



Town Clerk: Miss Joy Norris MSc ACIS

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## **Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held remotely on Thursday 8 December 2020 commencing at 19:00 hrs**

### **Present**

**Chair:** Councillor J Buczkowski

**Councillors:** E Andrews, M Dale, G Guest, K Haslett, J Johns, J Lochhead, M Rowe and M Smith.

### **In attendance**

**Officers:** J Norris (Town Clerk) M Weston (Deputy Town Clerk)

2 members of the press attended the meeting

2 members of the public attended the meeting

### **175. Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor said that he was deeply humbled and proud to have been elected as Mayor. The future holds some very exciting times for Cullompton and the Town Council has a role to play, with that in mind there will be some strategic workshops in the new year with the intention of putting in place a strategic plan for the Town Council.

2020 has been challenging but has given the opportunity to show how well we can cope with change and uncertainty and the best of the community as it has come together to support one another.

The Christmas Festival will be different this year there will be a mini festival culminating on 19 December; it will be smaller than normal and work is on-going to make sure that it will be safe; highlights will include the farmers market and the artisans fair, Santa will be in his grotto although it will be necessary to book to see him – details are on the Christmas festival website. There are competitions for the best lit house and best lit street again details are on the Christmas festival website.

Finally, the Mayor thanked and spoke of his appreciation of all councillors for the time they invest in their role and what they do for the town.

### **176. Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Knight.

### **177. Declarations of Interests**

No Declarations of Interest were made regarding any items on the Agenda.

**178. Public Participation**

This agenda item allows members of the public present at the meeting to raise matters which are relevant to Cullompton.

**Speaker 1**

Thanked the Deputy Town Clerk for a prompt response regarding the telephone kiosk near the library and suggested if at some time in the future it is to be removed it could be a book exchange.

**179. Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2020 were considered. (Supporting Paper A to the Agenda)

**RESOLVED** that subject to adding Cllr Lochhead to the list of attendees the draft minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

**180. Action List**

The Action List relating to the Town Council was reviewed and noted. (Supporting Paper B to the Agenda)

**181. Councillor Co-Option Process**

- (i) Update on the publicised process for 4 Councillors
- (ii) To agree the timetable for the re-advertising the process

(Supporting Paper C to the Agenda)

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the closing date for the receipt of completed application forms is 21 January 2021 and if necessary an additional Council meeting is scheduled to consider applications
- (ii) that a positive impact list is created by officers and Councillors which is promoted on social media, the website and by using any other appropriate means.
- (iii) councillors should encourage people to apply

**182. Clarification Of Virement Minute**

The Minute of the Council meeting held on 21 April 2020 - Motions Proposed by Councillors – was considered. (Supporting Paper D to the Agenda)

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the minute of 21 April 2020 should have read  
“**RESOLVED:** That an emergency, COVID\_19 response fund of £2,000 is created by taking £1,000 from the 2020/21 tourism budget line and £1,000 from the 2020/21 Youth Services budget line; this is in addition to £1,500 general budget contained in the Community Wellbeing budget.  
Proposed Councillor James Buczkowski, seconded Councillor Matthew Dale.”

- (ii) that a note is added to the approved minutes of Council on 21 April cross referring the original minute to the amendment.

**183. Grant Application**

Consideration was given to a grant request from the Cullompton Cultural Consortium (Supporting Paper E to the Agenda)

Cllr Smith explained that Cultural Consortium bid is associated with the Heritage Action Zone scheme and aims to get as many people in Cullompton as possible involved with a 3 year project

**RESOLVED** to give a grant of £1,000 to the Cullompton Cultural Consortium towards the Cullompton Cultural programme

**184. YMCA - Youth Service Provision**

Consideration was given to a report from the YMCA about service provision and costs for 2020/2021. (Supporting Paper F to the Agenda)

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the YMCA are requested to issue a revised invoice for quarter 1 (1 April 2020 – June 2020) which was paid in advance, detailing the hours and activities provided
- (ii) that the YMCA are requested to provide a report containing information on the hours and activities provided for the year to date and how that relates to the Service Level Agreement.

**Note:** 20:09hrs Cllr Smith left the meeting

**185. Payments for Authorisation**

The accounts due for payment were examined. (Supporting Paper G to the agenda)

**RESOLVED**

- (i) that the invoices due for payment totalling £6,743 gross and the Direct Debits and standing authorisation items of £1,456.77 be approved.
- (ii) That the invoice for Blachere Illumination for 40 artificial Christmas trees, in the sum of £2993.04 is approved for payment.

**186. Members Questions**

This agenda item gives Councillors an opportunity to ask questions which are relevant to the work of the Committee.

Cllr Haslett asked whether the Youth Services Working Group was likely to meet before or after Christmas - The Town Clerk will try to arrange a date that suits the majority of the core members of the Working Group

Cllr Guest- there have been a number of offers from the garden village group about whether the Town Council wants some site visits in the future; one of the thoughts was to go to Cranbrook and look at the Cranbrook Countryside Park; there have been other offers and the Council should think about it in 2021. The Mayor responded that this could go on the agenda for a future meeting at an appropriate time in the new year.

The Mayor closed the meeting by saying thank you for everything that people do to serve the community and wishing everyone a merry Christmas & happy new year.

The meeting closed at 20:20hrs

Agreed