

Minutes of the Council Meeting Held Remotely on Monday 14 December 2020

Present Councillor S Abbott (Chairman)
Councillors P Anstey, H Belcher, A Brown, A Crockford, T Ellis, N Farmer,
R Hopkinson, M Jackson, D Jarman, R LeVar, S Moysey, G Sanders and
A White

In Attendance PC L Fletcher (Wiltshire Police)
Mrs M Jones (Head of Finance and Administration)
D Martin (Chief Executive)

104/20 Apologies

No apologies had been received.

105/20 Public Question Time and Petitions

There were none.

106/20 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

107/20 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 November 2020

Resolved

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

108/20 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were no matters arising.

109/20 Policing and Community Safety

PC Fletcher updated Councillors on recent issues in the town.

The Police CCTV van had been parked in various locations around Corsham to slow down speeding drivers. Many speeding fines had been issued to drivers using Valley Road and Park Lane. Foot patrols using handheld speed devices had been increased and has had an impact. Contact had been made with the Gastard Community Speed Watch group.

Shoplifting had decreased, possibly due to more police foot patrols taking place and shop staff being more vigilant.

A significant amount of Class A and B drugs and cash had been seized from one local supplier.

Councillors mentioned speeding cars in Neston and Park Lane, noisy modified cars around the town and dog thefts.

PC Fletcher was thanked for the work that the Community Policing Team was doing for the town and the impact it was having.

110/20 Chairman's Announcements

On 26 November the Chairman attended a Parish Council Climate Emergency workshop and a Neighbourhood Plan Delivery and Monitoring Group meeting.

On 3 December the Chairman, Chief Executive, Planning and Events Officer and members of the Neighbourhood Plan Delivery and Monitoring Group attended an online meeting with Thame Town Council on how they delivered and monitored their Neighbourhood Plan. It was a very useful and informative meeting.

On 8 December the Chairman attended a meeting of the Wiltshire Area Localism and Planning Group (WALPA) and also had a meeting with Andrew Hall, owner of the Martingate Centre.

On 10 December the Chairman and Ben Leighton from Corsham Chamber of Commerce judged the Christmas window competition.

111/20 Correspondence

- i) Members' Information Sheets Nos. 476 to 481 were noted.
- ii) Late correspondence – there was none.

112/20 Reports from Council Representatives Appointed to Outside Bodies

Councillor N Farmer had attended a half day event with the MIND charity discussing mental health issues.

Councillor A White attended the Pickwick Association AGM.

113/20 Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2020

Resolved

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

114/20 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were no matters arising.

115/20 Minutes of the Council (Planning) Meeting held on 18 November 2020

Resolved

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

116/20 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were no matters arising.

117/20 Minutes of the Property and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 25 November 2020

Resolved

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

118/20 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were no matters arising.

119/20 Minutes of the Council (Planning) Meeting held on 9 December 2020

The draft minutes had not been circulated prior to the meeting.

Resolved

That the Minutes be deferred to the next Council (Planning) meeting on 23 December for consideration and approval.

120/20 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

This item was deferred to the Council (Planning) meeting on 23 December.

121/20 Corsham Railway Station Update (Various minutes)

Councillors had been made aware of the announcement on the outcome of Wiltshire Council's submission to the Department for Transport's Restoring Your Railway (RYR) Ideas Fund to 'Restore secondary train services to the GWML' (an important step in helping to realise stations at Corsham and Royal Wootton Bassett). Whilst the news was disappointing, the feedback suggested that the RYR process was probably not the correct route for this proposal and that it was better aligned to the Rail Network Enhancements Pipeline (RNEP) process. The feedback also indicated that parties would need to work closely with Network Rail and engage with a wider variety of key stakeholders. These issues would need to be considered in the context of Wiltshire Council's wider rail work/resources and as part of its development of a Local Transport Plan (LTP4) Rail Strategy during 2021 and 2022. The Town Council and Town Team would continue working with Wiltshire Council in considering the best approach over the coming months. A Town Team meeting had been arranged for January 2021.

