

**Minutes of the Adjourned Full Council Meeting of the Town Council on  
Thursday 17th June 2021 at 7.00pm**

**Present**

**St Michael's Ward**

Cllr J Bonetta  
Cllr L Dolby  
Cllr H Hurford  
Cllr A McCollum  
Cllr J McNally  
Cllr D Munge  
Cllr A Proszowska  
Cllr J Taylor  
Cllr J Zarczynski (Chairman)

**St Paul's Ward**

Cllr P Carrigan  
Cllr R Coombs  
Cllr K Cloke  
Cllr C Gilson  
Cllr F Hanratty  
Cllr S Keene  
Cllr S Sexton

**In attendance**

Stephen Hill, Town Clerk  
Heloise Marlow, Deputy Town Clerk  
13 members of the public  
1 member of the press

The Town Clerk explained housekeeping issues for the meeting.

**21/39 Apologies for absence**

Cllr V Howard (personal reasons)

**21/40 Declarations of Interests**

Cllr T McCollum – Personal Interest (Items 21/42 c iii, 21/46 and 21/58)

**21/41 Dispensations**

There were no grants of dispensation made by the Town Clerk in relation to the business of this meeting.

**21/42 Motions**

**c. Focus on Governance Structure**

- iii. To suspend all meetings of committees pending the completion of the above reviews and to consider all matters including HR matters, in full council, if necessary, by holding additional full Council meetings if required.

Cllr Bonetta presented the motion.

Cllr Zarczynski spoke against the motion.

**Members RESOLVED to suspend all meetings of committees pending the completion of the above reviews and to consider all matters**

**including HR matters, in full council, if necessary by holding additional full Council meetings if required.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton**

**Against: Coombs, Carrigan, McNally, Dolby, Gilson, Taylor, Zarczynski**

**Abstention: McCollum**

For 8, Against 7, Abstentions 1

Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Hurford.

- iv. To establish a new Working Group to oversee the speedy completion of the much-delayed allotments project; members of the Working Group may be decided.

Cllr Bonetta presented the motion.

Cllrs Zarczynski, McNally, Taylor and Carrigan spoke against the motion.

Cllr Munge spoken in favour of the motion.

The Town Clerk read from a statement provided by Mr T Darrant, Chair of the Allotments Working Group.

**Members RESOLVED under SO 1r to immediately put the original motion to a vote.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton.**

**Against: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, McNally, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

For: 9, Against 7, Abstentions 0.

Proposed by Cllr Hanratty and seconded by Cllr Sexton.

**Members RESOLVED to establish a new Working Group to oversee the speedy completion of the much-delayed allotments project.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton.**

**Against: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, McNally, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

For: 9, Against 7, Abstentions 0.

Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Hanratty.

**Members RESOLVED the membership of the new Allotments Working Group as follows: Mr T Darrant, Cllr Coombs, Cllr Hanratty, Cllr Hurford and Cllr Cloke.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton.**

**Against: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, McNally, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

For: 9, Against 7, Abstentions 0.

Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Keene.

Cllr Taylor queried whether Cllr Coombs voting against the proposal that he be a member of the Working Group invalidated the vote. The Town Clerk confirmed that it did not.

- v. To delegate to the Town Clerk or Deputy Town Clerk the authority to decide the Council's response to Planning Applications in consultation with the Ward Members. Whenever possible, all Members of the Council will be informed of applications out for consultation and will be invited to submit comments to the Clerk or Deputy Clerk. Consultation comments on all Major applications will be decided by Full Council; previous delegations with respect to Planning consultations are superseded.

Cllr Bonetta presented the motion.

Cllrs Taylor, McNally spoke against the motion.

**Members RESOLVED to delegate to the Town Clerk or Deputy Town Clerk the authority to decide the Council's response to Planning Applications in consultation with the Ward Members. Whenever possible, all Members of the Council will be informed of applications out for consultation and will be invited to submit comments to the Clerk or Deputy Clerk. Consultation comments on all Major applications will be decided by Full Council; previous delegations with respect to Planning consultations are superseded.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton.**

**Against: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, McNally, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

For: 9, Against 7, Abstentions 0.

Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Hanratty.

- vi. To direct the Town Clerk to identify any potential impacts arising from the above actions and report them to the council for consideration. To focus council resources as far as possible on undertaking the reviews in a timely but thorough manner.

Cllr Bonetta presented the motion.

