & A format. This meeting to be scheduled prior of Full Council on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**292/21 BUSINESS WORKING PARTY**

As per High Street working party agenda item above.

Chairman