



## EMERSONS GREEN

TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of a Meeting of Full Council

**14<sup>th</sup> February 2019, Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council**

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

**Attendees:** Mrs C Davidson (Town Clerk) One member of the public (PM) representing Cleve RFC

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting and asked for the Council's good wishes to be passed on to Councillor Rachael Hunt.

**561. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors R Hunt, P Todd, C-A Wilkins, B Wiltshire & I Wiltshire. Cllr T Cannard was absent from the meeting.

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

No interests were declared at this time.

**563. Public Participation**

The Chairman of Cleve RFC (PM) was invited to address members. The RFC has made some decisions about events for this year and the following points were noted:

- The Dance Festival will not be held due to the fact it caused too many problems
- A Gin Festival has been arranged in May and will be held outside with acoustic music
- Consideration is being given to a Balloon Fiesta but Civil Aviation Authority permission is required which is a lengthy process
- The Wurzels have been booked for the August Bank Holiday weekend and will be staged in the Paddock area
- There is the possibility that Bad Manners may be booked for July but this has not been confirmed
- The Club is engaging more with local people and hoping to provide events for locals which will raise funds for the Club. PM is on the Mangotsfield Matters Social Media so is able to update people with events etc.

The Chairman noted that the Club needs to make money and that the Council is pleased the RFC is listening to the concerns of local people. The Wurzels event will cause disruption in the local area but residents understand the club needs to make money and it should not attract the same anti-social behavior that the Dance Festival did. PM advised that event has the capacity for 1,000 people and is including a Cider Festival. To date 150 tickets have been sold. The Gin Festival will have an afternoon session and an evening session. It is an outdoor event that is sponsored by Schweppes which is providing large "canopies". 2 local gin companies are attending as well as several national ones, visitors will be more interested in the gin and music rather than inappropriate behavior.

Members passed on appreciation to PM for listening to local people and reminded him that it is really important to keep local people informed of events. The Chairman thanked PM for attending and he PM left the meeting.

A member noted that as a resident local to the event they are happy with the response from Cleve RFC and the work being done is appreciated by local people.

**564. To Approve Minutes of Full Council Meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

It was **Resolved** that the minutes are approved and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of the meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**565. Outstanding Items from These Minutes**

The Clerk advised the following discussion with the Chairman and Vice it was felt that moving the flagpole from the RBL in Staple Hill was not viable. Quotes for a flagpole and installation of such are currently being sought and will be referred back once they have been collated. The Clerk has asked SGC to remove reference to Council Office on local signage.

**566. Correspondence and Actions Required**

The following correspondence was considered:

- Local Resident – In relation to the closure of Barclays Bank in Emersons Green and the possibility of keeping this open with a Post Office service being included. Members noted the comments but this is a commercial decision which the Town Council has no influence over. Members were reminded that the Council had asked the local MP for a meeting in relation to a Post Office in Emersons Green but this was not forthcoming.

**567. Cleve Rugby Club Events**

The Chairman advised that a full discussion had taken place under Public Participation and in light of the RFCs plans the Town Council does not need to take any further action at this time.

**568. West of England Travel Plan**

The link to the consultation was circulated to members in advance of this meeting.

Cllr C Hunt advised members that he is having a meeting with the Metro Mayor to discuss Park & Ride provision in the area. There are concerns that the Metrobus service is suffering delays due to the volume of traffic at peak times. If the Metro Mayor adopted Transport responsibilities then ways of alleviating the problem can be dealt with at a local level rather than by Central Government which takes a considerable amount of time. It was noted that the expectation when the Metro Mayor was elected was that Transport would be adopted therefore it is very disappointing this is taking so long and the delay is having a real impact in this area. It is recognised that leaders of local councils and the Metro Mayor need to be speaking to Whitehall about school funding and transport in this area.

It is hoped that the Metro Bus service can be extended to Yate but the problem is that it doesn't take cash which could limit usage on some of the more local routes such as the old X48. It's noted that Emersons Green no longer has a direct bus to Southmead Hospital but that there is one from UWE so people can change there.

Members noted that Bristol City Council wants to build a concert stadium in Patchway and has the funding in place to do this. Unfortunately this would mean that South Glos Council would be responsible for implementing the infrastructure for this and it just doesn't have the funding to do so.

Discussion was had about the proposals and members noted that the consultation document includes some excellent proposals but they are probably not viable due to funding. A mass transit system is "pie in the sky" and the people overseeing the consultation need to be more realistic. Discussion was also had about Bristol Airport becoming carbon neutral and how this can happen when the number of flights is set to increase.