The update was noted.

122/20 Agreement Relating to Management of the Art and Design Process and Programme in relation to the Land to the South of Potley Lane, Corsham

The Town Council was asked to enter into a formal agreement with Wiltshire Council to deliver the art and design elements of a Section 106 Agreement relating to Corsham Rise. The Deed of Execution needed Council approval. The Town Council would receive over £20,000 to manage and deliver an Art and Design programme in the vicinity of the development.

Resolved

That the Deed of Execution be approved.

123/20 Former Corsham Family Health Centre, Beechfield Road (*Minute 94/10*)

Further to the November Council meeting, NHS Property Services had informed the Town Council that the property was vacant, but the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) had not declared the property as 'surplus'. There were no current plans to dispose of the building. The CCG had not declared the property surplus because it was working on its clinical strategy and was therefore reviewing whether the building was required for future healthcare services. The most likely outcome would be that the building would be reoccupied for NHS purposes.

The update was noted.

124/20 Council Tax Setting for 2021/22

At the recent Property and Amenities Committee meeting, it had been suggested that the Full Council should consider what would be an acceptable level of increase in the precept or Band D equivalent figure for 2021/22. The current draft budget would be considered by the Finance and Administration Committee on 16 December, where a final recommendation would be made to the Full Council for its annual budget setting meeting on 11 January 2021.

The Town Council's overall draft budget currently showed an increase in spend of £71,020, with a precept increase of £45,607 (4.63%). However, the reduction in the number of Band D Equivalent properties increased the figure to 5.56% per property. As the draft budget stood, the overall Band D Equivalent charge would increase from £199.09 to £210.15 (an increase of £11.06 per year).

Resolved

That the Town Council was in agreement with this level of increase in the precept for 2021/22.

125/20 Issues for Corsham Area Board Consideration (*Various minutes*)

Previous issues raised for Area Board consideration had been discussed at their recent meeting. The issues were policing and anti-social behaviour, and Gigaclear

who were supplying new broadband services in Corsham.

There were no new issues.

126/20 Committee Vacancies and Outside Bodies

Councillors were aware that Councillor C Fuller had been automatically disqualified for non-attendance of Council meetings. Consequently, there was a vacancy on the Property and Amenities Committee.

Resolved

That Councillor H Belcher fill the vacancy on the Property and Amenities Committee for the remainder of the Council year.

127/20 Co-option to Fill Councillor Vacancies

There were three Councillor vacancies for co-option to Corsham Pickwick Ward, Gastard Ward and Corsham Neston Ward. Nominations to fill the vacancies had been advertised and one application had been received. Councillors agreed that the candidate was suitable for co-option. A ballot was not able to take place due to the Covid-19 pandemic. A show of hands at the online meeting took place.

Resolved

- i) That Lesley Jefferson be offered the position of co-opted Councillor for the Corsham Pickwick Ward.
- ii) That the two remaining vacancies be vacant until the elections in May 2021.

128/20 Covid-19 Emergency Update, Recovery Plan

Updates included:

- Wiltshire Council's Hub was able to offer a self-isolation payment of £500 where applicable.
- Covid-19 Champions had now returned to their workplaces and Wiltshire Council were looking for volunteers to help people in the community.
- Local schools were being supported with meals for children outside of term-time.
- Public Health reported that they were working on a number of Covid cases in care homes.

The update was noted.

