

Broseley Town Council

The Library Building, Bridgnorth Road, Broseley, Shropshire TF12 5EL

Minutes of the Broseley Town Council Meeting held on **Tuesday 8th October 2019** commencing at **19:00 hours** in the Birchmeadow Centre, Broseley TF12 5LP.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors Burton (Mayor), West (Deputy Mayor), Childs, Harris, L Garbett, Mark Garbett, Micheal Garbett, Goodall, Maltby and Singh-Mohr.

IN ATTENDANCE: Kate Howe (Town Clerk), Andrea Williams (Responsible Finance Officer/Assistant Clerk), Councillor David Turner and 3 members of the public.

105. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Taylor.

106. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr Bould requested to speak regarding previous correspondence. The Mayor informed him the matter had been dealt with and could not be discussed further and any further complaints should be forwarded to the Monitoring Officer.

Mr Pickles spoke about the request from the Birchmeadow Park Committee and implored the Committee to vote in favour of the grant application.

107. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none which had not been previously recorded.

108. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were none which had not been previously recorded.

109. MAYOR & DEPUTY MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor informed the meeting he had attended an invite from Broseley Community First Responders to view the new vehicle. He also made the meeting aware of the closing shops in town.

110. MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Council **APPROVED** the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2019.

111. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

112. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk asked if everyone had seen the correspondence sent out. All Councillors agreed they had. The RFO asked if Councillors agreed the request from the Christmas Lights Committee to use the Memorial Green and Library Car Park. Councillors agreed.

113. COMMITTEE & ADVISORY GROUPS

Estates Committee – discussion took place around the 4 tree quotes and a figure that had been quoted wrong on the minutes. The Clerk informed the meeting that she had been tasked by the Estates Committee to obtain tree cutting quotes to a certain specification and that after doing so only one quote met the set criteria but that three other quotes had been left on her desk and she was unsure why. The RFO confirmed that in the Clerk's absence the office had been requested by Councillors to obtain quotes for the tree cutting and that is where the additional quotes had come from. The RFO stated that this was an error on the office as they were unaware of the specification and had not sent that out when requesting quotes. The Clerk explained that Councillors requesting things was not the appropriate course of action when she had already been tasked to do a job.

Discussion took place around the tree quotes and the estates minutes and the conversation became heated.

The Clerk left the meeting at 8.30pm. The RFO remained to minute the remainder of the

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meeting.

Councillor West recommended that the quote that met the Estates Committee Criteria be agreed seeing as time was of the essence. Four Councillors voted in favour. Councillor Mark Garbett recommended that an alternative contractor be contacted the following day and if they could meet the criteria and the quote was cheaper to go with them, if not then go ahead with the first quote. Six Councillors voted in favour. **ACTION:** Council Officers to contact alternative contractor the next day and obtain quote and proceed with tree cutting ASAP.

Planning – Councillor West gave an update on planning.

Place Plan & Reserves – Councillors agreed the proposed changes to the Mayors allowance. The RFO requested expense reports from the Mayor and Councillor Harris to be handed in by the end of October.

Neighbourhood Plan – Councillor West gave an update on the Neighbourhood Plan results of the Summer Plan Consultation and requested that the Neighbourhood Plan Group could spend up to £3000 of the Neighbourhood Plan Reserve if required as funding received this year would unlikely cover projects. Councillors agreed this request.

Highways – Councillor Harris gave an update on Highways, informing the meeting that potholes around the town had been filled and the lights and road signs on Ironbridge Road had been changed.

114. **RECORDING MEETINGS - PROGRESS REPORT**

Councillor Singh-Mohr informed the meeting he had looked at a recording device that would record voices for the meetings along with software that could convert spoken words to text and that he and the Mayor would be getting quotes. The Mayor requested that from now on Council rules were followed and everyone raised their hand to speak and did not speak over each other.

115. **FINANCES**

- a) **Accounts Paid Statement** – Council **APPROVED** the accounts paid statement for October 2019, as presented at the meeting to the value of £19,646.12. Councillor Michael Garbett and the Mayor agreed to sign cheques on Thursday 10th October at the Council Offices.
- (b) **BTC Bank Reconciliation** – Council **APPROVED** the BTC bank reconciliation as at 30th September 2019.
- (c) **MUGA Bank Reconciliation** – Council **APPROVED** the MUGA bank reconciliation as at 30th September 2019.
- (d) **Council Insurance** – The RFO informed the meeting that although chasing a broker additional quotes had not been received in time and therefore recommended renewing the Council insurance with Zurich for another year. **Council APPROVED** to renew insurance cover with Zurich.
- (e) **Budget Task & Finish Group** – Councillors Linda Garbett, Mark Garbett, Harris and Burton were appointed to work with the Clerk & RFO to set the 20/21 Precept application. **ACTION:** RFO to arrange first meeting.

116. **GRANT APPLICATIONS & FUNDING**

- (a) Councillors **APPROVED** to award £100 to the Ironbridge Gorge Walking Festival towards promoting the festival.
- (b) Councillors **APPROVED** the grant request of £2,575 from the Birchmeadow Park Committee towards the installation of a pathway.

117. **EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS MEAL**

Councillor Mark Garbett requested this be discussed in the Confidential section of the meeting. The Mayor agreed.

118. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Councillors confirmed the next Town Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th November 2019 to commence at 7:00pm at the in the Birchmeadow Centre, Broseley TF12 5LP.

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The RFO was asked to leave the meeting. The RFO requested it be noted that when she offered to stay and minute the meeting as she was professional this was in no way aimed at the Clerk and didn't want it to be used in this way and that the whole reason she stayed at the meeting was to get the Finance section agreed so that the Council offices could continue to operate.

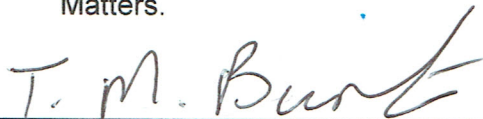
RFO left the meeting at 9.00pm.

119. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Council **RESOLVED** that there were two items to be considered which required the consideration of exempt information "That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the items listed below, on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information".

120. STAFFING COMMITTEE UPDATE

Councillor Goodall discussed a confidential report with Councillors regarding Staffing Matters.



APPROVED BY THE MAYOR (CHAIR):

12 Nov 19
DATE: _____