**Members RESOLVED to direct the Town Clerk to identify any potential impacts arising from the above actions and report them to the council for consideration. To focus council resources as far as possible on undertaking the reviews in a timely but thorough manner.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton.**

**Against: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, McNally, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

For: 9, Against 7, Abstentions 0.

Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Munge.

- vii. To establish a Working Group consisting of five councillors to work with the Town Clerk to undertake the review and make recommendations to

Full Council in respect of each area; members of the Working Group may be decided.

Cllr Zarczynski proposed an amendment to the motion: **That the review be carried out by an independent third party appointed by the Town Clerk.**

Cllr Taylor spoke in favour of the amendment.

Cllr Sexton spoke against the amendment.

**For: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, McNally, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

**Against: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton.**

For: 7, Against 9, Abstentions 0

The motion to amend motion 12 c vii was lost.

**Members RESOLVED to establish a Working Group consisting of five councillors to work with the Town Clerk to undertake the review and make recommendations to Full Council in respect of each area; members of the Working Group may be decided.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton.**

**Against: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, McNally, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

For: 9, Against 7, Abstentions 0.

Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Hurford.

**Members RESOLVED the membership of the new Working Group as follows: Cllr Bonetta, Cllr Sexton, Cllr Hurford, Cllr Cloke .and Cllr Proszowska.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton.**

**Against: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, McNally, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

For: 9, Against 7, Abstentions 0.

Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Keene.

#### **21/43 Working with the community.**

Council is asked to **RESOLVE** to establish a programme of weekly council surgeries in a publicly accessible place in the Town Centre, so that the community is able to engage fully with Councillors; the Clerk is directed to ascertain from Councillors their preferred approach for immediately establishing such surgeries and bring forward recommendations at the next Town Council Meeting.

Cllr Keene presented the motion.

Cllr Zarczynski and Taylor spoke against the need for the motion.

It was confirmed that no Councillor would be obliged to attend the weekly council surgeries.

**Members unanimously RESOLVED to establish a programme of weekly council surgeries in a publicly accessible place in the Town Centre, so that the community is able to engage fully with Councillors; the Clerk is directed to ascertain from Councillors their preferred approach for immediately establishing such surgeries and bring forward recommendations at the next Town Council Meeting**

Proposed by Cllr Sexton and seconded by Cllr Cloke.

#### **21/44 Co-option**

That this Council notes the unfortunate failure to attract co-option candidates at the Council meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> April against a background where elections were taking place for a number of seats. It also notes the missed opportunity to include this seat among those available for election and that a candidate who might have been elected had not had the opportunity to be so. Council is therefore asked to **RESOLVE** to re-advertise the seat for co-option under the Council's co-option process.

Cllr Keene presented the motion.

Cllrs Zarczynski and Taylor spoke against the need for the motion.

**Members unanimously RESOLVED to re-advertise the seat for co-option under the Council's co-option process.**

Proposed by Cllr Keene and seconded by Cllr Sexton.

#### **21/45 Bringing the Council up to strength.**

That this Council notes the long absence of Councillor Vera Howard whose dedicated service to the Council and to the Town has been so deeply appreciated. Council is therefore asked to **RESOLVE** to direct the Town Clerk to ascertain whether she will return to council meetings in the near future or whether it might be appropriate for the council to create and seek to fill a vacancy to ensure that the Council returns to full strength as soon as possible.

Cllr Munge presented the motion.

Cllrs Zarczynski, Taylor, McNally, Coombs and Gilson spoke against the motion and requested that it be withdrawn. This was not agreed by Cllr Munge.

Cllrs Proszowska, Keene, and Cloke spoke in favour of the motion.

**Members RESOLVED to direct the Town Clerk to ascertain whether she will return to council meetings in the near future or whether it might be appropriate for the council to create and seek to fill a vacancy to ensure that the Council returns to full strength as soon as possible.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton**

**Against: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, McNally, Taylor, Zarczynski**

For 9, Against 7, Abstentions 0

Proposed by Cllr Munge and seconded by Cllr Cloke.

**21/46 Community Asset Transfer (CAT)**

EDDC has consulted on its Community Asset Transfer (CAT) policy, which Honiton Town Council considered at its meeting 26 April 2021 and had no comments. Therefore, Council is asked to **RESOLVE** to contribute to the EDDC CAT programme by promoting a number of community assets for transfer from EDDC to Honiton Town Council, in particular that Officers prioritise identifying alternative uses and costs of the transfer of the toilet block at King Street, in addition determining what legal agreement/s and planning consent/s may be needed.