It was **Resolved** that the following response is made:

The Town Council does not have enough information to be able to respond to the consultation questions. Costings are not accurate and are not clear enough. The problems with the local transport system in the region are not being addressed.

**569. Grant Applications**

It was **resolved** that a grant application from St Peter's Hospice for £2,000 towards Community Nursing be approved.

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

**570. Community Project**

The Chairman advised members that the Clerk has continued to chase Property Services but has not had a response, it was noted that Heads of Terms are with officers for consideration. In relation to the library progress is being made and himself and the Clerk are due to meet with SGC officers on Monday to progress the matter.

**Action: Clerk to continue to chase officers re. Skatepark  
To meet with officers re. Library and report back**

**571. Events Committee**

Cllr S Budd informed members that the Committee has met in advance of this meeting. The following matters were considered:

- Christmas Event – Due to take place in Emersons Green Village Hall this year so the Clerk is making enquiries as to availability in December, if it's not possible then it will be held in Lyde Green again
- There was a considerable no show at last years even therefore members have agreed to overbook by 20% on the assumption that there will be those that don't attend. This will be re-evaluated after the event.
- Consideration was given to having a permanent Beacon within the Council boundary. The most appropriate location would be Rodway Common but if there was an event, facilities would have to be brought in. This matter will be taken to the next Full Council meeting for consideration.
- Consideration was given to a War Memorial/Remembrance Event but the Committee concluded there was no suitable location that could be a focal point and as this is a new area there would be very few, if any, names to go on a Memorial. It was noted that the organisers of the Mangotsfield Remembrance Event could apply for a Road Closure which is free for such events.
- Investigation is going to be made into a Walking Festival with Steve England.
- A children's event over the Easter is being considered and the Clerk has been asked to get costings from the Youth Workers in relation to 2 discos, one for 5-8 and one for 8-11 year olds. This will be held at Lyde Green as its noted that EGVH and the Library put on events over the school holidays.

**572. Planning Committee**

Members noted that a recent meeting had objected to a Licence application for the Clubhouse at Walkers Playing fields. The Licensing Officer has advised that this Licence had to be re-applied for due to redevelopment, but the terms are the same as the previous Licence which had been in place with no complaints raise. After consultation with Committee members it was agreed to withdraw the objection.

**573. Finance Committee**

In the absence of the Chairman members were informed that the Committee has reviewed the third quarters budget figures, and all is in order. A grant application has been received from a local primary school for £20,000 for outdoor play equipment. The Committee has asked for more information and for a representative to attend the next meeting.

**574. Open Spaces Committee**

Cllr Somers reported as follows:

- Members have met with Men In Sheds in relation to the provision of floral planters. It was a positive meeting and a quote has now been received and will be considered at the next

meeting. Elmleigh Nursery can plant them up and local business have agreed to water the displays.

- The first meeting of the Allotment Tenants has taken place. A priority is resurfacing of the car park but there is little enthusiasm for a toilet. Quotes are being obtained for resurfacing of the car park and also for the provision of a portaloo to see how it goes as a trial. Quotes are also being sought for a skip to be insitu at the start and end of the season for non-combustable garden waste.
- Landcare can no longer undertake the maintenance work they do over the growing period. Quotes are being sought for other companies to take this on.
- The bollards at the bottom of the steps leading off Rodway Common have been replaced as it appears a 4x4 vehicle has been attempting to drive up the hill.

The Chairman suggested that now we have storage facilities it might be worth considering purchasing a number of recycled plastic bollards for use as and when others need replacing. The Open Spaces Committee is to consider this.

Discussion was had about the Section 106 funds being available for the allotments from the Cotswold Homes development (£751.80 capital and £958.61 revenue) and if this could be used for the current repairs. There is also concern about security along the hedge which may need improving. It was confirmed that those moving into the new houses which have funded this would not be able to have an allotment as the housing is outside of this Parish.

**Action: Clerk to arrange for purchase of bollards to be on next O/S Agenda**

#### **575. Items to Report**

The following reports were made:

- Motorcyclists have been seen on Lyde and Rodway Commons. The Clerk is aware of this and has reported the matter to SGC Commons Officer. It was noted that they have also been on the Cave Trust land but this does not fall within the local authorities remit.
- There is a problem with some lighting in Lyde Green not being switched on. Cllr Al-Hassan will forward a link in relation to this.

**Actions: S A-H to send link to US**

**Date of next meeting:** 14<sup>th</sup> March, 19.00, Council Chamber

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.12