



**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL, HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.00PM.**

**Membership:** G. Bonner, J. Ling (Committee Chairman), Mrs S. Coote, Mrs P. Furness (Deputy Committee Chairman), G. Waite (Town Mayor), S. Basra & S. Bowman (Deputy Town Mayor)

**Present:** G. Bonner, G. Waite, J. Ling, Mrs P. Furness, Mrs S. Coote & S. Bowman

**Officer in attendance:** J. Jones (Town Clerk) & A. Georgiou (Admin Officer).

**Also Present:** Councillor D. Wallace, 1 member of the public.

**256. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCES**

Apologies from Councillor S. Basra.

**257. TO RECEIVE MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NOTICE OF ANY DISPENSATIONS GRANTED.**

No declarations.

**258. TO RECEIVE A REPORT AND UPDATE FROM THE CHAIRMAN (INFORMATION ONLY).**

The Chairman stated that there are one or two items to discuss that are not on the agenda.

**259. TO RECEIVE AND AUTHORISE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AS A TRUE RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021.**

Following a proposal, second and a unanimous vote it was

**RESOLVED**

**That the minutes are a true record, and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.**

**260. TO DISCUSS ANY ISSUES RELATING TO HIGHWAYS.**

In response to a comment from Councillor Mrs Furness, the Clerk stated that pot holes can be reported via the HCC web site under fault reporting.

Councillor Bonner explained that he and Councillor Waite had been contacted by Sir Oliver Heald regarding safety and highways measures on the Redrow Estate, in particular Neale Drive which connects to Ermine Street. Originally, the northern existing exit onto the A10 was to be stopped up and traffic to use Neale Drive. On receiving concerns from residents the County Councillor and MP managed to get the stopping up order cancelled. Part of the original planning application was the re-designation of Ermine Street to filter traffic onto Neale Drive. Residents have asked if this re-designation can be cancelled as it's not necessary if the old northern exit remains open. This would involve a variation to the planning consent which Redrow are not prepared to apply for. Residents would also like advisory signs saying not suitable for HGV's, width restrictions and a 20mph limit. Various agencies are saying that these things cannot be accomplished at this time. Sir Oliver Heald has asked what the official opinion of the Town Council is with regard to these requested measures.

Councillor Wallace stated that the Council has already agreed that it supports a 20mph limit in the town which would include the Redrow Estate. Ermine Street is unlikely to qualify as it's not residential on both sides. Width restrictions are difficult to enforce and you have to cater for things such as deliveries, refuse vehicles, emergency vehicles etc.

Following a proposal, second and a unanimous vote it was

**RESOLVED**

**That this Council supports the Cancellation of Ermine Street re-designation (as re-designation will funnel traffic from the Ermine Street through Neale Drive to the A10)**

**Advisory signage 'Not suitable for HGV traffic' on Neale Drive entrances and a 20 mph limit on Neale Drive.**

**261. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE PHOENIX PROJECT GROUP.**

The Chairman stated that this was discussed at last month's meeting, there is nothing further to report.

**262. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS RELATING TO THE MANOR HOUSE.**

Councillor Wallace referred to the resolution to accept the recommendations in the Manor House Security Report. He explained that it is a case of prioritising, some of the recommendations are minor, some will require quotes.

Reference was made to a quotation received for carpentry works including repairs/renovation of the french doors in the Clerk's office. This was part of the Security report. The Clerk explained that other works quoted for included extensive works to the front porch and front door and the window cill in the Council Chamber. Requirement for three quotes was referred to and Councillor Waite responded that it is very difficult to find heritage builders and very difficult to get traders to come out and quote. It was noted that at this current time during lock down, it is a risk to staff to accommodate contractors supplying quotes.

**Following a proposal, second and a unanimous vote it was RESOLVED**

**That the quote in the sum of £970 to repair the french doors in the Clerk's office be accepted.**

The Clerk was asked to seek further quotes for the front entrance porch and window cill.

Councillor Wallace offered to prioritise the items highlighted in the security report for the next Resources meeting, this offer was accepted

**263. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS RELATING TO THE SETH WARD COMMUNITY CENTRE.**

Nothing to report.

**264. TO CONSIDER ANY GRANT REQUESTS RECEIVED**

East Herts Citizens Advice Service.

Following a proposal, second and a unanimous vote it was

**RESOLVED**

**That a grant of £768 be made to East Herts Citizens Advice Service for the purchase of computer equipment to facilitate working from home.**

**265. PLASTIC FREE BUNTINGFORD**

The Chairman reported that David Woolcombe has forwarded a new idea suggesting dealing with the environment as a whole, to set up a new organisation. The Chairman stated that he had suggested that this is looked at in September but has yet to receive a reply.

**266. TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

The Chairman reported that there has been no recent meetings. Councillor Waite reported that he had received a communication from the Mayor of Luynes wishing the town a happy and healthy 2021.

**267. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM A TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON THE RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY.**

Councillor Bonner stated that there has not been a recent meeting and therefore nothing to report.

The Chairman asked the member of the public if she would like to speak. She responded that she had been interested to see how the Council operates. When asked, the member of the public said she would possibly be interested in the Youth Council.

Meeting closed at 19.57

Next meeting: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.00pm via Zoom