

**Town Council Meeting  
11 December 2019**

Present: Councillors Bugge, Dodson, G Eccles, J Eccles, Hardacre, Hirst, Kenyon, Mitchell, A Westmorland, G Westmorland, Wilson, Womersley and the town clerk.

**10 members of the public were in attendance**

**299 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Colvin, Holmes and Pringle.

Resolved that the respective reasons for absence be approved.

**300 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr G Eccles declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 7 – Payment of Accounts and a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 14 – Town council solicitors.

Cllr J Eccles declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 7 – Payment of Accounts and a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 14 – Town council solicitors.

**301 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A point was raised by a member of the public regarding items of business at council/committee meetings for which the press and public are generally excluded, to which the town clerk provided clarification.

**302 CORRESPONDENCE**

The town clerk reported on correspondence in respect of the following:

- a) Letter of thanks from 'Springfield Allotment Community Klub'.
- b) Letter from the monitoring officer at Wakefield Council regarding a code of conduct issue.

Resolved that the councillor concerned in the complaint was not given a fair hearing in that not all of the pertinent facts of the case were heard.

**303 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Resolved that the minutes of the council meeting held on 17 October 2019 be approved.

**304 COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Resolved that the minutes of the following meetings and their respective sub-committees be adopted:

Leisure and Recreation	13 November 2019
Finance	21 November 2019
Policy and Planning	5 December 2019

**305 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

*Having respectively declared a pecuniary interest, Cllrs G Eccles and J Eccles took no part in the discussion or vote on this matter.*

Resolved that the payment of accounts as approved at the Finance Committee meeting held on 21 November 2019 be approved.

**306 COMMUNITY GRANTS AND/OR ASSISTANCE**

**a) Friends of Ashfield House**

Resolved that a grant of £230 be awarded to Friends of Ashfield House, in accordance with section 1, Localism Act 2011.

**b) Shancys Help The Needy**

Resolved that a grant of £200 be awarded to Shancys Help the Needy and free use of the main hall in Hemsworth Community Centre for one day for a fundraising event, in accordance with section 1, Localism Act 2011.

**c) WF9 Lego Club**

Resolved that the WF9 Lego Club be given free use of a room in Hemsworth Community Centre for two dates in the New Year, in accordance with section 1, Localism Act 2011.

**307 WORKPLACE PENSION AUTO-ENROLMENT DECLARATION**

The town clerk confirmed that the workplace pension auto-enrolment declaration has been submitted to The Pension Regulator.

Resolved that the town clerk's report be noted and approved.

**308 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2019-20**

Resolved that the report of the internal auditor in respect of the first two quarters of 2019-20 be received, noted and approved.

**309 BUDGET 2020-21**

The town clerk confirmed and clarified the process and the pertinent dates for setting the budget for the coming year 2020-21.

Resolved that the town clerk's report be noted and approved.

**310 GRANTS BUDGET**

Resolved that a virement from reserves be approved to increase the grants budget to £10,000.

**311 HIGHFIELD ROAD PLAYING FIELDS**

Resolved that Hemsworth Town FC be supported in their endeavours to secure their use of Highfield Road playing fields.

**312 TOWN COUNCIL SOLICITORS**

Resolved that the services of Lofthouse Solicitors be retained by the council, primarily for conveyancing matters.

**313 TOWN COUNCIL ARCHITECTS**

Resolved that the services of Cuniff Design be retained by the council.

**314 CLUB TERRACE**

Resolved that the land at Club Terrace be disposed of in accordance with statutory regulations.

**315 CLEANING SERVICES 2020-21**

Resolved that the cleaning services procured from Wakefield Council will continue for 2020-21.

**316 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC**

Resolved that in view of the confidential nature of business to be transacted, it is advisable, in the public interest, that the public and press be excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

**317 SPORTS COMPLEX, KIRKBY ROAD**

The town clerk and the chairman provided an update on the legal advice received from the council's solicitor.

Resolved that the solicitor's advice be accepted.

**318 STAFFING MATTERS**

Resolved that the details of the occupation of the flat at the Lakeside Café Bar be approved.

The meeting closed at 20:05