



CHILTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Chilton Town Council
held at Hutton House Chilton, County Durham, on
Tuesday 8th February 2022 at 6.30pm

Chairman: *Councillor E.Bruce (Mayor)*

Present: S.Sutherland, J.Carins, V.Collinson, P.Davies, K.Hornsby, P.Malpas,
L.Rundle, J.Houlihan.

In attendance: Mr. J.Robinson, Town Clerk

Members of the public: *7 members of the public*

OM232.0/21. APOLOGIES

Cllrs. A.Bruce and M.Young.

OM233.0/21 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Nil

OM234.0/21. MEMBERS' DISPENSATION

None.

OM235.0/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The following issue were raised by members of the public: -

- a. Selective Licensing and private landlords.

OM236.0/21 REPORT FROM MAYOR

The Mayor began her report by congratulating on behalf of the Council, Cllr. K.Hornsby and his Finance on becoming engaged to be married.

The Mayor referred to her delight in attending the recent Junior Town Council meeting and in conjunction with fellow Councillors and members of the Junior Town Council planting Trees in Honour of The Queens Canopy, part of her Platinum Celebration.

OM237.0/21 MINUTES OF CHILTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 11th JANUARY 2022

Resolved: - Cllr. V.Collinson proposed and Cllr.S.Sutherland seconded and approved by members to accept the minutes as a true record and agree recommendations within.

OM238.0/21 MINUTES OF SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 25th JANUARY 2022

Resolved: Cllr.J.Cairns proposed and Cllr.P.Malpas seconded and approved by members to approve the minutes and recommendations within.

OM239.0/21 MINUTES OF ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 27th JANUARY 2022

Resolved: - Cllr. S.Sutherland proposed and seconded by Cllr. J.Houlihan, and agreed to accept minutes as a true record and endorse recommendation within.

OM240.0/21 CO-OPTIONS

Members noted after interviews no candidate had been appointed. It was agreed to advertise once more for expressions of interest in becoming a Town Councillor.

OM241.0/21 CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. Durham County Council CRM Notifications of all reports made by the Town Council in regards to repairs to bus shelters
- b. CAB acknowledging the Councils decision not to take forward the SLA into 2022/23 Civic year
- c. A further request by a resident to undertake metal detecting on Council land. It was agreed to seek further information before making a final decision.

OM242.0/21 COUNY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr.J.Cairns advised on the following: -

- a. She had attended the January Full Council meeting
- b. It was now Budget setting time and she had attended a meeting of the CFA to set their 2022/23 Budget
- c. Her next Council meetings will be March when Scrutiny is scheduled to take place
- d. She referred to several areas of the town involving anti-social behaviour and DCC officer involvement

Cllr. E.Bruce requested Cllr. J.Carins to look into drains on Cragside and lighting in Golden Grove. Cllr. S.Sutherland asked Cllr. J.Cairns to look into the £140,000 rate inflator and report back to the February meeting. She agreed to chase up all areas.

OM243.0/21 REPORT ON HUTTON HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

The Town Clerk gave members a update on the room renovations in Hutton House, and it is hoped to be fully finished and decorated by end of March 2022. Members agreed to place on Policy and Resources Agenda for February future usage of the rooms.

OM244.0/21 PLANNING

There were no planning applications for members to consider.

OM245.0/21 MONTHLY ACCOUNTS

Town Clerk presented the monthly financial reconciliation report, which on a resolution proposed Cllr. S.Sutherland and seconded Cllr. J.Houlihan members agreed.

OM246.0/21 CHARITY FINANCE

The Clerk reported on recent discussions with Hampson's in regards to reporting to the Charity Commission. The Co-operative Bank Account containing £8.000 from the original sale had been considered and the transfer of this funding into the account. On the advice of Hampson's, it was suggested as part of the Charity report/Actions the Town Council in good faith could transfer this money back to the Miner's Welfare Charity in the 2022/23 Civic year once full bank accounts were established for the Charity.

Resolved: - on a proposal by Cllr. S.Sutherland seconded by Cllr. V. Collinson it was agreed to transfer £8000 from reserves back to the Miners Welfare Charity.

OM247.0/21 REPORT OF JUNIOR TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 4TH FEBRUARY 2022

The Mayor reported on the recent meeting of the Junior Town Council. Both she and the members who had attended were impressed by all members of the Council and the meeting itself. The Junior Town Council as their first decision agreed unanimously to donate £100 to the Chiton Foodbank. The Mayor referred to members of the Junior Council who are in year 6 will be moving into secondary school post September and queried if they could remain as members of Council. Several members felt the Junior Council should remain as it is and be based around young people who attend Chilton Academy School.

OM248.0/21 LANDLORD LICENSING

Cllr. S.Sutherland referred members to the comments made in public participation and also a copy of an email sent to a member of the public who raised issues with DCC regarding the selective licensing. Cllr. J.Cairns reported Chilton was not part of the first scheme approved by Central Government as figures showed it did not fulfil all the criteria. Several members expressed concern at the current situation with landlords/absentee landlords and issues recently raised.

Resolved: - Cllr. S.Sutherland proposed seconded by Cllr. J.Cairns and carried to request Durham County Council to submit a further bid to Central Government on a tighter geographical boundary and to specifically cover West Chiton and 5 Roads areas of the town.

OM249.0/21 YOUTHS IN THE VILLAGE

Several members had requested this item be placed on the agenda and spoke of the recent events in the Town involving young people. Members were concerned regarding damage being done, safety of the public and the young people themselves. It was unanimously agreed to request a meeting with DCC officers and Durham and Darlington Police to discuss the situation and the way forward. It was agreed to hold this meeting 11am on February 14th.

OM250.0/21 DBS FOR MEMBERS AND STAFF

The Mayor requested that under safeguarding issues the Council undertake DBS checks on all members and staff to ensure it complies with all legal requirements. This was agreed.

OM251.0/21 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Cllr. S.Sutherland proposed and Cllr. V.Collinson seconded that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting due to the nature of business to be undertaken. This was carried.

OM252.0/21 TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Members considered a report on the new telephone system being installed shortly and the financial saving Council will make.

OM253.0/21 STAFFING COMMITTEES

The mayor requested members to re-establish, and it was agreed staffing and appeals committees. The following Committees were established: -

Stage 1 EB/LR/VC/JC/PD

Appeals SS/JGH/PM/AB/MY/KH

OM254.0/21 STAFFING ISSUES

The Town Clerk left the meeting at this point. Members considered a report from Cllr. V.Collinson and Cllr. E.Bruce

OM255.0/21 NEXT MEETING

To be held on Tuesday 8th March 2022, Hutton House.

Signed: -

Mayor of Chilton
8th March 2022