

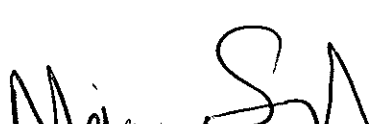
ATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL

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DOCUMENT	MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
VENUE	North Warwickshire Borough Council, Council House, South Street, Atherstone, Warwickshire, CV9 1DE
DATE AND TIME	Wednesday 15th September 2021 7.00pm
IN ATTENDANCE	Town Councillors: Singh, Wright, P Gurney, C Gurney Jarvis, T Clews, D Clews, Chambers, Barnett, Wightman. Police: None Borough and County Councillors: County Cllr Mejar Singh Public: M Short, S Adams Press: None
APOLOGIES	Councillors: Pickard, Henney, Bishop, Spencer, Jordan
CHAIRMAN	Cllr Mejar Singh
CLERK	Odette Ghent Town Clerk

Item		Actions	Notes
	Cllr Singh confirmed the meeting was being recorded by Atherstone Town Council.		
1.	APOLOGIES AND ACCEPTANCE OF REASON OF ABSENCE These were noted.		
2.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS FOR DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS. DECLARATIONS OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY. Cllr Jarvis and Cllr T Clews declared an interest in Planning items. It was agreed that any others would be taken as and when.		
3.	PUBLIC SESSION (maximum 30 minutes) Mr Short clarified he had said the sound quality at the last ATC meeting was poor and again tonight the sound system wasn't working he asked in future meetings can the sound system be tested and working prior to the meeting. Mr Short referred to the issue raise by Cllr Bishop about the vote to exclude the public from the June EGM that they had been invited to regarding the Arcade and the request by Cllr Pickard to have the named vote minuted. As the legality of the vote is questionable and the minutes were approved without the named vote and the decision of the council not to rescind them adds to the suspicion some people have regarding anything to do with the Arcade. P48 09/21		

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	<p>Mr Short wonders if Councillors have sought advice if they are both Town and Borough Councillors about the need in declaring a conflict of interest in the matter of adhering to the Arcade covenant as they have a dual interest.</p> <p>It was pointed out that none of the current Town Councillors were Borough Councillors at the time of the purchase of the Arcade from NWBC.</p> <p>Cllr Wright suggested these are serious allegations and it is a conflict of political difference not a conflict of interest and the delay in the progress of the Arcade is due to the process.</p> <p>It was also confirmed that ATC are fulfilling the terms of the covenant by offering part of the Arcade for community use.</p> <p>Cllr Chambers suggested that the challenge is the pace of the progress of the Arcade development as an important feature of the Town and the investment that ATC are prepared to make and the return in investment. She asked that as Town Councillors we should make sure there is maximum value of the use of the Arcade in line with the purchase objectives.</p> <p>The next Arcade Working group is Wednesday 6th October 2021 and Cllr Wright will assist with the Business Plan.</p>		
4.	<p>REPORTS FROM POLICE, COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS as per written reports.</p> <p><u>Police reports</u></p> <p>6 arrests ranging from Witness Intimidation, Drugs Assault, and theft.</p> <p>Applied for 1 criminal behaviour order against a well know local criminal as well as applying for an eviction order for another well-known criminal in conjunction with the housing department.</p> <p>The following figures had been reported for the last month and these were noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theft – 5 • Suspicious Incidents – 10 • Domestic – 10 • Concerns Incidents – 11 • Anti-Social Behaviour – 12 • Abandoned Vehicle – 2 • Burglary – 3 • Drugs – 1 • Robbery – 1 • Road Traffic Collision – 1 • Violent Incidents – 9 <p>P49 09/21</p>		

	<p>Cllr Singh reported he has received complaints about the car that is parking outside the European Supermarket on Long Street that is obstructing the pavement. The Clerk to contact the SNT about this.</p> <p><u>County Councillor Report</u></p> <p>Cllr Singh reported the WCC Highway Verges management policy has been distributed, he confirmed WCC are positive about this and suggest an ATC subgroup form to work on this project and look at grants etc. The clerk will forward the document to all Councillors.</p> <p>Cllr Jarvis confirmed that the Atherstone in Bloom group does not qualify for the Welcome Back Funding as the project spend needs to be complete by March 2022.</p> <p>Cllr Singh reported the AJ Bell Women's Tour stage 3 Time Trial is taking place in Atherstone on Wednesday 6th October 2021 and they will start and finish in Atherstone and will include some of the World's Top Cyclists.</p> <p>Cllr Wright added this is a huge event and an honour and privilege for the Town to be chosen for the fourth time that will put Atherstone and North Warwickshire on the map. Road closure notifications have been circulated as there will be disruption to the Town as it's an all-day event.</p> <p>Cllr Wright confirmed that the publicity of the event will be ramped up in the next couple of weeks.</p> <p><u>NWBC Councillor Reports</u></p> <p>None.</p>		
5.	<p>TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE EGM OF 16th AUGUST 2021</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the minutes proposed Cllr Wright seconded Cllr Jarvis</p>		
6.	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE EGM OF 16th AUGUST 2021.</p> <p>None</p>		
7.	<p>TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF 18th AUGUST 2021</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the minutes proposed Cllr Wright seconded Cllr Jarvis</p> <p>P50 09/21</p>		

