



EMERSONS GREEN
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Full Council
held in the Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council

13 January 2022

Present: Councillors S Budd (Chairman), D Somers, J Hunt, R Hunt, R Sunderland, C Johnson, P Morgan, R Nichols, S Al Hassan

Absent: Councillors C Wilkins, J Dowling, M Palmer, S Hill and S Bassett

In attendance: Kath MacConnachie (Town Clerk), Chris Edwardson and Simon Jones (candidates for co-option to councillor vacancy)

2021.146. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dowling, Palmer, Hill and Bassett

2021.147. **Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011**

There were no declarations of interests.

2021.148. **Public participation**

Other than the two co-option candidates for the councillor vacancies, there were no members of the public present.

2021.149. **To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 9 December 2021**

It was **Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2021 were a true and accurate record of the meeting and these were signed by the Chairman.

2021.150. **Outstanding Items from these Minutes**

There were no outstanding items from these minutes.

2021.151. **Correspondence**

The successful Arts Council England bid by Artel31 for the Mangotsfield old station arts project was noted. The EGTC grant match funding held in earmarked reserves would be added to the January payments list.

Action: Clerk

2021.152. **Planning Committee update**

A verbal update was received from the Chairman of the Planning Committee.

2021.153. **Finance Committee update**

A verbal update was received from the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

2021.154. **Open Spaces Committee update**

A verbal update was received from the Chairman of the Open Spaces Committee.

2021.155. **Co-option to councillor vacancies**

Four applications had been received, however the Clerk confirmed that two candidates had subsequently withdrawn their applications.

Each of the two remaining candidates took it in turns to address the meeting in support of their applications. Members asked questions.

Chris Edwardson withdrew his application for the Emersons Green Ward vacancy, wishing only to be considered for the Badminton Ward vacancy.

It was **Resolved** to put all applicants forward to vote for the vacancy/vacancies for which they applied.

2021.156. **Co-option to the position of Councillor, Emersons Green Ward**

It was **Resolved** to co-opt Simon Jones to the role of Emersons Green Town Councillor for the Emersons Green Ward.

2021.157. **Co-option to the position of Councillor, Badminton Ward**

It was **Resolved** to co-opt Chris Edwardson to the role of Emersons Green Town Councillor for the Badminton Ward.

2021.158. **2022/23 budget**

It was **Resolved** to approve the 2022/23 draft budget as recommended by the Finance Committee.

2021.159. **2022/23 precept**

It was **Resolved** to set the precept at the equivalent of £39.99 per band D household for 2022/23. This represented a 1% increase on 2021/22 and a total precept income for 2022/23 of £267,073.

Action: Clerk

2021.160. **Open Spaces budget**

At the request of the Open Spaces Committee, it was **Resolved** to approve a budget overspend against the Open Spaces Cost centre in 2021/22 of £7,000.

2021.161. **South Gloucestershire Council Metrobus Improvements consultation**

It was **Resolved** to respond to the consultation as follows:

Emerald Park stop:

Emersons Green Town Council (EGTC) would like an area incorporated at the Emerald Park bus stop where police are able to pull over to enforce the speed limit.

EGTC would like to the cycle path width increased to 3m.

EGTC would like reassurance that the 30mph past the bus stop should be retained – this is not made clear in the consultation. There should also be appropriate signage to reflect the speed limits in place.

Lyde Green stop:

EGTC would like assurances that any proposed increase to the bus stop does not impact traffic out of Thistle Close.

EGTC would like to request that changes do not impact any traffic calming measures which may be put in at a later date.

Action: Clerk

2021.162. Bank account applications/mandates

It was **Resolved** that bank applications/mandates for the United Trust 1 Year Bond, the Cambridge & Counties Bank 95 Day Notice Business Account and the Redwood Bank 1 Year Business Savings Account be authorised. Signatories/authorised users were to be Councillors Johnson, Budd, J Hunt and the Clerk.

Action: Clerk

2021.163. Climate Emergency Working Group

It was **Resolved** that the Climate Emergency Action Plan adopted by Full Council on 11 November should be reviewed by Full Council quarterly in March, June, September and December.

Action: Clerk

A change from a Working Group to a Committee was supported in principle. It was **Resolved** Terms of Reference should be drafted for consideration at a future meeting. Council Sunderland, R Hunt, Johnson and Morgan volunteered to work with the Clerk to draft the Terms of Reference.

Action: Cllrs Sunderland, R Hunt, Johnson, Morgan and Clerk

2021.164. 2021/22 in-year assurance review – auditors report

The internal auditor's in-year assurance report was noted by members. The Clerk reported that the one action in the report had already been completed; a total of four allotment tenancy agreements had been found to be unsigned by an EGTC representative, and these had been subsequently signed.

2021.165. Training and Developing Policy

It was **Resolved** to adopt the Training and Development Policy as circulated in advance.

Action: Clerk

2021.166. Temporary Scheme of Delegation (Covid-19)

It was **Resolved** to adopt the Temporary Scheme of Delegation (Covid-19).

Action: Clerk

2021.167. Next Meeting

7.00pm on Thursday 10 February 2022 to be held in the Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council