

Town Council Meeting
17 June 2021

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

4 members of the public were in attendance.

051 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All members were in attendance.

052 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr G Eccles declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 13 – Internal controls and internal audit.

Cllr J Eccles declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 13 – Internal controls and internal audit.

053 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A member of the public raised the matter of the toilet facilities at the Sandygate Lane football facility.

054 LITTLE LIBRARY

Resolved that:

- A 'little library' be approved and attached to the railings at Fitzwilliam Community Centre.
- Cllr Hird will manage its security.
- A grant of £100 be approved for a starter pack of books.

055 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TRAINING

Resolved that equal opportunities training be procured for councillors and staff.

056 LIVESTREAMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Resolved that this item be deferred.

057 SCARECROW FESTIVAL

Resolved that:

- A scarecrow festival be approved in principle.
- Cllr Bugge Hird will lead and apply for funding from WMDC.

058 HEMSWORTH WATER PARK

Resolved that the respective quotes for shutters on the storage unit and the beach shop be accepted and approved.

059 HYGIENE SERVICES

Resolved that the quote from Cathedral Hygiene for feminine hygiene services be accepted and approved for a five year term.

060 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.

061 HUMAN RESOURCES ADVISOR

Resolved that this item be deferred pending clarification from YLCA on its level of HR service provision.

062 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS

The town clerk reported on the (anonymized) freedom of information requests received.

Resolved that the town clerk be authorized to respond accordingly to the freedom of information requests.

063 INTERNAL CONTROLS AND INTERNAL AUDIT

Resolved that in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 (as amended) and having reviewed the efficacy of the present internal audit and system of internal controls, the report of the internal auditor be received and approved, and that Mr Simon Knee of Horbury Financial Services be appointed as the council's internal auditor for the ensuing year and that the scope of internal audit for 2021-22 be the adequacy and effectiveness of; accounting records, system of internal control, risk assessment and wider internal control arrangements.

064 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020-21

Resolved that the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31 March 2021 be approved.

065 ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2020-21

Resolved that the Annual Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 be approved.

066 LAND AT CLUB TERRACE, FITZWILLIAM

Resolved that the quote from Sanderson Weatherall be accepted and that it handles the tender/sale process of the land at Club Terrace.

067 WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY

Resolved that the whistleblowing policy be approved and adopted.

068 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.

069 CCTV REQUEST

The town clerk reported a request for CCTV footage concerning an incident in the car park at Hemsworth Community Centre.

The town clerk confirmed that the Information Commissioner's Office guidance states that such footage can be disclosed provided that a risk assessment is conducted and that no personal data of a third party is involved/disclosed. The town clerk positively confirmed both these points.

Resolved that the request be approved.

070 KIRKBY ROAD SPORTS COMPLEX

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

071 MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Resolved to confirm that staff take instructions from managers, not councillors.

The meeting closed at 19:55.