129/20 Authorisation of cheques and payments

Online Banking Payments

Name

Salaries & Payments - CTC Staff

Amount

£19,548.85

Wiltshire Pension Fund - Pension Contribution for December 2020	£6,564.41	
HMRC - Tax & NI for December	£6,888.28	
Methuen Hall Trust - Hire of Council Chamber for Office Space	£250.00	
CW Plant Hire – Telehandler - Unloading Stone and Christmas Lights	£1,005.75	
Hartham Park Estates Ltd - Middlewick Allotments Water	£264.89	
Amac Window Cleaning - Bus Shelter Cleaning as Per Schedule	£480.00	
Travis Perkins - Gravel to Secure Christmas Trees, Heavy Duty Wipes,		
Wood for Neston Play Equipment Repair	£100.07	
Play Inspection Co. - Outdoor Annual Inspection x 8 Playgrounds	£479.52	
Blachere - 12 x LED Braids of Christmas Lights	£1,443.60	
The Festive Lighting Company - 1 x Snowflake Christmas Sign	£314.64	
Zurich Insurance - Additional Insurance Hire of Vehicle Oct - May 2021	£167.36	
Idverde - Grounds Maintenance Contract and Public Toilet Cleaning	£2,964.01	
Corsham Area Heritage & Information Centre - Contribution Towards Electricity at Arnold House	£151.70	
SLCC - Webinar, Understanding the Darkness, Virtual South West Regional Seminar	£96.00	
Konica Minolta - Photocopier Hire and Charges	£399.66	
Newsquest - Supporting Local Christmas Supplement	£447.60	
Parklife UK - Construction Industry Scheme Element of INV-406	£70.00	
Enterprise Flex-E-Rent - Vehicle Hire for Grounds Staff	£694.30	
Amazon - Tork Toilet Paper Dispenser	£42.26	
Redpin - Advertising in 'Life In' Wiltshire Magazine	£120.00	
Charles Saunders - Grounds Team and Health & Safety Items	£343.42	
Corsham Hardware - Health & Safety and General Maintenance Items	£127.84	
Corsham Print - Advert Design for Christmas Supplement, Together Banner	£486.00	
BANES (One West) - Provision of Data Protection Services	£1,350.00	
Paladio Stone Ltd - High Street Paving 2nd Payment	£17,376.00	
Aimee Holmes - 'Together' Town Hall Art Installation 2nd Payment	£1,500.00	
Cliff Gater - Busking in Corsham High Street 5/12/20	£50.00	
My Skills For Life - Fire Warden Training x 1 Delegate	£40.00	
Fractory - Laser Cutting of Flowers for Public Art at Springfield	£867.23	
J H Jones & Sons - Grave Digging	£1,360.00	
Cheque		
Petty Cash - September to December	£238.25	7767
Royal British Legion - War Memorial Maintenance	£73.00	7768
Royal Mail - Newsletter Delivery	£576.55	7769
Charge Card		
Wet and Forget	£21.99	
NALC - Local Councils and Hidden Disabilities Training Course	£38.93	
NALC - Collaboration for Health and Wellbeing Training Course	£38.93	
HTVF - Planning White Paper Webinar	£15.00	
Pitchmark - Line Marking Paint	£21.54	
Wooden Supplies - 4 x Fence Posts	£97.91	
Sub total	£67,115.49	
Cheques / Internet Banking Paid Outside of Meeting		
There were none		
Payments Made by Direct Debit/Standing Order		
West Mercia Energy - Public Conveniences Electricity	£57.37	
West Mercia Energy - Guide Hut Electricity	£25.87	

Peninsula - Health & Safety Advice and HR Bright Consultancy	£390.04
SGW Payroll - Monthly Payroll Processing	£47.04
Hills Waste - Waste Collections	£449.04
Excalibur (Bridge Solutions) - Monthly IT Support & Services	
November and December, DELL PC, Hardware, Installation and Configuration	£2,464.61
UK Fuels - Fuel for Work Vehicles	£136.10
Vodafone - One Net Business Telephone/Mobile Charges	£472.53
Wiltshire Council - Business Rates for Public Conveniences	£96.00
PWLB - Loan Repayments	£21,648.13
Mainstream Digital - Superfast Unlimited Broadband 10/11/20-09/02/21	£147.60
Viking - Stationery	£45.76
SUB TOTAL	£25,980.09
TOTAL	<u>£93,095.58</u>

Resolved

That the cheques and transfers be authorised for payment.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and closed at 9.04pm. There were no members of the public present.

CHAIRMAN

DATE