

## FLITWICK TOWN COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting (393<sup>rd</sup>) of Flitwick Town Council held on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2018 at the Rufus Centre**

Present: Cllr G Mackey (Chairman)  
Cllrs J Blakeman J Dann A Lutley  
M Platt K Quantrill J Roberts  
M Sheehan P Thompson M A Williams

Also present: CBCllrs F Chapman A Turner

In attendance: Town Clerk Assistant Town Clerk

Apologies for Absence Accepted: Cllrs K Badham I Blazeby P Feerick  
A Larkins D Toinko A Larkins

No Apologies Received: Cllr Bonner

**Open Forum** – There were no items

#### **Reports from Central Bedfordshire Members**

1. CBCllr Gomm had sent his apologies for the meeting.
2. CBCllr Turner updated Members on the signage for Steppingley Road, which would lead up to the installation of two new bus stops. There were schemes for Flitwick and Ampthill and a resident had asked about whether or not Hinksley Road would be included in the scheme. Members were informed that it did include plans for Hinksley Road at a later date but there were not definitive timescales at this point.
3. CBCllr Turner advised that the roadworks.org website was available for anybody to look at to see when roadworks were due to take place in the area. The public could set parameters for desired information, such as timeframes, parish/ward, etc. and residents could sign up to email alerts.
4. CBCllr Chapman advised that Central Beds Council (CBC) were trying to keep Town & Parish Councils up to date with consultations. It was hoped that information would be sent soon about current consultations and CBCllr Chapman encouraged the Town Council to take part in these as CBC listened to their comments.

**4626 To note any Declarations of Interest relating to items on the agenda**  
There were no Declarations of Interest.

#### **4627 Town Mayor's Announcements**

- (i) The Town Mayor advised that he had attended the Classic Car Show and commented that it was a stunning day. He asked for all the staff to be thanked for putting on a good event.
- (ii) The Deputy Town Mayor commented that he had attended the Classic Car Show and the latest Lunch Club for older people.

#### **4628 Town Clerk's Report**

- (i) Members were advised that the Public Meeting on Healthcare Provision in the local area would be held at The Rufus Centre on 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. Staff had tried to secure a town centre venue but the Library and Village Hall were unavailable.

- (ii) Members were asked if the 2019 calendar of proposed meeting dates should include Council meeting dates for August and December since in recent years additional meetings had been put in. It was suggested that these could be cancelled if they were not required. Cllr Dann commented that adding in meetings would not make Members more available and Cllr Thompson was not in favour of adding these dates as once they were advertised publicly, residents expected the meetings to take place. Members were in agreement to not add Council meeting dates for August or December.
- (iii) The Town Clerk advised that information had been received following the recent Police Rural Community Priority Setting meeting. These recommendations/actions would be uploaded to Sharepoint for Members.

4629 **To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 392<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Town Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to **Resolve** that the Minutes of the 392<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Town Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018 having previously been circulated be taken as read, signed and adopted as a true record with the following amendment:- Cllr Williams had attended Houghton Regis' Coffee & Cake event (not Houghton Conquest).

4630 **To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 308<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Planning Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018 (Chairman's Decisions)**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to **Resolve** that the Minutes of the 308<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Planning Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018 (Chairman's Decisions) having previously been circulated be taken as read, signed and adopted as a true record.

4631 **To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 37<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Corporate Services Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to **Resolve** that the Minutes of the 37<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Corporate Services Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018 having previously been circulated be taken as read, signed and adopted as a true record.

4632 **To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to **Resolve** that the Minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018 having previously been circulated be taken as read, signed and adopted as a true record.

4633 **To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 309<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Planning Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2018**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to **Resolve** that the Minutes of the 309<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Planning Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2018 having previously been circulated be taken as read, signed and adopted as a true record.

4634 **To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 85<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Business Services Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2018**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to **Resolve** that the Minutes of the 85<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Business Services Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2018 having previously been circulated be taken as read, signed and adopted as a true record.

**4635 To fill Member Subs on the Community Services Committee**

The Chairman advised that there were currently no Subs on the Community Services Committee asked Members if they were interested in filling the vacancies. As no Members present wanted to be Subs, this item would be deferred to the next Council meeting where more Members would be in attendance.

**4636 To receive reports from representatives on Outside Bodies**

- (i) Cllr Dann advised that he and the Town Clerk had attended a meeting regarding the Timebank Initiative and it had been decided to continue encouraging members to join as there was still insurance cover. New innovative ways of rewarding and encouraging membership were being investigated.
- (ii) The Assistant Town Clerk suggested that the 'What do they do?' feature in the next Flitwick Papers could help raise awareness and it was agreed to progress with this. Cllr Dann was advised that the copy deadline was 14<sup>th</sup> September.

**4637 Questions**

- (i) Cllr Dann asked if a list was kept for where Councillor Vacancy Notices were put up around the town as there was one still up in Eagle Drive. The Town Clerk advised she would ask for this to be taken down.
- (ii) Cllr Quantrill stated that there was a layby in Ampthill Road near the post-box which had two cars permanently parked in it. He questioned whether or not a time limit could be put on it for parking and if so, what the process was. CBCllr Turner advised that he remembered this issue coming up before and suggested that the Council write to CBC Highways for this to be investigated and copy the Ward Members in. This would be put on the next Planning Committee agenda.
- (iii) Cllr Thompson suggested writing to the nearby residents before contacting CBC and Cllr Sheehan advised that since he attended the Highways meetings, he would be willing to speak to relevant Officers to gain an understanding of a decision going forward.
- (iv) Cllr Williams commented that laybys were part of the public highway therefore she did not believe anything could be done to stop people parking there.
- (v) Cllr Sheehan updated Members on discussions that had taken place at the Christmas Lights Committee meeting. It had been very positive with the Community Services Officer working hard to get everything ready. At the previous Lights Switch On, staff and representatives from Bubbles Lighting and Woolgar Electrical had been left to clear down from the event and Cllr Sheehan asked Members who were available on 25<sup>th</sup> November to put their names forward to help this year. Tasks would involve moving crowd barriers and lifting equipment. Cllr Sheehan explained that a grand raffle draw would be happening and asked Members to look into donating items for this. He added that the Committee had suggested a 'stocks' game to involve the Town Mayor.

**Confidential section**

In accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960) the public and press to be excluded for items 14 and 15 in view of the confidential nature of the information to be discussed relating to financial, personnel and contractual negotiations and item 16.

- 4638 **To consider a land offer**  
Members discussed a land offer.

It was **Resolved** to accept the land offer subject to site surveys, disclosure of stipulations and covenants etc. Vote: 9 in favour, 1 abstention

- 4639 **To receive an oral report from the Chairman of the Personnel Panel**  
**i) Recruitment**

- (i) Members received an update on recruitment.

It was **Resolved** to offer a former employee anywhere up to a Full Time contract as a Council Groundsman.

(The Town Clerk and the Assistant Town Clerk left the meeting at this time).

**ii) Retirement**

- ii) Members received an update on retirement.

(The Town Clerk and the Assistant Town Clerk re-entered the meeting at this time).

- 4640 **Questions**  
Cllr Quantrill and the Town Clerk asked questions.

Meeting closed at 9.02pm.

Signed .....  
(Chairman)