

FLITWICK TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the 399<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Flitwick Town Council held on  
19<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at the Rufus Centre**

Present: P Thompson (Vice Chairman)

Cllrs I Blazeby

J Dann

A Lutley

K Quantrill

J Roberts

M Sheehan

D Toinko

M Williams

J Blakeman

Also present: CBCllr C Gomm and one member of the public

In attendance: Acting Town Clerk & Interim Town Clerk

Apologies for absence received: CBCllrs A Turner and F Chapman  
Cllrs G Mackey, A Larkins, P Feerick, M Platt

**Open Forum**

A resident who lived in Dove Walk asked if there was anything which could be done about traffic calming and parking on the roads in Temple Way especially by commuters. Cllr Blazeby informed him of a parking scheme that had been put in place in Chapel Road but that no one has the right to park outside their own home. Permit schemes were costly and limit the parking available. Cllr Sheehan said that putting yellow lines just moves the traffic and parking issues elsewhere. The Town Council had submitted a funding application to CBC for traffic calming in Temple Way towards its joining with Manor Way (after Wren Close) and Members were awaiting a response due in May. Cllr Sheehan agreed to take the resident's comments to the next Highways Meeting. It was suggested that the resident meet with Cllr Sheehan to discuss the issues further.

**Reports from Central Bedfordshire Member, CBCllr C Gomm**

CBCllr Gomm said that the Town Council's Planning Committee meeting which considered the application for the Crematorium had been very constructive.

**4729 To note any Declarations of Interest relating to items on the agenda**

No interests were declared and no request for dispensation had been received.

**4730 To Accept Apologies for Absence**

Accepted.

**4731 Town Mayor Announcements**

In the absence of the Mayor, Cllr Thompson, Deputy Town Mayor, read out an email which had been received from Cllr Larkins to advise that due to family and work commitments he would have to step down in the role of Councillor. The Electoral Services Team at CBC would be formally notified.

The member of the Public left the meeting at this time.

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**4733 Acting Town Clerk's Report**

- a. The new report layout was noted. Cllr Sheenan thought it was a good idea and it was agreed in future the report would be issued in this format.  
*Action: Interim Town Clerk*
- b. Cllr Blazeby informed there was an agreed proposal which had been omitted from both the report and the minutes of the last Town Council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019. It had been proposed and agreed that the Mayor should write to CBC for information on the other 14 sites which had been looked at with regards to the Crematorium application, so that this information would be available prior to the Planning Committee meeting. Cllr Blazeby also mentioned that it had been agreed that a letter should have been sent to the MP as agreed in item 4715 which had also not been sent.

It was proposed, seconded and **Resolved** to agree a motion of censure against the Mayor. Vote 5 in favour and 4 abstained.

**4734 To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 398<sup>th</sup> meeting of Flitwick Town Council held on the 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019.**

It was agreed that the minutes would not be signed until they had been amended. This item was deferred to the next Town Council meeting.

*Action: Interim Town Clerk*

**4735 To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 318<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Planning Committee held on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019.**

The minutes were proposed, seconded and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**4736 To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 47<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Community Services Committee held on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019.**

- a. Cllr Sheehan informed that an omission had been in item 533 regarding the playground in Millennium Park; after the discussions, it was agreed that the preferred company would be contacted following ratification of Full Council to find out when they would be able to start and completed by the start of the Carnival on the 8<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
- b. With this change, the Minutes were proposed, seconded and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**4737 To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 319<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Planning Committee held on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019.**

- a. CBCllr C Gomm informed that his attendance had been omitted.
- b. With this change, the Minutes were proposed, seconded and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

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**4738 To confirm and adopt the Minutes of the 92<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Business Services Committee held on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019.**

The Minutes were proposed, seconded and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**4739 To agree the updated Corporate Risk Register**

The document had been previously circulated, the Members considered and reviewed and it was proposed, seconded and agreed to adopt the Corporate Risk Register. Vote: All in favour. *Action: Acting Town Clerk*

**4740 To discuss the Community Exchange**

The Community Exchange representative from Calvisson had written to the Council to ask if they wished to continue with the Exchange. It was agreed to continue without any suspension and that the Council would like to expand the Exchange further within the youth community groups.

