



Tiverton Town Council

Town Hall, St Andrew Street, Tiverton, Devon EX16 6PG
 Town Clerk: J.F. Vanderwolfe Chartered MCIPD
 Email:townclerk@tivertontowncouncil.gov.uk
 Phone: 01884 253404

Minutes of the Zoom Full Council Meeting of the Council held on Monday 20th July 2020 at 6pm.

Present: Cllr’s C Slade (Mayor), S Griggs (Deputy Mayor), J Blagg, W Burke, A Bush, S Bush, L Cruwys, C Harrower, A Hendy, I Hill, P Hill, B Holdman, D Garcia-Parejo, D Knowles, A Mulligan, J Rendle

In attendance: Cllr P Colthorpe, Town Clerk Mr J Vanderwolfe, Assistant to the Town Clerk Mrs J Hubbard and one Member of the press.

115	<p>Opening of the Meeting by the Mayor Cllr C Slade. Cllr C Slade welcomed the members to the Full Council Zoom Meeting and instructed them of the procedures for voting and questions. He explained that the committee reports would not be read out as they had all been previously circulated.</p>
116	<p>Apologies: Apologies received from Cllr A Berry (work), A Perris (work), C Daw (meeting) Apologies were accepted. Not present: Cllr N Davey & T Lindus</p>
117	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1. Councillors are reminded of the requirement to declare any interest, including the type of interest, and reason for that interest, either at this stage of the meeting or as soon as they become aware of that interest.</p> <p>None declared at this stage.</p>
118	<p>Minutes: To adopt the Minutes of the Meetings held on the 8th June 2020 as a true record. All resolved to adopt these Minutes.</p>
119	<p>Matters arising from the above meetings The town council had received a Covid-19 Town Re-Generation Grant from Mid Devon District Council of £5000. A suggestion was made at the Finance and General Purposes Meeting of the 13th July 2020 to offer some funding to the Tiverton Tourist Information Centre. It was agreed to consult with them on how they would utilise these funds to help encourage more footfall in the town. They had been subsequently contacted and the Curator of the Museum Pippa Griffith had come back with three proposals, based on three different levels of award. The Town Clerk briefly outlined the proposals based on promotion of the town via a website and the installation of a town trail in shop windows. He suggested a further meeting with the Mayor Cllr C Slade to negotiate the funding amount. Cllr D Knowles proposed this, Cllr J Rendle seconded. All resolved to accept this proposal.</p>
120	<p>Democratic Period: for members of the public to ask questions or make statements via email or zoom. There were no members of the public in attendance.</p>
121	<p>County and District Reports Cllr Polly Colthorpe read out her report ;*(please see the attached report.) Cllr L Cruwys asked if there was any update regarding the proposed new Tiverton High School. Cllr C Slade said that the M.P. Neil Parish had called for a meeting with Devon County Council and other key people to discuss the future plans. He said that there was quiet optimism in respects of the new school but nothing definitive as yet. Cllr C Harrower said that M.P. Neil Parish was liaising with the current high school to assist.</p>