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8.	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 18th AUGUST 2021.</p> <p>Cllr Barnett asked if the letters relating to the expression of interest in the Arcade had been sent out. The Clerk confirmed they had been sent to all those that viewed it.</p>		
9.	<p>INVOICES FOR APPROVAL AND CHEQUES FOR SIGNATURE</p> <p>Ratification of cheques 109158 Approval for all new cheques 109159- 109176</p> <p>It was resolved to approve the list proposed Cllr Jarvis seconded by Cllr Wright</p> <p>Cheques over £500 listed below</p> <p>Wages £3,816.19 BNP Paribas £541.20 WCC £1,137.71 HMRC £3,714.53 Anstey Energy £895.00 Perennial Landscapes £2,064.00 Hags-SMP Ltd £584.88 N Taylor £1,00.00 Broxap Ltd £769.08</p>		
10.	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>a. Planning Lists – 33,34,35</p> <p>b. Consultations</p> <p>PAP/2021/0490 1 - 36 & 37 - 66 Alexandra Court, Princess Road, Atherstone</p> <p>No objections</p> <p>PAP/2021/0523 7, Mill Race View, Atherstone, CV9 3AR</p> <p>It was agreed there is no objection if agreeable to the neighbours.</p> <p>c. Decisions: -</p> <p>See attached weekly lists decisions highlighted 33,34,35</p> <p>Other Planning Matters – nothing to report.</p> <p>P51 09/21</p>		

Mejn Syl

11.	<p>CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that she had replied to the correspondence regarding the A5 Hinckley to Tamworth scheme.</p> <p>Public Toilets – an email received from a gentleman that was very upset that the public toilets in the bus station were shut at the Car Show event. The clerk confirmed and replied accordingly to the gentleman that NWBC look after the public toilets and there were 4 event toilets behind the church and signs displayed. Cllr D Clews confirmed she had made enquiries with NWBC and unfortunately the bus station toilet was not unlocked that day.</p> <p>Standing orders were suspended to allow a member of the public to speak proposed Cllr Jarvis seconded Cllr Chambers. Mrs Evans asked about the opening of the public toilets in the Bus Station, and it was confirmed that although the individual Ladies and Gents toilets remain locked all ability unisex toilet is open daily and there is no need for a Radar key. The meeting resumed.</p> <p>E55 Bench by bridal shop – A request has been made via PCSO Scott to remove the bench to avoid anti-social behaviour looking into the shop when customers are trying on bridal wear. A discussion about this concluded that it won't be moved and asked the shop to look at alternative privacy options proposed Cllr D Clews seconded Cllr Chambers.</p> <p>E69 – Email form Cllr Pickard regarding Mask Wearing during Town Council meetings, Cllr Chambers asked ATC members to re consider their independent responsibilities and be more inclusive to allow vulnerable members to attend meetings. Cllr Wright confirmed that NWBC follow the government policies whilst liaising with unions regarding mask wearing and as a public body ATC should follow NWBC lead on this.</p>		
12.	<p>From 18th August 2021 full council meeting</p> <p>a. Funding Application Queens Platinum Jubilee 2022</p> <p>Following an in-depth discussion about this at the last Town Council meeting and the subsequent submitted application form which confirmed the £5,674.66 applied for was to allow deposits to be paid which will secure the event going ahead. The resolution was to approve this application (funds will come from reserves) and to ask the committee to also look at other funding. Proposed Cllr Wright seconded Cllr Chambers. ATC gave permission for the ATC logo to be used for this event.</p> <p>b. Funding / Moving bollards near library</p> <p>This was discussed and no action to be taken.</p> <p>P52 09/21</p>		