Cllr Zarczynski presented the motion.

Cllrs Bonetta, Hanratty and Proszowska spoke against the motion.

**For: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, McNally, Taylor, Zarczynski**

**Against: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton**

**Abstention: McCollum**

The motion failed by 8 votes Against, 7 votes For, 1 Abstention.

Proposed by Cllr Zarczynski and seconded by Cllr Taylor.

**21/47 Membership of Committees**

**Members RESOLVED to defer this agenda item having regard to Resolution 21/42 c iii.**

**For: Bonetta, Carrigan, Cloke, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

**Abstention: McNally**

For 15, Against 0, Abstentions 1

Proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Carrigan.

**21/48 Committee Terms of Reference**

**Members RESOLVED to defer this agenda item having regard to Resolution 21/42 c iii.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton**

**Against: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

**Abstention: McNally**

For 9, Against 6, Abstention 1.

Proposed by Cllr Sexton and seconded by Cllr Proszowska.

**21/49 To appoint Members to Outside Bodies**

**Members RESOLVED to defer this agenda item having regard to Resolution 21/42 c iii.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton**

**Against: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

**Abstention: McNally**

For 9, Against 6, Abstention 1.

Proposed by Cllr Sexton and seconded by Cllr Proszowska.

**21/50 To appoint Honiton Town Council Members with Special Responsibilities**

**Members RESOLVED to defer this agenda item having regard to Resolution 21/42 c iii.**

**For: Bonetta, Cloke, Hanratty, Hurford, Keene, McCollum, Munge, Proszowska, Sexton**

**Against: Carrigan, Coombs, Dolby, Gilson, Taylor, Zarczynski.**

**Abstention: McNally**

For 9, Against 6, Abstention 1.

Proposed by Cllr Sexton and seconded by Cllr Proszowska.

**21/51 Insurance**

Members **CONFIRMED** arrangements for insurance cover with Zurich Municipal.

**21/52 Asset Register**

Cllr Coombs recommended that the asset register format be aligned with the Council's insurance schedule. He listed items which he suggested should be added to the register as follows:

The Town Clerk confirmed that the asset register could be added to and/or amended during the course of the year.

**Members RESOLVED to approve the schedule of assets 2021.**

For: 7, Against 0, Abstentions 9.

Proposed by Cllr Hanratty and seconded by Cllr Proszowska.

**21/53 Members RESOLVED unanimously to extend the meeting by 30 minutes.**

Proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Bonetta.

**21/54 Subscriptions**

**Members RESOLVED to approve the subscriptions with the exception of the subscription to South West Councils.**

For: 8, Against 1, Abstentions 7

Proposed by Cllr Zarczynski and seconded by Cllr Coombs.

**21/55 Complaints procedure**

**Members RESOLVED unanimously to defer this agenda item having regard to Resolution 21/42 c iii.**

Proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Bonetta.

**21/56 Freedom of Information and Data Protection**

**Members RESOLVED to defer this agenda item having regard to Resolution 21/42 c iii.**

For 15, Against 0, Abstention 1

Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Keene.

**21/57 Press Media Policy**

**Members RESOLVED to defer this agenda item having regard to Resolution 21/42 c iii.**

For 14, Against 0, Abstention 2

Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Hanratty.

**21/58 Employment Policies and Procedures**

**Members RESOLVED to defer this agenda item having regard to Resolution 21/42 c iii.**

For 14, Against 0, Abstention 2

Proposed by Cllr Bonetta and seconded by Cllr Hanratty.

**21/59 LGA 1972, S137 expenditure**

**Members RESOLVED expenditure incurred under S137 of the LGA 1972 or GPC.**

For 15, Against 0, Abstention 1

Proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr McNally.

**21/60 General Power of Competence (GPC)**

**Members RESOLVED unanimously to adopt the General Power of Competence following the local Elections 6 May 2021 and more than 2/3rds of Councillors appointed by Election and with a suitably qualified Clerk.**

Proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Bonetta.

**21/61 Accounts**

**Members RESOLVED to approve the schedule of payments.**

For: 15, Against 0, Abstention, 1

Proposed by Cllr Keene and seconded by Cllr Hanratty.

**21/62 To close the meeting.**

The meeting was closed at 9.15pm.