

**Town Council Meeting
1 April 2021**

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

Twelve members of the public were in attendance.

NB – This meeting was held online in accordance with the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020.

376 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Pringle.

Resolved that the reason for absence be approved.

377 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs G Eccles and J Eccles each declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 8 – Land at Newstead View, Fitzwilliam.

Cllr Bugge declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 21 – Allotments – and submitted a dispensation request to speak on the matter to impart his knowledge and experience as an allotment holder but not to vote, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

Cllr Mitchell declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 21 – Allotments – and submitted a dispensation request to speak on the matter to impart his knowledge and experience as an allotment holder but not to vote, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

Cllr Wilson declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 21 – Allotments – and submitted a dispensation request to speak on the matter to impart his knowledge and experience as an allotment holder but not to vote, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

Resolved that the respective dispensation requests of Cllrs Bugge, Mitchell and Wilson to speak but not vote on the matter concerned be approved, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

378 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from members of the public.

379 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Resolved that the respective minutes of the council meeting held on 4 February 2021 and the extraordinary council meeting held on 23 February 2021 be approved.

380 COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

Committee	Date
Staffing	4, 23 February and 11 March 2021
Leisure and Recreation	4 March 2021
Finance	11 March 2021
Policy and Planning	18 March 2021

381 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved that the payment of accounts as approved at the Finance Committee meeting held on 11 March 2021 be approved.

382 LAND AT CLUB TERRACE, FITZWILLIAM

Resolved that:

- The report(s) of the RICS valuer be received.
- The land be put on the open market to obtain the best consideration.

383 LAND AT NEWSTEAD VIEW, FITZWILLIAM

Cllrs G Eccles and J Eccles took no part in this item.

Resolved that:

- The objections be received and considered.
- The public consultation be extended until 30 June 2021.
- A site visit be arranged to hear the views of residents.
- A public meeting be held in due course at the Fitzwilliam Centre, COVID restrictions permitting.

Cllr Womersley left the meeting at this juncture.

384 COUNCIL LAND/PROPERTY

The town clerk reported that he is currently reviewing the council's asset register.

Resolved that the report of the town clerk be noted and approved.

385 SANDYGATE FOOTBALL FACILITY

Resolved that the (grass pitch) fees be waived for the entire 2021-22 season for both Hemsworth Town FC and Hemsworth West End Terriers FC.

386 CORRESPONDENCE

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

- a) Letter from the Public Sector Deposit Fund forewarning of possible future negative interest rates.

Resolved that the report of the town clerk be noted.

- b) Email from Cllr Jack Hemingway, Deputy Leader, WMDC, regarding the climate emergency.

Resolved that a meeting be arranged with Cllr Hemingway regarding the climate emergency, air quality and general environmental matters.

387 CORPORATE RISK ASSESSMENT

Resolved that having been reviewed, the corporate risk assessment be

approved.

388 YEAR END FINANCIAL POSITION

The town clerk reported that the council's finances at year end are sound and that in due course he will provide the accounts and annual return for the council to consider.

Resolved that the report of the town clerk be noted and approved.

389 ANNUAL MEETINGS 2021

Resolved that:

- The annual council meeting be a 'hybrid' meeting held on 20 May 2021.
- The annual town meeting be a 'hybrid' meeting held on 26 May 2021.
- COVID restrictions will be in place for both meetings.

390 COVID – GENERAL REVIEW OF COUNCIL OPERATIONS

The town clerk reported on the government's latest COVID restrictions.

Resolved that:

- The town clerk's report be noted and approved.
- Having conducted a review, the COVID secure measures in place are sufficient.
- A further general review to be held in due course and/or when circumstances change.

391 EASTER HOLIDAY FOOTBALL CAMP

Resolved that the request from West End Terriers FC to hold an Easter holiday football camp at Cemetery Road be approved, provided they ensure that COVID secure measures are in place.

392 HEMSWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE – FIXED WIRE TESTING

Resolved that the quote from 'Mr Electric' for the fixed wire testing at the community centre be approved.

393 MEAL DELIVERY SERVICE

Resolved that the volunteer meal delivery service continue with a review to be held in June.

394 WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENCE CLASSES

Resolved that women's self-defence classes be approved in principle with a quote to be obtained.

395 HEALTH AND SAFETY PROVISION

Resolved that this item be deferred to the next Finance Committee meeting.

396 ALLOTMENTS

Having each declared a pecuniary interest and having each submitted a dispensation request, Cllrs Bugge, Mitchell and Wilson took part in the discussion but did not vote on this matter.

a) Paddocks – rules, enforcement and possible merging

Resolved that:

- The paddock concerned be allowed to continue.
- If there is no horse on a paddock for a period of six months, then the paddock must be surrendered.

b) CCTV cameras

Resolved that due to the increase in anti-social behaviour and crime, CCTV cameras (with signage) and higher fencing be installed at Grove Lane allotments.

c) Road planings

Resolved that two tonnes of road planings be procured and dropped off at Churchfield allotments for allotment holders' use.

d) Drainage

Resolved that the grounds maintenance manager conduct a walkover survey at Grove Lane to assess the drainage.

e) Garages

Resolved that the grounds maintenance manager assess the garages not currently in use, with a view to potential demolition.

f) Streetlights

Resolved in principle that solar panel lights be installed at Grove Lane allotments.

397 HEMSWORTH WATER PARK

a) Requests to hold a funfair

Resolved that this item be deferred and reviewed later in April.

b) Hanging baskets

Resolved that this item be deferred, notwithstanding the hanging baskets that have already been approved.

c) Mad Paddlers' storage unit

Resolved that the Mad Paddlers be asked to find an alternative location.

d) Quad bike

Resolved that a quad bike be procured.

e) Car park

Resolved that:

- Car parking remains free.
- The 'Farmers' car park be used as an overflow car park at no cost to the council or users.

f) Playworld

Resolved that Playworld remains closed with a review to be held in June.

g) Pedalos

Resolved that the pedalos remain out of use with a review to be held in June.

h) Ice cream van location

Resolved that the current, established location – adjacent to the disabled parking area – be reaffirmed.

i) Storage unit

Resolved that the storage unit is almost complete.

398 FIRE ALARM MAINTENANCE

Resolved that other than routine maintenance, quotes must be provided from the approved contractor prior to any work commencing.

399 COUNCIL CONTRACTORS

Resolved that this item be deferred.

400 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.

401 STAFFING COMMITTEE DECISIONS

Resolved that all decisions taken thus far by the Staffing Committee be reaffirmed and approved.

402 HEMSWORTH MUSIC FESTIVAL

Resolved that:

- The festival date be changed to 3 June 2022.
- The Vengaboys remain as the headline act.
- Mercury to be used on another date to be confirmed.

403 HEMSWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE – FOOT CLINIC

Resolved that this item be deferred to the next Finance Committee meeting.

404 KIRKBY ROAD SPORTS COMPLEX

a) Legal advice

Resolved that the advice of Richard Buxton and Matthew Hutchings continue to be accepted and approved, and that they continue to be instructed accordingly.

b) Knotweed management

Resolved that the location with reference JK12 be dealt with in-house.

c) Boundary maintenance

Resolved that the boundary fence be repaired/replaced with palisade fencing.

d) Flood nuisance

The chairman reported on recent flood nuisance around the site.

Resolved that the report of the chairman be noted and approved.

e) CCTV cameras

Resolved that this item be deferred.

f) Road planings

Resolved that this item be deferred.

The meeting closed at 20:45.