



CHILTON TOWN COUNCIL

PRESENT

Councillors Alan Bruce, Elizabeth Bruce, Lenny Potts, Stuart Sutherland, Victor Collinson, and Julie Cairns

F&P 10/11/20 01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Michael Young, Lily Dixon and Peter Davies

F&P 10/11/20 02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- None received

F&P 10/11/20 03 DISPENSATIONS – None received

F&P 10/11/20 04 ELECTION OF CHAIR - Following receipt of nominations for the position of Chair of the Finance and Planning & Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year an election took place and **IT WAS AGREED** that Councillor Stuart Sutherland be appointed as Chair.

F&P 10/11/20 05 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR – Following receipt of a nomination for the position of Vice Chair of the Finance and Planning Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year **IT WAS AGREED** that Councillor Julie Cairns be appointed as Vice- Chair.

F&P 10/11/20 06 INSPECTION OF THE COUNCILS ACCOUNTS

Members gave due consideration to the previously circulated Council's Accounts and following queries about the two aspects of payments made to Durham County Council in relation to salary payments, the costs associated with soil removal from the Cemetery, costs associated with Christmas Lights and a Northern Electric Account **IT WAS AGREED**

- a) that the Town Clerk should provide additional information for Members on these queries AND
- b) that the report be received, endorsed and noted.

F&P 10/11/20 07 PLANNING APPLICATIONS – IT was NOTED that no recent Planning Applications had been received.

F&P 10/11/20 08 EXTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE – It was AGREED to receive and note the verbal report from the Town Clerk advising that the external auditor had been in touch to acknowledge their receipt of the Council' Annual Return and Governance Review and that it was anticipated that they would be reporting back to the Council on or before the 30th November 2020.

F&P 10/11/20 09 CORRESPONDENCE - ROCH STRUCTURAL TESTING OF LIGHTING COLUMNS QUOTATION – It was **AGREED** to note that the structural testing of the Council's lamp columns for the hanging of Christmas Decorations and Hanging Baskets had been undertaken, with nothing adverse to report, for the sum of £1500 plus VAT.

F&P 10/11/20 10 TENDERS FOR AD-HOC WORKS AT LYNDHURST ROAD

Members considered the tender report of the Town Clerk setting out the tender prices submitted for the works in question, with the details of the identity of the tenderers being redacted in line with best practice and the Council's Financial Regulations **IT WAS AGREED** that this matter be deferred and considered at a later point in the Agenda following the exclusion of the press and public.

F&P 10/11/20 11 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

IT WAS AGREED that in accordance with Paragraph1(2) of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the press and public shall be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the remaining items on the Agenda on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business transacted.

F&P 10/11/20 12 TENDERS FOR AD-HOC WORKS AT LYNDHURST ROAD

Following consideration of the redacted report of the Town Clerk in relation to the five tenders submitted (referred to therein anonymously only as tenderers A to E), the said five tenders having been opened in the presence of the Town Clerk and two elected Members in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations, **IT WAS AGREED** that the contract be awarded to Richard Wilkinson Tree Care for a contract sum of £8,770.00 plus £400.00 for additional planting works, this tender being the lowest priced tender that complied fully with all aspects of the tendering process.

F&P 10/11/20 13 PRECEPT PLANNING

Following consideration of the long list of priorities for the 21/22 Precept submitted by Members **IT WAS AGREED** that Members would give consideration to the said list and attempt to prioritise matters on the basis of what was felt to be, essential and what was deemed to be desirable by Friday of the following week.

F&P 10/11/20 14 POTENTIAL INSURANCE CLAIM

Following discussion around the recent damaged caused to the Cemetery railings by a falling tree and the likely cost of repairs and remedial works **IT WAS AGREED** that the Town Clerk should place this matter in the hands of the Council's insurers.

F&P 10/11/20 15 PHOTOCOPIER UPDATE

Following discussion on this matter the Town Clerk advised that one quotation had come back with saving of in the region of £150 a quarter she advised that she was awaiting further quotations ,one from Durham County Council **IT WAS AGREED** to note the position and await the further report of the Town Clerk when further prices had been obtained.

F&P 10/11/20 16 COUNCIL DEBIT CARD

Following discussion around the difficulty in making online purchases without a debit card **IT WAS AGREED** to authorise the Town Clerk to apply for a debit card on the Town Council's current account to be used only as authorized by the Council and in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations