



# CHILTON TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of Chilton Town Council**  
held at Hutton House, Chilton, County Durham, on  
Tuesday 8th March 2022 at 6.00pm

**Chairman:** *Councillor E.Bruce (Mayor)*

**Present:** *S.Sutherland, J.Cairns, V.Collinson, K.Hornsby, P.Davies, M.Young,  
P.Malpass, J.Houlihan, L.Rundle.*

**In attendance:** Mr. J.Robinson Town Clerk

**Members of the public:** 2 members of the public present

Before commencing the meeting the Mayor and members stood in silence for a minute in support of the people of Ukraine

## **OM256.0/21. APOLOGIES**

Cllr. A.Bruce.

## **OM257.0/21 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Nil

## **OM258.0/21. MEMBER DISPENSATION**

None.

## **OM259.0/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No issue raised.

## **OM260.0/21 REPORT FROM MAYOR**

The Mayor reported on the following:

- Cllr. E.Bruce advised the second meeting of the Youth Council had taken place and been very successful.
- She had attended a dance performance by Melanie Edmenson Dance School held at The Hippodrome Darlington.

#### **OM261.0/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The residents both raised the issue of anti- social behaviour, in regards to youths, illegal dumping in the rear garden of a house in Prospect Terrace and also a general discussion in regards to private landlords.

#### **OM262.0/21 MINUTES OF CHILTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 8th FEBRUARY 2022**

**Resolved:-** on a proposal by Cllr. S.Sutherland, seconded by Cllr. V.Collinson and agreed to endorse both the minutes and recommendations of the meeting held on 8th February 2022

#### **OM263.0/21 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COMMITTEE HELD ON 8TH FEBRUARY 2022**

**Resolved:-** on a proposal by Cllr. S.Sutherland seconded by Cllr. J.Houlihan, and agreed, to endorse both minutes and recommendations therein.

#### **OM264.0/21 MINUTES OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 22ND FEBRUARY 2022**

**Resolved:-** on a proposal by Cllr.S.Sutherland seconded by Cllr.P.Malpass, and agreed to endorse both minutes and recommendations therein.

#### **OM265.0/21 MINUTES OF CEMETERY COMMITTEE HELD ON 22ND FEBRUARY 2022**

**Resolved:-** on a proposal by Cllr. S.Sutherland seconded by Cllr. V.Collinson, and agreed to endorse both minutes and recommendations therein.

#### **OM266.0/21 MINUTES OF ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 17TH FEBRUARY 2022**

**Resolved:-** on a proposal by Cllr. S.Sutherland, seconded by Cllr. J.Houlihan and agreed to endorse both the minutes and recommendations therein.

#### **OM267.0/21 REPORT ON JUNIOR COUNCIL HELD 4TH MARCH 2022**

The Mayor, Cllrs. P.Malpass and M.Young along with the Town Clerk gave a report on the recent Junior Town Council meeting was given and agreed.

#### **OM268.0/21 CO-OPTION**

Members agreed to advertise the vacancy after Easter and aim to interview in May.

#### **OM269.0/21 CORRESPONDENCE**

Members received and noted the following:-

- a. DCC Neighbourhood Planning notes from recent Seminar
- b. Notification from DCC of the demolition of 4 and 5 Hunter Terrace
- c. Request from SCOPE in regards to siting a re-cycling centre, members noted there is already a centre at St. Aidans Church.
- d. PCVC Police and Crime Plan for 2021-2024
- e. AAP wish to identify local priorities

f. Code of Practice for responsible metal detecting

Members were unable to deal with an anonymous set of photographs regarding car parking in the Town.

#### **OM270.0/21 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Cllr. J.Cairns reported on the following:

- She apologised for not attending the Junior Council and asked if the date of the meetings could be changed. Cllr. E.Bruce agreed to raise the matter with the Headteacher at the Chilton Academy.
- She had attended a meeting of the County Council to set the County Budget.
- She had attended the recent AAP and South Durham Planning Committees.
- She had also attended a meeting of the Economic Scrutiny Committee
- The AAP area budget has bids to the total of £130,000 with only £100,000 budget, so there will be a priority group meeting to allocate the funds
- She has spoken to several officers in regards to the empty homes strategy
- She is to shortly commence the multi agency walkabout
- Her Neighbourhood Budget has been spent on the following to date:- Junior Football, Age Concern, Foodbank and Scouts
- She is dealing with the reduction of bus services as a result of residents' complaints

In response to a question from Cllr. S.Sutherland she agreed to chase up the process for allocating the additional funding allocated by DCC to deal with rats.

#### **OM271.0/21 SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE**

Members agreed to support the We Stand with Ukraine campaign and as well as buy their National Flag and collections for the population but to also arrange a Coffee Morning on Saturday 19th March 2022.

