

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Held in the Council Chamber, Emersons Green Town Council,

19.00hrs on Thursday 19th of December 2024

Present: Cllrs James Hunt (Mayor), Bobbie Sunderland (Deputy Mayor), Simon Budd, Colin Hunt, Graham Hutter, Tina Potter, Lynne Paraskeva, Eli Akatwijuka, Rachael Hunt, Kelly Allen, and Andrej Turk. Rosemary Shakespeare arrived at 19.03hrs.

In attendance: Joanne Bryant, Town Clerk, and Jane Wray, Deputy Town Clerk.

Apologies: Abi Cohen

Public: 3 members of the public attended the meeting.

Notes: The meeting began at 1900hrs. All resolutions are passed with a majority vote, by a show of hands, unless otherwise stated.

INTRODUCTION

FC_2024.111 Welcome and Introductions.

The Mayor welcomed everyone present, and the emergency procedures were explained.

FC_2024.112 Declaration of Interest – Localism Act 2011.

The Mayor reminded members of the requirements to declare an interest. No interests were disclosed.

FC_2024.113 Public Participation.

At the invitation of the Mayor, members of SOGS made representation of their campaign.

COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

FC_2024.114 Minutes.

The *Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 21st of November 2024*, copies having been circulated, were approved as a correct record, and signed by the Mayor.

FC_2024.115 Outstanding items.
The Clerk provided a brief report.

INTEL & CURRENT AFFAIRS

FC_2024.116 Crime Update.
The Council received a written report from Avon and Somerset Police.

FC_2024.117 Civility & Respect Pledge
Resolved: The Council discussed the NALC Civility & Respect Pledge and agreed to sign up to it.

COMMUNICATIONS

FC_2024.118 Correspondence.
Official correspondence to the Council noted, copies having been circulated.

OPERATIONS

FC_2024.119 To note any updates from Committees.
At the invitation of the Mayor, Cllr Graham Hutter provided a verbal summary from the Finance & Partnership Committee, Cllr Simon Budd provided a verbal summary of the work of the Planning Committee, and Cllr Bobbie Sunderland provided a summary of the work of the Open Spaces Committee noting their meetings would move to Thursdays from January 2025. Cllr Tina Potter also provided an update on HR update confirming that Town Clerk had successfully completed probationary period.

FC_2024.120 To note any updates from Working Groups.
Cllr Bobbie Sunderland provided a summary of the work of the Climate and Nature Working Group, including advanced planning of the Sustainable Fashion Show being held on 26th January 2025.

FC_2024.121 To note any reports from external bodies.
No further reports received.

FC_2024.122 To consider Councillor appointments to Committee vacancies.
Resolved Cllrs Eli Akatwijuka, Lynne Paraskeva and Andrej Turk were appointed to the Open Spaces Committee.

FC_2024.123 To consider the Budgets, as circulated, for 2025/26 and the Precept submission.
Resolved: The RFO presented the proposed budgets for 2025/26 and precept recommendation. The Council agreed to the recommendations presented and a 2.5% increase to the precept in line with recent rates of inflation.

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- FC_2024.124** **To adopt the following new/updated documents and policies:**
Resolved:
- a. Complaints Policy (Update)
 - b. Pay Protection Policy (Update)
 - c. Pay, Recognition and Rewards Policy (Update)

PLANNING & STRATEGY

FC_2024.125 **Forward Plan.**

Upcoming agenda items and projects noted.

FC_2024.126 **To consider permission for a circus to be held at Rodway Common**

Resolved: Permission was granted and management delegated to Open Spaces Committee and the Clerking team.

FC_2024.127 **To consider an opening ceremony of the Queens Plaque**

Resolved: A £200 budget was awarded to Open Spaces Committee to prepare for an opening ceremony. Dates to be circulated when the committee is ready.

DATES & TIMINGS

FC_2024.128 **Next Meeting.**

To note the next meeting of the Full Council is currently scheduled for:

Thursday 16th of January 2025 at 1900hrs in the Emersons Green Town Council Chambers.

The meeting was closed at 19.49hrs.