Mey SJ

	<p>c. Storage of Gazebos</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed alternative storage facilities have been sought to no avail. It was suggested the Cricket club is approached who previously offered to allow a container to be stored on site to store them.</p> <p>d. Café Culture Review</p> <p>It was confirmed all pops up have been returned, and the clerk confirmed she is awaiting payment for the hire of these. Cllr Chambers suggested ATC ask Atherstone Partnership and the Public Houses on the Market Square for feedback on how they feel the Café Culture has worked and ideas as to how it can be developed.</p> <p>Cllr Chambers reported the success of the Café Culture concept in Sleaford which is a good example of how it can bring people into the Town.</p>		
13.	<p>WRITTEN REPORTS</p> <p>a. Town Clerk's Report. This was noted.</p> <p>b. Deputy Clerk's Report. This was noted and the clerk reminded Councillors that nominations are invited for the Honorary Citizen 2022 at the November 2021 meeting.</p> <p>c. Finance (Town Clerk) This was noted.</p> <p>d. Arcade (Town Clerk)</p> <p>Unit 8 the Nail Bar is relocating to the upstairs front unit on 1st October 2021</p> <p>An application to lease unit 8 has been received from a professional seamstress who intends to do alterations, make, and sell clothes, material and possibly teach dressmaking. This application was approved proposed Cllr Jarvis seconded Cllr Wightman.</p> <p>e. Town Councillors Reports. Nothing to report.</p> <p>f. Cemetery Reports (Deputy Clerk)</p> <p>The General Cemetery Report and Cemetery Admin Report were noted.</p> <p>P53 09/21</p>		

Mejor Sjn

The clerk reported investigations are being made with the grass cutting contractor, regarding some recent damaged memorials. It was proposed to give delegated authority to deputy clerk to negotiate compensation with the contractors once their investigations have been made. Proposed Cllr Jarvis seconded Cllr Singh.

Recent Burials in Atherstone Cemetery

Barry Harban B261 New triple grave
Nellie May Burgess A296 Re open for ashes
Olive Overton A325 Re open for ashes
Janet Pearl Mayo E1315 Re open to single depth
Barry Samuel Russell B93 Re open for ashes
Joan Murray A139 Re open for ashes

Recent Memorials

A469 Stephen Robert Mottram Inscription
RCE910 Francis O'Hare Inscription

g. Allotment Report (Deputy Clerk)

This was noted.

h. Play Areas Report (Deputy Clerk)

This was noted and it was confirmed that the new litters bin has arrived and will be installed ASAP.
Cllr Wright asked if the Zip wire could be looked at the cable appears to be loose as the zip wire is very low.
The clerk reported an email had been received regarding stinging nettles coming through the railings on Westwood Road Cllr D Clews confirmed it was not on the play area railings.

i. Old Mortuary Rebuild Project Update

The clerk prepared a spreadsheet with cost assumptions provided by the Project Manager. A meeting to be arranged with the PM and Councillors.

j. Market Square

Nothing to report.

k. Arcade Working Group feedback.

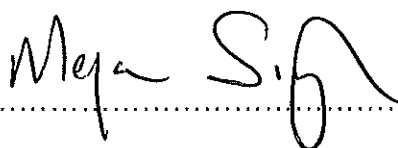
Nothing to report.

P54 09/21

Mejor S/N

	<p>PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL</p> <p>It was resolved that, under Section 100A of the local Government Act 1972, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted being.</p> <p>2. Accommodation, services or financial assistance provided by the Council to an individual.</p> <p>3. Details of the terms of contracts for the acquisition or disposal of property, or for the supply of goods and services.</p> <p>It is advisable in the public interest, as if members of the public were present during the consideration of such business, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information under paragraphs 1 and 11 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act, that the public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr D Clews seconded Cllr T Clews</p>		
14.	<p>QUOTATIONS</p> <p>A quote was presented for the lighting to be changed to LED for the Arcade upstairs unit and to replace a faulty extractor fan. The Clerk was asked to get two more quotes and given delegated powers to accept the lowest quote. Proposed Cllr Jarvis seconded Cllr Singh.</p>		
15.	<p>ARCADE</p> <p>There was a discussion about the electricity charge that relates to Unit 4 and the upstairs front unit that Atherstone Partnership were using until 5th August 2021. The clerk was asked to recharge the electricity for the upstairs unit to Atherstone Partnership.</p> <p>The cigarette bin that was removed from outside of the rear of the Arcade will not be replaced as it was removed after recommendation</p>		
16.	<p>CCTV</p> <p>The next Partnership meeting is Wednesday 29th September 2021.</p> <p>The Clerk queried an invoice from NWBC for the CCTV maintenance that was paid last month, awaiting feedback from them.</p>		
	<p>The meeting closed at 9:08pm the next meeting 20th October 2021</p>		

Signed
P55 09/21



Chairman of Atherstone Town Council