Voted: All in favour. *Action: Acting Town Clerk*

**4742 Questions**

- a. Cllr Toinko reported that he had attended the launch of the Central Bedfordshire Youth Voice Manifesto Launch which included the Youth Parliament, CBC Young Peoples Board etc. and it had been very inspiring. They were looking at different activities to improve the town environment and looking at issues such as knife crime and homelessness. It was agreed that Cllr Toinko would ask the groups to put forward their ideas which would be put on the Community Services agenda. Cllr Toinko agreed to forward the information onto the office staff.

*Action: Cllr Toinko*

- b. Cllr Quantrill commented on the noise disturbances at the Millennium Park from sound systems beside the Skatepark. It was agreed that a notice would be placed in the park to notify that any music played needs to be licensed and agreed by the Town Council. CCTV was being investigated and this was due to be discussed at the next Community Services agenda. Cllr Thompson knew that music was also being played from cars which were on the verge/highway and it was agreed that this was noise pollution and it would be investigated what the procedure is regarding reporting this to CBC.

*Action: Acting Town Clerk*

- c. Cllr Roberts informed that he had attended the Police Priority Setting meeting for towns and parishes where they had discussed the priorities for the next 3 months. Cllr Roberts had asked about gangs and had

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been informed that the Police would attend a meeting to discuss if required.

CBCllr Gomm left the meeting at this time

**Confidential Section**

In accordance with Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960) the public and press are to be excluded.

**4742 To note the Minutes of the FTC/Central Beds Joint Group meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

- a. The document had been previously circulated, the Members considered and agreed to accept the report and change the name of the document and for future agendas to Confidential Report not minutes.
- b. It was suggested to look into the possibility of merging future Joint Cllr Group meetings with the Highways meetings as many of the Members and Officers were the same individuals discussing similar issues.

*Action: Acting Town Clerk*

**4743 To discuss a proposal received regarding telephone mast site**

The Acting Town Clerk advised members on a telephone mast site proposal.

It was proposed, seconded and **Resolved** that Cllrs Thompson and Lutley would take this forward to assist the Acting Town Clerk and make a decision but would bring it back to Council if the task was too onerous. Vote: all in favour

**4744 To discuss an event in the Town Council calendar**

The Acting Town Clerk advised members regarding an event in the Town Council calendar.

It was proposed, seconded and **Resolved** that the event should go ahead. Vote: 9 in favour, 1 abstained

**4745 Update from the Town Mayor**

In the Town Mayor's absence, Cllr Lutley had been asked to make all Committees aware that the staff had a very full workload and there was no spare capacity for any new requests. She requested for all Committees to hold back on making new requests on staff unless absolutely necessary.

**4746 To receive an update from the Chairman of the Personnel Panel**

Members received an update from the Chairman of the Personnel Panel.

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**4747 Questions**

- a. Cllr Dann asked if letters which are to be sent by the Mayor on behalf of the Council should be drafted by the Officers and signed by the Mayor. All agreed that this was the process going forward.
- b. Cllr Roberts had attended a meeting with Cllr Williams where it had been suggested that the proposed Crematorium was the first part of a wider scheme to include more housing nearby. This was not confirmed at this stage but Members noted the suggestion.
- c. Cllr Blazeby asked when the ATM agenda would be available and whether the CBC Officer involved in the town centre/station regeneration project was available to do a presentation. The Acting Town Clerk confirmed that he had been asked but that he would not be present at the ATM if there was not anything significant to report as it would raise expectations from residents. The CBC had agreed to attend the Joint Cllr Group the previous day to give any updates he had in advance of the ATM. Cllr Thompson suggested that CBC staff were advised not to make presentations during purdah. The Acting Town Clerk confirmed that speakers, the Town Mayor and Chairmen of Committees could present their reports at the ATM but that they should be speaking on behalf of the Council and not as individuals. There would be updates on projects such as the Burial Ground and County Park at the ATM.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Signed .....  
(Chairman)