

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bury St Edmunds Town Council,
held at the Guildhall, Bury St Edmunds,
on Wednesday 24 April 2024 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs Hind (Town Mayor), Augustine, Chung, Halpin (left at 7.45pm), Iannelli-Popham, Lindberg, Mackenzie, Mager, McGoochan, O'Driscoll, Sayer, Stamp, Stennett and Waterman

Also present: Jodie Budd (Town Clerk), Jacqueline Howells (Responsible Financial Officer/Assistant Town Clerk), PCSO Mark Ellis, representatives from the My WiSH charity, Bury St Edmunds Town Pastors, the River Lark Catchment Partnership, the Press and members of public.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Armitage and Higgins.

2. To receive declarations of interest and additions to registers

All District Councillors declared: '*That I may vote differently at District or County Council level from that recorded at this meeting*'. Cllrs. Augustine, Chung, Halpin, Hind, Lindberg, Mager, O'Driscoll, Sayer, Stamp, Stennett and Waterman declared a local non-pecuniary interest as District Councillors.

3. To consider written applications by a member for dispensation, from the restrictions in section 31(4) of the Localism Act 2011 and specify the period for which any dispensation has effect

None.

4. To confirm, adopt and sign the minutes from the Full Council meeting held on 27th March and the P&C Extraordinary Full Council meeting on 17th April 2024

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/202/24/Apr/24:**

RESOLVED that the minutes from the meeting held on 27th March 2024 and P&C Extraordinary meeting (with amendment regarding financial information required) held on 17th April 2024 be agreed and signed, as an accurate record.

5. Mayor's announcements

Cllr Hind advised Members that she had attended several events including the following:
St Georges Day parade

The Mayor also reported that refurbishment work on the Mayoral chain had been completed

6. Public Forum

Representatives from My WiSH charity, Bury St Edmunds Town Pastors and the River Lark Catchment Partnership gave details about their grant funding applications which were to be discussed at agenda item 10.

7. Town Clerk's report

The Town Clerk advised that the allotment fencing is 95% complete. The contractors are just waiting for a couple more panels. A lot of positive feedback has been received from allotment tenants.

The application for planning permission for the additional fencing is ongoing. West Suffolk Council require a scaled drawing of the piece of fence.

I attended a meeting regarding the Suffolk Archives. Owners of archives will be given the option to remove and store the items correctly themselves, or they will be moved to the central hub in Ipswich.

8. Responsible Financial Officer's report

The RFO advised that the year end closedown will be completed on 21st May 2024.

The Internal Auditor will conduct the year end audit on 3rd June 2024.

The AGAR documents will be signed off by Full Council at the meeting on 26th June 2024.

The precept of £609,059.00 from West Suffolk Council was received on 25th April.

9. To note the PCSO's verbal report

PCSO Mark Ellis attended the meeting. He said that even though crime figures were slightly up, which does tend to happen as the weather improves, there was nothing outstanding to report.

There had been a spate of vehicle damage on the Mildenhall estate and problems with cars illegally accessing Brentgovel Street.

10. To consider grant funding as follows:**10.1 – My WiSH Charity Soapbox Challenge**

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/203/24/Apr/24:**

RESOLVED that under the Power of the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8 My WiSH Charity be awarded grant funding of £1000.00 for the Soapbox Challenge in August 2024.

10.2 – The River Lark Catchment Partnership

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/204/24/Apr/24:**

RESOLVED that under the Power of the Public Health Act 1875, s.164 the River Lark Catchment Partnership be awarded grant funding of £3600.00 for the purchase of equipment for new volunteers.

10.3 – Bury St Edmunds Town Pastors

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/205/24/Apr/24:**

RESOLVED that under the Power of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.31 Bury St Edmunds Town Pastors be awarded grant funding of £1000.00 for the training of Town Pastor volunteers and printing of promotional leaflets.

11. To consider quotations for the annual allotments grounds maintenance contract

Councillors discussed three quotations received for the annual allotments grounds maintenance contract

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/206/24/Apr/24:**

RESOLVED that ATC Trees and Landscapes (quotation 1) be awarded the annual allotments grounds maintenance as follows: grass cutting/stripping 9 times per year @ £300.00 + vat per visit; hedge cutting once a year @ £630.00 + vat; spraying herbicide as required @ £40.20 + vat

12. To consider financially supporting D-Day 80th anniversary events

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/207/24/Apr/24:**

RESOLVED that under the Power of the Localism Act 2011, ss.1-8 expenditure of up to £5000.00 be **APPROVED** to support D Day 80th anniversary events in Bury St Edmunds

13. To receive the report and adopt the recommendations of the Planning, Licensing and Finance committee meeting of 27th March 24

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/208/24/Apr/24:**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the P,L&F meeting on 27th March 24 be **ADOPTED**

14. To approve and sign the payments list for March 2024

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/209/24/Apr/24:**

RESOLVED that the payments list for March 2024 be **APPROVED** and **SIGNED**

15. To approve and sign Barclays bank balances as at 31 March 2024

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/210/24/Apr/24:**

RESOLVED that Barclays bank balances as at 31 March 2024 be **APPROVED** and **SIGNED**

16. Motion/Resolution to exclude temporarily the Public and Press:

That pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed concerning: Funding for Paddington bench trail.

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/211/24/Apr/24:**

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting for Agenda Item 18 to be discussed.

The public and press left the meeting.

17. To discuss funding for Paddington bench trail

The Confidential report is shown at Resolution Record No: **BSETC/212/24/Apr/24**

18. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 29th May 2024

The meeting ended at 8.05pm

Signed: _____ Dated _____