	There was no District report and no questions for them.
122	<p>Internal Auditor's Report: To receive the report and also comments from the Town Clerk. Council to decide what response it wishes to make to the External Auditor.</p> <p>The Town Clerk informed the councillors that the internal auditor's report and observations had been received. This had been disappointing as the council had received a negative response in relation to control objective C. The reason for this being due to not agreeing the Business Risk Management document before the 31st March 2020.</p> <p>The Town Clerk explained that this item had been due for approval at the Full Council Meeting scheduled for the 23rd March 2020. Covid-19 and the subsequent lockdown prevented this meeting from taking place so the Business Risk Management document was approved at the Full Council Meeting of the 8th June 2020.</p> <p>The Town Clerk now sought permission to write to the External Auditors to advise them of the situation and circumstances and appeal against the negative response.</p> <p>All agreed to approve the correspondence for the external auditors.</p>
123	<p>Town Leat and Chettiscombe Weir Repair: To receive the report and to discuss a way forward for this project.</p> <p>The Town Clerk updated the councillors to say that the S106 agreement application for the town leat had not been successful and that following a zoom working party meeting, Mr W Amory had agreed to seek a quote for a temporary repair of the weir. He had not received any quotation to date, but had chased Mr Amory for this.</p> <p>Clr P Colthorpe said that she was aware of some work going on at the weir currently. She confirmed that she would set aside £1,000 for the works, and Clr C Slade confirmed he would match this.</p> <p>Clr L Cruwys said that he had received an offer of a donation of £500 to go towards the cost of restoration and repair of the leat. He said that he was also going to approach a new Family trust with the possibility of securing more funds.</p> <p>Clr W Burke informed the councillors that water had been lost the previous week from the leat and questioned how long a temporary repair would last. He said that quotes should be sought for a permanent repair too.</p> <p>Clr S Griggs also expressed concern on how long a temporary repair would last. She also said that perhaps other funding avenues should be looked at.</p> <p>The Town Clerk said that a quick fix was required for the short term to prevent the loss of more water and that Councillor P Hill and I Hill were already looking at ways of securing more funding for going forward with the rest of the works.</p> <p>Clr B Holdman said that there were other issues affecting the weir that also needed addressing. These would be considerably more expensive.</p> <p>Clrs, P & I Hill supplied the following report;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. S106 application for enhancement of Chettiscombe Green was submitted 13th Dec 2019. The improvement of The Green included these major elements- the provision of an open safe, natural space and resource for the local playgroup, installation of 2 benches, the creation of a wildflower meadow and renovation of the Weir. 2. Enquiries to the Planning Department as to the progress of the application during January were encouraging and it would be looked at in due course. In February, a holding email was received containing information that we would be kept up to date with progress. 3. With the weir becoming more unstable and after a further 4 months with no further news of the s106 application, we began to make more serious inquiries. (It was during this period that lockdown occurred, and we understood that the Council was not working in its normal manner.) 4. After several escalating communications eventually involving the cabinet member for Planning & Regeneration Clr Barnell, we heard that the full application was in question. The proposal for the wooden benches/wildflower meadow met the criteria and funds could be allocated. However, work on the weir would include repair and restoration (remedying existing

	<p>deficiencies) and would not meet the required criteria. This meant that the s106 funds could not be used.</p> <p>5. The Chettiscombe Weir was now in danger of total collapse. The water was no longer being diverted into the Leat Channel. An emergency meeting attended by William Amory, Cllr Polly Colthorp, and other relevant members of TTC was arranged. An alternative temporary solution to salvage the Tiverton Leat was explored. We await costings for this work (yet another temporary repair).</p> <p>6. We have queried the result of the s106 application. A meeting has been arranged by Cllr Graeme Barnell for the beginning of August to review the story so far and the possible next steps - include consideration of the application for historic S106 funds to support aspects of this scheme. The meeting will also be updated on the future Tiverton Leat Project and discuss how MDDC might best support it.</p> <p>7. This is the first stage in a larger project to bring the Historic Tiverton Leat back to the town. This involves restoration of various sections of the water course to ensure the valuable heritage is not lost to the residents and visitors to the town. It is proposed that a larger organisation (CIO/Trust) will be required to manage the acquisition an allocation of funds. This will necessitate the collaboration and involvement of TTC, MDDC and DCC as well as other organisations and interested individuals.</p> <p>8. I ask that you accept this report and that the Tiverton Mayor and Council proactively support the work that the Tiverton Leat Working Party is doing to find a permanent solution to this complex but very important historical issue.</p> <p>Cllr C Slade ended by saying that he gave his full support to this project and agreed that a permanent repair might be the better option, but that quotes would now be needed to go forwards to be presented to the Finance & General Purposes Committee.</p>
124	<p>Committee Minutes</p> <p>a) Finance & GP Committee Minutes of the 13th July 2020. (Resolved to accept). b) Planning Committee Minutes of the 6th July 2020. (Resolved to accept).</p>
125	<p>Future Meetings: To agree meeting dates and to discuss possible face to face meetings from September 2020. Cllr A Hendy requested that a date be added for a Climate Change Meeting. The Town Clerk noted the request and would now set a date for a meeting for this purpose to be added to the meetings calendar.</p>
126	<p>Planning Applications: List to be circulated *Please see the attached planning application outcomes</p>
129	<p>Correspondence Cllr C Slade informed the councillors that he had sent a birthday card to Sir Patrick Duffy, a senior Labour politician with connections to the town for his 100th birthday on behalf of himself, the Mayoress Mrs E Slade and the town council, he had received acknowledgement of thanks for the card.</p>
130	<p>Date of next meeting 21st September 2020 (Time to be announced)</p>

Signed

Date

