

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Town Hall on Monday 9 January 2023

Present Councillor S Abbott (Chairman)
Councillors N Brakspear, J Brook, A Brown, A Crockford,
R Hopkinson, M Jackson, D Jarman, A Mackie, G McCaffery,
S Senior, G Ward, A White and R Williams

In Attendance E Drage (Youth Work Manager for Corsham Youth Zone)
Mrs M Jones (Head of Finance & Administration)
D Martin (Chief Executive)
Sgt M Tripp (Wiltshire Police)

In Attendance Online Councillor H Belcher OBE, T Bush, T Ellis and J Robertson

147/22 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillors N Farmer and A Thomas.

148/22 Public Question Time and Petitions

There were none.

149/22 Declarations of Interest

To receive any Declaration(s) of Interest under Corsham Town Council's Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

There were none.

150/22 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12 December 2022

Resolved

That the Minutes be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

151/22 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were none.

152/22 Policing and Community Safety

Sgt Tripp updated the Town Council on recent crime statistics which included seven injuries - mainly domestic, five harassments, 16 thefts and three burglaries. He also

mentioned that there had been orders placed on a group of youths, banning them from entering the Co-op. The situation with youths causing trouble at Springfield Recreation Ground had improved. There had also been vehicle and motorcycle thefts in Corsham and the local area. Calne and Chippenham officers were supporting Corsham officers dealing with these crimes.

A concern was raised about how difficult it was to report incidents on the 101 emergency number. Sgt Tripp advised that online reporting was also available. The Town Council would publicise this reporting facility on social media.

153/22 Corsham Youth Zone Update

Emma Drage, Youth Work Manager for Corsham Youth Zone, gave an update on CYZ activity. She reported that, after Covid, numbers had dropped and that recruiting staff and volunteers had been challenging. They now had a full complement of volunteers and paid staff. Some weeks they had 40-50 young people attending the sessions. The ages ranged from 11 to 18 year olds and they were working well together as a group. As well as activities, the sessions include discussions and help with anxiety, homework, budgeting, finance, cooking and life skills in a fun way. The Town Council contributes to the running cost of the group.

154/22 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman congratulated Councillor H Belcher on being awarded an OBE in the New Year Honours List.

155/22 Correspondence

- i) Members Information Sheet No. 535 was noted.
- ii) Late correspondence – there was none.

156/22 Reports from Council Representatives Appointed to Outside Bodies

Councillor Robertson reported that a Fairtrade meeting was being held at The Pound on 17 January.

Councillor Robertson reminded Councillors that Corsham Climate Action would be holding a waste and recycling event at The Pound on 24 January.

Councillor Robertson informed the meeting that a tree pruning event was being held at the community orchard on 21 January.

157/22 Minutes of the Council (Planning) Meeting held on 14 December 2022

Resolved

That the Minutes be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

158/22 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were none.

159/22 Minutes of the Council (Planning) Meeting held on 4 January 2023

Resolved

That the Minutes be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

160/22 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were none.

161/22 Budget and Precept for 2023/24

With reference to the recent round of committee meetings and the report to the Finance and Administration Committee meeting on 7 December 2022, the draft budget was considered. The Town Council's overall draft budget for 2023/24 showed an increase in spend of £45,839 with a precept increase of £33,536 (3.07%). However, the increase in the number of Band D Equivalent properties, by 8.43 in 2023/24, reduces the figure to 2.89% per property. The overall Band D Equivalent charge would increase from £220.30 to £226.66 (an increase of £6.36 per year).

Resolved

That the draft budget proposals be approved by the Full Council, with a budget of £1,274,615 and a precept of £1,126,728 for 2023/24.

162/22 Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Update (*Minute 115/21 and others*)

Further to the approval of the Strategic Plan, the document had been designed for proofreading, publication and distribution. An Easy Read summary of the Strategic Plan and the Community Engagement Strategy had been commissioned. The first monitoring report in the form of a RAG (Red/Amber/Green) Report and update sheet had been circulated. All tasks were on target at present.

The update was noted.

163/22 Issues for Corsham Area Board Consideration (*Minute 130/22 and others*)

- i) Springfield Campus - The Chief Executive provided an update from Sarah Pluckrose, Wiltshire Council's Leisure Operations Health and Wellbeing Manager, on information received regarding the Springfield Community Campus booking system as discussed at the previous meeting. It was reported that the only booking cancelled was Swim Club, due to the pool being closed and staff shortages. The Campus systems had recently changed so in future there would be access to any cancellations that had been made by Campus staff. With regards to bookings being changed, the Campus had not made any changes.

