

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 17 APRIL 2023 COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M.

Present: Councillors Liz Jones (Town Mayor), Lisa Bird (Deputy Town Mayor), Sid Abbott, Wendy Bater, Matt Brennan, Philip Crawley, Alan Corkhill, Greg George, Pamela Ghent, John Gurney, Kenson Gurney, Peter Hollick, Gloria Martin, Gladys Sanders and Johnson Tamara, with Paul Hodson (Town Clerk and Chief Executive), Lisa Scheder (Head of Finance and Responsible Finance Officer) and Becky Wisbey (Head of Community Services – via Teams).

Apologies: Councillors Mark Cant and Cameron Restall

Public Attendance: None

93/23 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 6 February 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.

94/23 DECLARATIONS

There were no specific declarations of interest.

95/23 CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Town Mayor spoke in support of a report relating to her activities up to the beginning of April 2023. The Mayor had hosted her final fundraising events and extended her thanks to officers for their support, particularly in the absence of the Democratic Services Manager in recent months. 25 events remained, many related to the Coronation of King Charles III. The Mayor will announce how much has been raised for the Mayor's charities and other local groups during the Mayoral year, and share photos of gifts made, after the election. The Mayor noted that Councillors had achieved many items set in the Corporate Plan during the four year term of this council.

The Mayor thanked all those Councillors for their service who were not seeking re-election. The Mayor particularly paid thanks to Councillor Sid Abbott, who is a past Mayor, and to the current Deputy Mayor, Councillor Lisa Bird for all her support. The Mayor wished all candidates seeking election her best wishes.

96/23 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions put to the meeting.

97/23 TO ANSWER QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 16

There were no questions put to the meeting.

98/23 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee

held on 6 March 2023 be received.

99/23 GROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee held on 13 March 2023 be received.

Councillor Bird updated members that consultants were working on the noise assessment for the new MUGA at the Kingsbury Recreation Ground, which would enable planning to be applied for. Councillor Bird thanked officers for all their support and commitment in their role of making the town the wonderful place that it is. Councillor Bird thanked Members for all their support.

100/23 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 20 March 2023 be received.

101/23 REFERRAL REPORT FROM THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE: NEW STANDING ORDERS

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: That the Council adopt the new Standing Orders provided.

102/23 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Dunstable Annual Town Meeting held on 27 March 2023 be received.

103/23 DUNSTABLE JOINT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Dunstable Joint Committee held on 1 December 2022 be received.

104/23 FINANCIAL UPDATE AND RESERVES ALLOCATION

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED:

- I. To approve the release of up to £26,000 from the Meadway Capital Fund for Priory House furniture.
- II. To approve the release of up to £170,000 from the Meadway Capital Fund for the Kingsbury Recreation Ground sports pavilion refurbishment works.
- III. To approve the ear-marked reserves as listed in Appendix 1.
- IV. To agree that any further underspend identified at the end of 2022/23 be added to the ear-marked reserve for the repair of the Downside Community Centre roof.
- V. To approve the use of £18,000 from the Meadway Capital Fund towards Bennett's Splash shade canopies and seating.

105/23 REPORTS/UPDATES BY MEMBERS OF CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL ON MATTERS OF INTEREST TO THE TOWN COUNCIL

Councillor Tamara thanked all of the Council's officers for their efforts on behalf of the town, and the Mayor for her leadership of the Council.

The meeting closed at 19:25pm