



EMERSONS GREEN
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Full Council

9 July 2020

held via Skype due to COVID-19 restrictions

Present: Councillors S Budd (Chairman), D Somers, P Todd, P Morgan, C Johnson, J Hunt, M Palmer, R Hunt, R Nichols, S Bassett, J Adams, S Al Hassan, J Sweeney, S Hill

Attendees: Kath MacConnachie (Clerk)

189. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence received.

190. Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011

There were no declarations of interest.

191. Public participation

No members of the public joined the Skype meeting.

192. To approve the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 11 June 2020

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2020 were a true and accurate record of the meeting and that these would be signed by the Chairman at the next opportunity.

193. Outstanding Items from these Minutes

The Clerk updated that there had been no response from Hack The Pandemic to the Councils queries submitted following the last meeting. Lyde Green Community Association had reported that there were some local residents who were sewing masks for distribution to those who needed them in the area.

194. Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20

The Clerk noted that the of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20 had been displayed on the Town Council website and

the noticeboard at the Town Council offices since 22 June and would remain on display until 31 July.

195. Risk Management update

The meeting considered the Town Council Risk Register which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. There were no issues raised.

The Clerk noted that it was for all members and officers to identify risks and asked councillors to contact her with any new risks identified, at any time, so these could be added to the register as appropriate.

Action: All councillors

196. Graffiti

Councillor Hill reported that graffiti tagging was appearing around the area, displaying 'TEST', and asked what the Town Council could do about this. It was noted to be on bus shelters, service cabinets and the edge of kerbs.

It was **Resolved** to notify the police, to ask if they were able to identify the tag, or whether they were able to do anything about it.

Action: Clerk

It was noted that Extreme Clean could carry out graffiti removal and the Clerk noted that Yate Town Council had invested in graffiti removal equipment. The Clerk undertook to contact Yate Town Council to ask if they would consider contracting out graffiti removal services.

Action: Clerk

197. Correspondence

There was no correspondence for consideration.

198. Grant applications

- **Marie Curie (£1000):**

The meeting received the recommendation of the Finance Committee to fund a grant application from Marie Curie to the value of £1000 using section 137 powers.

It was **Resolved** that the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:- £1,000 towards cost of care provided by Marie Curie within the local area. A condition of this grant is that Marie Curie state in writing the use to which the money has been put.

- **Carsons and Mangotsfield Cricket Club (£2,950):**

It was **Resolved** to fund the grant £2,950 to Carsons and Mangotsfield Cricket Club for the purposes set out in their grant application.

199. Finance Committee Update

Councillor Nichols gave a verbal update from the recent Finance Committee meeting.

200. Planning Committee

Councillor Somers gave an update from the recent Planning Committee update.

Councillor Somers thanked the Donna Simmons, Assistant Clerk, for managing the meetings so well over Skype, which was noted to be a struggle. Councillor Somers also commended Richard Hull, Assistant Clerk, who had managed recent the Open Spaces Committee Skype meeting extremely well.

201. Open Spaces Committee Update

Councillor Somers gave a verbal update on behalf of the Open Spaces Committee. Quotations had been received for filling the excavated holes at Rodway Common. Councillor Somers noted that he and the Assistant Clerk had met three young people whilst on the Common who were digging trenches. Councillor Somers noted that the young people were polite and said that they had met with the police and 'somebody from the council' who said they were allowed to carry on digging.

It was **Resolved** to post on Facebook to clarify that the excavations at the Rodway Common were not authorised by Emersons Green Town Council.

Action: Clerk

It was noted that the fallen branches on Rodway Common appeared to have been caused wind damage.

202. Items from Members to Report.

- Councillor Hill reported that she had been corresponding with CH, South Gloucestershire Council Officer, over a number of years regarding Manor Road, up by the Common, where there had been a number of accidents. She updated the meeting that South Gloucestershire Council were intending to consult on the potential installation of two speed humps to stop vehicles speeding up towards the bend. Councillor Johnson voiced her support for this proposal.
- Councillor Johnson expressed concern that, since lockdown, speeding appeared to have increased in Emersons Green. She noted that the 20mph speed limit was not very visible apart from when you first enter and leave Emersons Green, as there was no further signage. Councillor Somers said he had previously been informed by South Gloucestershire Council that, because it is was a speed 'zone', they didn't

need to repeat the signage. Councillor J Hunt explained that there was a different constitution in Bristol governing how 20mph zones are managed, so whilst more frequent signage may be seen in nearby Bristol areas, this change of constitution would need to be implanted by South Gloucestershire as a whole to allow for more frequent signage. Councillor Hill reported that the CH (South Gloucestershire Officer) was proposing to display 20mph markings on the road in relation to the Manor Road issue, and suggested that maybe similar could be done elsewhere in Emersons Green.

The Clerk undertook to add speeding in Emersons Green to the agenda for the September meeting.

Action: Kath

- The Clerk notified her intention to take annual leave from 27 July to 7 August.
- Councillor Johnson noted increased noise levels on the Skype meeting and reminded everybody to mute themselves whilst not talking.

203. Next Meeting

19:00 on 10 September 2020 via Skype