#### **OM272.0/21 QUEENS PLATINUM CELEBRATIONS**

Members received and endorsed a report from the Platinum organising Committee.

#### **OM273.0/21 MONTHLY INCOME/EXPENDITURE REPORT**

**Resolved:-** proposed Cllr. S.Sutherland and seconded by Cllr. V.Collinson and agreed to endorse the monthly Reconciliation report. Members also received and requested it be presented monthly the Summary income and Expenditure Report.

#### **OM273.0/21 STAFF PAY CLAIM**

Members received the NEREO Report advising that a National Agreement has been agreed giving a 1.75% pay rise to all staff backdated to April 2021. Cllr. M.Young proposed, seconded by Cllr. J.Cairns and agreed to accept the report and to implement pay rise.

#### **OM274.0/21 PLANNING**

There were no plans for consideration

#### **OM275.0/21 AUDIT**

The Clerk gave a report on the forthcoming Audit process. A meeting has already taken place with the Internal Auditor.

#### **OM276.0/21 POLICY REVIEW**

It was proposed by Cllr. M.Young and seconded by Cllr. S.Sutherland to accept the revised Polices as per Appendix 1

**OM277.0/21 HONORARY BURGESS**

Cllr. J.Houlihan had written to the Council advising members he had changed his mind and now wished to accept the award. Cllr. E.Bruce raised the issue of 12 years service is required for it to be awarded. It was proposed Cllr. M.Young seconded by Cllr. K.Hornsby to confer the Honorary Burgess on Cllr. J.Houlihan as previously agreed and for future awards 12 years service to the Town will be required. This was agreed.

**OM278.0/21 REFERAL FROM ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE**

Members were referred to the Allotment Committee minutes were the Committee had requested confirmation of the size of fencing on allotment sites. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr. J.Houlihan, seconded by Cllr. S.Sutherland and agreed that fencing on all sites would be at 6 feet high.

**OM279.0/21 SECTION 137**

The Clerk advised NALC had informed Councils the agreed Section 137 expenditure for the year was £8.41 per elector.

**OM280.0/21 PUBLIC LIGHTS**

The Clerk advised that the Officers had noticed the Council were paying for 30 public lights, some since 1996, that do not exist now or are street lights. It was agreed to write to Northern Powergrid and cancel the agreement. It was also agreed to have the Light Columns in front of the Nursing Home onto a timer as at present they are on 24 hours 365 days a year.

**OM281.0/21 STATEMENT OF INTERNAL CONTROL**

Members both noted and agreed the Internal Control Report presented by the Clerk.

**OM282.0/21 WINDLESTONE PIT MEMORIAL**

Members received a request from residents to consider a memorial stone for the 21 men who lost their lives in this pit. Members agreed to the project in principle and to work with residents to raise the funding for the stone. Clerk to contact the DMA to obtain their agreement for the stone to go in the area of the current Memorial. It was also hoped the project could be finished and unveiled by the Mayor on Durham Miners Gala day.

**OM283.0/21 YOUTHS IN THE VILLAGE**

The Mayor reported on a meeting held with DCC/Police and the Town Council to discuss the issues around the recent ASB by youths in the village. An action plan was made and currently being implemented. It was agreed to monitor the situation.

**OM284.0/21 REPORT FROM CDALC**

The Clerk advised the Councils application had been successful and have now been re-classified as a Larger Local Council and may gain advice direct from NALC as opposed to having to go via CDALC

**OM285.0/21 REPORT FROM AGM OF RESIDENTS FORUM**

The Mayor reported on their recent AGM.

**OM 286.0/21 March/April meeting dates**

These were agreed.

**OM287.0/21 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

On a proposal made by Cllr. S.Sutherland, seconded by Cllr. V.Collinson and agreed that due to the nature of the remaining business the press and public be excluded.

**OM288.0/21 CEMETERY BOARDROOM**

**Resolved:-** on a proposal by Cllr. P.Malpas and seconded by Cllr.S.Sutherland and carried to accept Tender 2 of £1659.16 to replace and repair toilets/store rooms at the boardroom in the Cemetery.

**OM289.0/21 DRONES**

Members agreed to investigate the use of drones and report back to the allotment committee meeting in March.

**OM290.0/21 STAFFING BUISNESS CASE**

It was agreed to prepare a Staffing review/Business case to the next Full Council.

**OM291.0/21 STAFFING REPORT**

The Mayor gave the monthly staffing report.

**OM292.0/21 NEXT MEETING**

To be held on Tuesday 12th April 2022, Hutton House.

Signed:-

Mayor of Chilton  
12th April 2022