



EMERSONS GREEN  
TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting of Full Council**

**10<sup>th</sup> October 2019, Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council**

**Present:** Councillors: S Budd (Chairman), J Adams, S Al-Hassan, S Hill, J Hunt, P Morgan, R Nichols, D Somers, P Todd & C Wilkins

**Attendees:** Cate Davidson (Locum Clerk)  
1 member of the public.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and advised of the evacuation procedure.

**073. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors S Bassett, P Gibbs, R Hunt, C Johnson & J Sweeney. Cllr Palmer was absent.

**074. Declarations of interest under the Localism Act 2011**

No interests were declared at this time.

**075. Public Participation**

One member of the public was present and addressed members in relation to the skatepark which was built in memory of his son. There is disappointment and anger that the land alongside the skatepark remains in such a bad state. South Glos Council (SGC) Officers had promised the speaker that the area would be cleared this year so that it could be used as a picnic area.

The Chairman advised that the Town Council has paid for improvements to the skatepark and is liaising with SGC in relation to taking over the skatepark and land beside it by way of a lease. Due to the future installation of a footpath on the land this Town Council cannot proceed with the lease until it has further information, but it is hoped this can move forward over the next year.

The member of the public left the meeting.

**076. To approve the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

It was **Resolved** that the minutes are approved and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of the meeting of the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> September.

**077. Outstanding Items from these Minutes**

The Clerk advised that she reported concerns over traffic on the Ring Road to SGC and received a response that there are a number of roadworks taking place which are impacting traffic flow and the problems are not felt to be due to the restrictions implemented at the Hambrook lights junction on the Ring Road.

**078. Correspondence and Actions Required**

There was no correspondence to be considered at this time.

**079. Town Clerk - Appointment**

The Chairman advised that the Committee had interviewed 5 candidates, 2 of which have since withdrawn from the process. It was **Resolved** to make the appointment of a Town Clerk as per the Personnel committee's recommendation.

**080. Annual Audit**

Section 3 – External Auditors Report of the Annual Governance Review was circulated to all members in advance of the meeting.

The Clerk informed members that due to a discrepancy with the RBS software an incorrect figure has been submitted in Box 9. This has since been corrected and was re-submitted to PKF Littlejohn.

No other comments were made by the External Auditor.

**081. Grant Applications**

The Finance Committee has considered an application from Citizens Advice South Gloucestershire for £2,700. The Committee recommends that a grant of £2,000 is awarded and that the organisation is asked what this funding provides for our residents over and above the services provided for clients outside of this Town. It was **Resolved** that a grant of £2,000 is approved.

**Action: Clerk to arrange payment of grant**

**082. Community Project**

Members were informed that Cllrs Budd and Nichols will be visiting a “Make a Space” project in Coleford with SGC officers to see what the joint space in the library could provide.

Discussions continue with SGC in relation to a joint project to extend services and it is hoped the formal proposals can be considered by the end of this year.

**083. Finance Committee Update**

The Chairman, Cllr Nichols, advised that in addition to the considering the grant applications members have met with the Youth Leader and it has been agreed to cancel the detached work over the winter with a view to reintroducing it in the Spring. The Clerk gave an update in relation to what Youth Works is providing and advised that a list of activities and locations is available on our website and there is a Youth Works Facebook page which is updated regularly so the young people can access the services. Members were advised that the Committee approved a Legionella inspection of the Council building and water supply at the allotments.

**084. Open Spaces Committee**

The Chairman, Cllr Somers, reported as follows:

- No meeting has been held since the last Full Council meeting.
- The Allotments Evening is on 17<sup>th</sup> October and all members are welcome to attend.
- SGC is putting forward names of contractors in relation to the wildflower project and all is in hand to be able to proceed with this work in the Spring.
- Vinney Green Pond is due to be cleared.
- SGC are building a bund along the roadside of Lyde Green Common to prevent scrambling bikes from accessing the Common.
- Allotment hedges are being cut back.
- Winter planting has been completed and looks great. It is hoped that the floral displays can be extended to Lyde Green next year.
- Discussion was had about “educating” the public in relation to the instigation of reduced grass cutting etc. for environmental reasons. The Clerk suggested that The Voice, our website and the Facebook page is used to spread the message and minimise complaints which are inevitable when services are reduced.

**085. Planning Committee**

The Committee Chairman, Cllr Somers, advised that he was unable to attend the last 2 meetings and thanked those members who covered the meetings. No controversial matters were dealt with in his absence with most applications being small, residential ones.

**086. Items from Members to report**

- Cllr Somers advised that the road markings on the Willy Wicket roundabout continue to cause confusion. The Clerk advised that she had reported this to SGC whose response was circulated to all members.

- Cllr Hill informed members that she continues to be concerned about the accidents on the one-way section of Manor Road. The most recent accident has been reported to SGC which continues to advise that there is no problem with the road. Discussion was had about tree litter making the surface slippery, the speed traffic drives up the hill and the fact school children cycle down the (one way) hill which is an accident waiting to happen.
- Cllr Nichols thanks the Personnel Committee in relation to the work to appoint the new Clerk.
- Cllr Budd reminded members that the Lyde Green Birthday Party takes place this Sunday and the Town Council is having a stall. The Remembrance Parade takes place on 10<sup>th</sup> November in Mangotsfield at 12.30. A request has been received for additional lighting in Emersons Green Park. After discussion Cllr Adams was asked to raise this with SGC.

**Action: Cllr Adams to take Lighting to SGC**

**087. Next Meeting:** 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 19.30 in the Council Chamber of Emersons Green Town Council

The Chairman closed the meeting at 19.40.