

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bury St Edmunds Town Council,
held at the Guildhall, Bury St Edmunds,
on Wednesday 26 July 2023 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs Hind (Town Mayor), Armitage, Chung, Higgins, Lindberg, Mackenzie (left the meeting at 7.40pm), McGoochan, Mager, O'Driscoll, Sayer, Stamp, Stennett and Waterman (arrived at 7.15pm).

Also present: Greg Luton (Town Clerk), Jacqueline Howells (Responsible Financial Officer/Assistant Town Clerk), Julie Sturgeon (Allotment and Administrative Officer), PCSO Mark Ellis, members of the Cotton Lane Allotment Society, representatives from Abbey Rotary and the Round Table, a former Town Councillor, a reporter from the Bury Free Press and sixteen members of public.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Augustine, Halpin and Iannelli-Popham.

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. Armitage, Chung, Higgins, 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 of the 28 June 2023 meeting of the Council

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/121/26/Jul/23:**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of 28 June 2023 be agreed and signed, as an accurate record.

5. Public Forum

The Abbey Rotary group informed Councillors about plans for a St Edmunds Day dinner to be held in November. The group will be submitting a Grant funding application in September. A former Town Councillor expressed concerns about the proposed toilets in the allotments and the problems caused by muntjac deer. The Round Table advised about plans for a fireworks event. A Grant funding application will be submitted for September Full Council. Representatives from the Cotton Lane Allotments Society spoke on muntjac issues and also requested that Avenue A is resurfaced.

6. Town Clerk's report

The Town Clerk asked if anyone still had IT problems; no one indicated issues. An update on Brentgovel Street and the Community Awards on 14 September was reported on. Nominations are open until 8 August. The Town Clerk will investigate if it would be possible to gain access via Guildhall Street.

7. Responsible Financial Officer's report

The RFO presented the monthly financial report outlining key information extracted from the monthly budget report. No issues for concern were identified. Councillors were reminded that all Locality funding is allocated annually and must be used by 31 March. Councillors who require assistance can contact the RFO.

8. To note the PCSO's verbal report

PCSO Mark Ellis advised that there was nothing major to report on the June crime figures. Officers have been checking Grove Park and Moreton Hall areas following concerns of travellers settling in these areas.

9. To appoint a Bury St Edmunds Town Councillor as Allotments Champion

Councillors discussed the role of Allotments Champion and nominations were invited.

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/122/26/Jul/23:**

That Cllr Marilyn Sayer be appointed as Allotments Champion for the period ending April 2024.

10. To consider new Pavements and Public Spaces (PPS) work to be carried out

The Town Clerk told Councillors of PPS projects which could be completed early by SCC Highways on behalf of Bury St Edmunds Town Council under the existing Keir contract. Nine areas of work have been identified which will cost £43,855 in total.

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/123/26/Jul/23:**

That the nine PPS projects be completed by SCC Highways as soon as possible at a total cost of £43,855.

11. To receive the report and adopt the recommendations of the following Planning, Licensing and Finance committee meetings:

11.1 28 June 2023

11.2 12 July 2023

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/124/26/Jul/23:**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning, Licensing and Finance meetings of 28 June and 12 July 2023 be ADOPTED and signed.

12. To approve the payments list for June 2023

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/125/26/Jul/23:**

RESOLVED that the payments list for June 2023 be APPROVED.

13. 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: insurance quotations and staffing matters.

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/126/26/Jul/23:**

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting for Agenda Item 13 to be discussed.

The public and press left the meeting.

14. To discuss and approve insurance quotation renewals commencing 1st September 2023.

The Confidential report is shown at Resolution Record No: BSETC/127/26/Jul/23

15. To discuss staffing matters.

The Confidential report is shown at Resolution Record No: BSETC/128/26/Jul/23

16. Date of next meeting

Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 27 September 2023.**

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.

Signed: _____ Dated _____