



REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE OF BUNTINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL, HELD REMOTELY VIA ZOOM ON 14TH JANUARY 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).

210. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCES

Apologies from Councillor S. Basra.

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

No declarations.

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

The Chairman stated that these are very difficult times with the pandemic. There is nothing to report that isn't covered on the agenda.

213. TO RECEIVE AND AUTHORISE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON 10TH DECEMBER 2020.

Following a proposal, second and a vote of 5 in favour and 1 abstention it was **RESOLVED**

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

214. TO DISCUSS ANY ISSUES RELATING TO HIGHWAYS.

Councillor Waite agreed to circulate a draft letter to Highways regarding the 20mph limit in Buntingford.

215. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE PHOENIX PROJECT GROUP.

The Chairman stated that he had hoped to re-launch the project in the spring now that the Committee has a number of different members. The project was about re-designing Buntingford streets particularly relating to shared space. There have been problems over the years relating to the inadvisability in relation to the lack of kerbs and the difficulty for the blind.

The Chairman stated that his proposal would be to widen the brief of the project to provide the best environment for the people of the town. A particular aspect is the High Street, we have spent all of our time on the High Street but forgotten about other areas in the community. We must not waste funds already spent, we need a completely new look at what we have, to see a plan for Buntingford that is constantly looked at every year and progress marked. The Chairman noted that there are members who do not know the background and we need to have an evening session around Easter to look at plans and ideas.

Councillor Bonner responded that we need to have some idea if we are going to get funding. The Chairman responded that around springtime we should be in a position to look at ways we can influence individuals at the County Council. Councillor Mrs Furness that the 20mph limit may impact on how we see things and we do not know the burden that COVID has had on budgets, there may be cuts. The Chairman agreed but said unless we plan ahead, we won't have the opportunity to influence the County Council.

Councillor Waite referred to the plans for London Road and thought it may be an idea to speak with Highways to see if the plans can be tweaked.

Councillor Mrs Furness asked if it may be a possibility the Design and Technology Department at Fremantle could produce a model of the High Street. Councillor Bonner stated that he would be happy to ask.

216. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS RELATING TO THE MANOR HOUSE INCLUDING A REPORT FROM THE MANOR HOUSE SECURITY WORKING PARTY,

The Chairman referred to an excellent report from Councillor Wallace on the security of the Manor House.

Following a proposal, second and a unanimous vote it was

RECOMMENDED

That the report on Manor House Security be referred to Full Council with the recommendation that all recommended work is undertaken, but prioritised.

217. TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS RELATING TO THE SETH WARD COMMUNITY CENTRE.

The Clerk reported that the centre is currently closed due to restrictions. There was an enquiry from the NHS to use the centre as a vaccination centre but this is no longer required.

218. TO DISCUSS PROPOSALS FOR NEW GP SURGERY.

The Chairman explained that a new site for the Health Centre is being investigated. It had been suggested that the Nevetts site is used but there is a lot of different aspects to take into account. There may be an opportunity to use the land at the Redrow turning circle. The Chairman suggested that we invite the County Councillor to the next meeting and Dr Partington.

219. TO CONSIDER ANY GRANT REQUESTS RECEIVED

No grant requests received.

220. CONSIDERATION OF THE 2021/2022 BUDGET.

The Clerk reported that the situation remains the same as was reported at the last meeting. The budget will now go to Full Council for approval.

221. PLASTIC FREE BUNTINGFORD

The Chairman reported that there has been no progress due to COVID 19.

222. TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

The Chairman reported that there has been no recent meeting.

223. 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.

Meeting closed at 19.54

Next meeting: Thursday 11th February 2021 at 7.00pm via Zoom