

KESGRAVE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Town Council Meeting held on 18 October 2021

Councillors present:

A Athwall
N Beecroft-Smith (*Chairman of the Council*)
A Comber
A Cook
G Lynch
J Ogden
G Ward

Officers present:

J Abbott – Town Clerk
A Dougall – Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

1. Welcome and to Receive and Accept Apologies for Absence – The Chair, Cllr Beecroft-Smith welcomed all those present to the meeting. Apologies received from; Cllr Gibson-personal, Cllr Mead – personal, Cllr Archer-personal, Cllr Carr-Work, all apologies were agreed following the vote.

2. Declaration of Interests – Cllr N Beecroft-Smith, non-pecuniary interest, item 9. d - Chairman's Allowance.

3. Minutes of the last Town Council Meeting – held on 27 September 2021, following the vote these were agreed, Cllr Lynch proposed, Cllr Comber seconded.

4. Chairman's Communication – Cllr Beecroft-Smith spoke about the low number of Town Cllrs we currently have and that we all need to try to promote this voluntary role with friends, neighbours, work colleagues etc. Cllr Beecroft-Smith also asked for Cllrs to volunteer whenever they can to assist with all the events we have coming up in November/December.

5. Clerks/Officer Report/Update – J Abbott provided the following updates: SALC are implementing a new members portal, which the Clerk will have direct access to. The office received a 'thank you' from a resident regarding the recent conservation works carried out at Pergola Piece. Cllr Mears is looking into the possibility of a 'Men's Shed' in Kesgrave.

6. Members of the Public – none.

7. County and District Councillor Reports – County & District Cllr Lawson provided a written report to the office today, which included the following; Met Office have launched their 'Weather Ready' winter campaign-includes top tips on keeping safe and warm etc. ESC Partnership meetings, continues to be part of this group, benefits for all in the community. Yes Suffolk, an initiative to support young people 16-24yrs to find work, training. Locality Budget, supporting many projects both with the other East Suffolk Cllrs and singularly, please share with any groups, funding still available. Working on the Underpass project in the Town with the Town Clerk, Communities Office, schools and Police. Road Safety Week 15-21 Nov helping to promote, funding banners from locality budget. KWMCC made the final of the Persimmon Building Futures Community Awards – Please vote, will help fund valuable facilities for our community.

Cllr Lynch advised on the following; he received many complaints from residents re localised flooding, he has passed this to SC Cllrs to look into. ESC is looking to see if they can provide any assistance in the lack of NHS Dentists and Doctor Surgeries, however this is ultimately with the NHS. ESC is working on accounts for next year.

8. Partnership Funded PCSO Reports – the reports were noted, no questions raised. J Abbott advised our current PCSO E Miles will be leaving the role in the next month, Suffolk Police have a temporary PCSO to cover, while they seek a permanent replacement.

9. Finance & Governance –

- a. Finance & Governance Committee meeting minutes; 4 October 2021 – these were received and noted.
- b. Schedule of Accounts –
 - List of Payments for the period 27/09/2021 to 17/10/2021 – all accepted and agreed following the vote.
 - List of Receipts for the period 27/07/2021 to 17/09/2021. A Dougall also presented the list of additional receipts for the period 16/09/2021 and 26/09/2021 – all accepted and agreed following the vote.
- c. Transfer from Savings Account and the KTC Card Payments Account – the transfers made during September 2021 for both accounts were agreed following the vote.
- d. Version 3 Draft Budget 2022/23 – A Dougall also presented the draft reserve position for 2022/23 and a list of 'one-off' expenditure items that have been included in the draft budget. A Dougall explained that all requests had been included into the draft budget and in order to keep the precept at an acceptable level, the shortfall would need to be met by reserves. The reserves should ideally fund 'one-off' expenditures and not recurring costs to avoid year-on-year depletion of reserves. An extra column had been added by A Dougall showing possible adjustments to reduce the precept requirement - the report was considered and it was agreed to review again once the year-end balances are more certain. All agreed in favour of the proposal, following the vote.

10. Planning & Development – nothing to report.

11. Community & Recreation –

- a. Kesgrave, Rushmere St Andrew, Martlesham, Carlford and Fynn Valley Community Partnership meeting 11 October 2021 – J Abbott confirmed positive meeting, moving forward with ways the partnership can have an impact of Road Safety locally.
- b. Oak Meadow – J Abbott advised the safety surface under the Spider Net has been significantly vandalised, this has been reported to the Police. However, to repair such a large area may not be cost effective, considering replacing the whole surface with a newer more hard-wearing surface. Looking at costings but in region of over £5000. Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to approach some local companies, SPARK to see if they would be willing to sponsor. J Catling-Green will look into and report at next C&R Committee meeting.
- c. Events Calendar – J Abbott reiterated the Chairman's communication on supporting the upcoming events in November, busiest part of the year for the office and can only do with support from Cllrs.

12. Suffolk Climate Change Partnership – J Abbott confirmed she is continuing to promote this initiative and has contacted all the local schools for support, Heath Primary have already agreed to hand out the 'postcards' to all their students to take home.

13. Draft Kesgrave Town Council Business Plan– Cllr Beecroft-Smith advised the plan was promoted on the website and at the Fun Day, no feedback received, therefore following the vote it

was agreed to adopt the Plan. Council was reminded this is a 'working document' and can be updated when and if needed.

14. Other /Urgent Communications – Cllr Lynch would like a meeting / presentation with the Police attending a Full Town Council meeting, agreed to look to arrange within the next 6 months.

15. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 29 November 2021 at 7.15pm – Town Council office.

16. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – None.

17. Resolution to exclude the Public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 – Full Council considered and agreed following the vote.

Agenda items 18 a&b, and 19 were then discussed in the CONFIDENTIAL part of this meeting.

this part of the meeting finished at 8.31pm

Chairman Date

DRAFT