

**WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL – FINANCE, BUILDINGS & PERSONNEL
COMMITTEE 14 OCTOBER 2019 at 6:30pm**

FBP049/19 Present: Cllr A Clamp (Chairman), Cllr A Jordan, Cllr E Mcdonagh, Cllr P Taylor and Cllr C Whittall.

In attendance: 4 members of public and Paul Jennings (Town Clerk),

FBP050/19 Apologies: Cllr G Gratton and Cllr A Pollock.

FBP051/19 Variation of Order of Business: to take item 10 Proposal to advertise for contributions towards the purchase of the Meadows immediately after open forum.

FBP052/19 Members' Pecuniary Interests in Agenda Items: None

Open 6:35pm

FBP053/19 Open Forum

A number of residents sought clarification on the current position of the Town Council and the purchase of the Meadows, Cllr Clamp and the Clerk provided a summary of the background and re-emphasised the messages from the Mayor's statement issued on the TC website on 26/09/2019.

Closed 6:50pm

FBP054/19 Proposal to advertise for contributions towards the purchase of the Meadows

Cllr Clamp had provided a draft outline process/public notice to enable the community to contribute. Any donation received would be added to the current amount pledged by the Town Council and thereby increase the offer to be submitted by the Town Council as a sealed bid to Bagshaws (agent acting for the vendor in the sale of the Meadows). Some time was spent discussing the mechanism of seeking funds and also the safeguards that could be introduced to ensure that the process was robust (and that the council would have confidence in the surety of any donation).

RECOMM: That the Town Council seek donations from the community which will be added to the total amount offered as a sealed bid. The donations are to be accepted without obligation or condition, although if successful the Town Council would consult on the detail of how the space is to be used.

That the preference would be that donations be made via cheque, although pledges would also be accepted. That the Town Clerk would prepare a summary of the donations and pledges for presentation to the council meeting to be held on 4th November. That the meeting of the Environment and Town Committee be extended to a full council meeting to enable the council to instruct the Clerk on the amount of the bid to be submitted.

Prior to the meeting, where a pledge of £500 or more was received, the Clerk (and/or councillors) to contact the donor to ensure the surety of

funds this might include, seeking cleared funds prior to including significant amounts within the Town Council's bid.
Cllr Clamp to amend the proposed wording of the public notice and prepare a final draft for agreement by full council on 21st October.
In the event that the Town Council's bid is unsuccessful, monies (or uncashed cheques) would be returned to donors.

FBP055/19 To confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Buildings & Personnel Committee held on 9 September 2019

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance, Buildings & Personnel Committee dated 9 September 2019 were confirmed as a correct record.

FBP056/19 Monthly Budget Balance:

RECOMM: That the monthly figures be noted.

FBP057/19 Quarterly Balance Sheet & Bank Reconciliation

Cllr (not Chair - Fin Regs 2.2) to initial to confirm the bank statement and bank reconciliation. The 1st quarter information was circulated:

RECOMM: That the information be noted. Cllr Clamp confirmed reconciliation to the bank statements.

FBP058/19 Budget 2020/21

RECOMM: That the Clerk prepare a draft budget for discussion in November. That consideration be given to specifically providing additional funding within the budget to facilitate the statutory update to the Town Council website (changes to ensure accessibility by 09/2020), to provide dedicated funds to action issues connected to climate change (e.g switch to green energy supplier) and potentially costs linked to the Meadows should the Town Council bid be successful.

FBP059/19 Equal Opportunities and inclusion

In the interests of Equal Opportunities and the emerging LGBTIQ+ inclusion issues should the Town Council.

- Review its equal opportunities policy
- Look to change the toilets into unisex cubicle only facilities.

RECOMM: That Cllr Taylor investigate wording used in current legislation and report back to council with recommendations for any amendments to the existing Equal Opportunities Policy of the Town Council. That no change be made to the toilets at this time.

FBP060/19 Absence Management Policy

RECOMM: That the Clerk amend the policy to clarify the line "management responsibility to include the Councillors (HR Committee)" and to remove gender specific references and replace with "their", "they" etc.. and that with the amendments the policy then be

adopted

FBP061/19 Socket Outlet Adjacent to War Memorial

RECOMM: That the Clerk proceed with the installation of an additional electrical socket to be used during peace ceremony, remembrance and markets at a cost of £254.44+vat with funds to be drawn from the Market budget.

FBP062/19 Clerks Time Sheet

For period to 30th September 2019, the Clerk had accrued 57 hours of TOIL

RECOMM: That the matter be noted.

The meeting closed at 8:40 p.m.

.....Chairman