- ii) Other issues for Area Board consideration. There were no new issues.

164/22 Authorisation of cheques and payments

Online Banking Payments

Name	Amount
Salaries & Payments - CTC Staff	£27,313.02
Wiltshire Pension Fund - Pension Contribution for January 2023	£8,640.61
HMRC - Tax & NI for January 2023	£8,934.47
Methuen Hall Trust - Hire of Council Chamber/Town Hall for January	£656.00
Travis Perkins - Stanley Knife, Bungee Cords, Simpson Straps, Joint Compound	£78.49
Zurich Insurance - Additional Premium for New Playground Equipment Until Renewal	£317.31
Peter Harper - Storytown Expenses	£226.01
Stephen Jenks - BMX Track Repairs	£5,136.00
Corsham Print - Corsham Map Reprint, Visit Corsham Advert, Christmas Card and Envelopes,	£485.00
Public Policy Exchange - Improving Public Transport & Tourism Webinar Training	£237.60
Photo Symbols Ltd - Foundation Course in Easy Read	£210.00
Terry Waldron - Arnold House Roof Repairs	£6,000.00
Cooke Automotive - Investigate and Replace Battery in Citroen Relay YX13 VJE	£252.12
Amazon - High Speed HD HDMI Cable, Calendars, Treasury Tags, Coffee	£68.32
J D Pillinger - Emergency Call Out to Flat 2 Arnold House Header Tank Problem	£114.00
Top Height - Ladders and Steps Training for 8 x Staff	£624.00
Idverde - Monthly Grounds Maintenance and Public Convenience Cleaning	£3,049.70
Corsham Wind Band Association - Performing at Various Events	£340.00
Pepperpot - Helpers Refreshments at Christmas Lights	£154.00
Newsquest - Advertising Free Parking	£90.00
Wiltshire Council - Hire of Campus on 15/29 November for Cookery Sessions	£150.00
M B Bells Ltd - Arnold House and Flat 2 Electrical Repairs	£195.37
St John Ambulance - 4 x First Aid Members at Christmas Lights	£288.00
Visit Wiltshire - Two Quarter Page Adverts	£300.00
Your Wiltshire - Quarter Page Adverts	£78.00
Johns Associates - Biodiversity Action Plan (part payment)	£2,181.00
Wiltshire Council - Contribution Towards Kissing Gate	£360.00
Walkers Are Welcome - 2023 Subscription	£90.00
Boson Webb With Milk and Tweed - Website Support and Hosting	£978.00
Global Media - Advertising on Heart Radio	£916.70
Richard Henley Plumbing and Heating - Repairs to Gents Public Toilet	£120.00

Alarms and Electrical - Investigate Fire Alarm System at Arnold House and Annual Service Charges for Intruder and Fire Alarm Systems	£459.00	
MA Music Leisure and Travel - Advertising	£492.00	
Name Badges International - Councillor Name Badges	£101.80	
Corsham Patios and Fencing - New Anti-Slip Pontoon and Fence, Beechfield	£1,786.80	
SLCC - Annual Membership Fee and Webinar	£591.00	
Everbubbles - 4 x Memorial Plaques for Memorial Trees in Lacock Rd Cemetery	£154.75	
Rise Trust - Detached Youth Work 4th Quarterly Invoice	£3,588.75	
Gentworks - Cleaning Solution for Public Toilets	£40.80	
Cheque		
Petty Cash	£139.70	7800
Sub total	£75,938.32	
Cheques/Internet Banking Paid Outside of Meeting		
There were none		
Payments Made by Direct Debit/Standing Order		
West Mercia Energy - Guide Hut Electricity	£162.44	
West Mercia Energy - Public Conveniences Electricity	no invoice	
Excalibur - Mobile phone	£295.27	
Hills Waste - Refuse Collections, Extra Bins for Christmas Lights	£689.62	
Vodafone - Monthly One Net Mobile Telephones	£641.67	
SGW Payroll - Monthly Payroll Processing	£56.64	
Peninsula - Monthly HR & H&S Advice	£439.19	
UK Fuels - Fuel for Work Vehicles	£98.75	
SSE - Skate Park and CCTV Electricity November and December	£347.17	
SSE - Guide Hut Electricity	£24.18	
SUB TOTAL		
TOTAL	<u>£78,693.25</u>	
Direct Debits and Payments Taken and Reconciled in November		
UK Fuels Ltd - Fuel for Work Vehicles	£90.25	
Excalibur - Monthly IT Support for December	£900.62	

Resolved

That the cheques and transfers be authorised for payment.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and closed at 8.50pm. There were no members of the public present.

CHAIRMAN

DATE