

**Minutes of a remote meeting of Okehampton Town Council held on
Monday 26th April 2021 at 7pm**

Members Present: Councillor J Yelland (Mayor)
Councillor J Goffey (Chairman, Property)
Councillor T Leech (Chairman, Planning)
Councillor C Marsh (Chairman, Parks)
Councillor B Tolley (Chairman, Policy & Resources)
Councillor T Abbots
Councillor G Button
Councillor C Holt
Councillor M Ireland
Councillor P Jessop
Councillor B Matravers
Councillor D Sanger
Councillor D Travers
Councillor A Wood

In Attendance: Mrs E James (Town Clerk)
3 Members of the Public
Cllr Rev M Davies (WDBC)
Cllr K Ball (DCC)

Prayers were offered by Cllr Rev Davies

Action

826 **Apologies for Absence** – None

827 **Deferment of Business** – None

828 **Members Questions** – None

829 **Okehampton Argyle Football Club** – A presentation was received from the Chairman of the club, which was founded in 1926. Progress that had been made over recent years was highlighted. The 1st team had gained promotion and the club was waiting a ground grading for a further potential promotion into the South West Peninsula League. Vandalism issues were commented upon.

(Cllr Button arrived)

830 **West Devon Borough Council** – Cllr Davies reported that local elections were taking place on 6th May which were being administered by WDBC. Census work was ongoing. A Joint Local Plan questionnaire had been sent to WDBC Councillors and would be extended to Local Councils in the near future. Complaints had been received about dog bins overflowing.

Cllr Yelland advised that a dog bin which had been thrown in a river was being repaired and would be reinstalled.

831 **Devon County Council** – Cllr Ball advised that this would be his last meeting as DCC Cllr. A report had previously been circulated.

Cllr Yelland extended thanks to Cllr Ball for his work over the years.

832 **Questions Arising from Members Reports** – Cllr Goffey thanked Cllr Ball for the rail report.

(Cllr Ball left the meeting)

- 833 **Adoption of Minutes of Committees and Members' Questions arising Thereon** –
- 833.1 **Policy & Resources Committee** meeting held on 8th March 2021 - adoption proposed by Cllr Goffey, seconded Cllr Marsh and **approved**.
- 834 **Full Council Meeting Minutes** – The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 29th March 2021 was **approved** on the proposition of Cllr Yelland, seconded by Cllr Ireland.
- 835 **CCTV** – Cllr Leech reported that a meeting had been held with DCC's Chief Lighting Engineer and which had achieved positive results. It was anticipated that installation would commence in the near future.
- 836 **Government Levelling Up Fund** – It was noted that support for a bid for the facilitation of the new Parkway Station had been submitted to WDBC.
- 837 **Covid19 – Preparation for Face-to-Face Meetings** – On the proposition of Cllr Yelland, seconded Cllr Leech it was **RESOLVED** to approve both recommendations in the previously circulated report, including bringing forward the Planning Committee meeting to 4th May 2021.
- It was noted that the previously approved conferencing system had been delivered.
- 838 **Management Agreement** – Solicitor's advice was awaited.
- (Cllr Davies left the meeting)
- 839 **Okehampton Fairtrade Group** - On the proposition of Cllr Goffey, seconded Cllr Wood it was **RESOLVED** to support the application for renewal of the Fairtrade status.
- 840 **Community Roadside Action Party** – Cllr Wood reported the group would welcome support by the way of donated items rather than receipt of funding. It was noted that WDBC was thought to hold some items of equipment which could be borrowed and could dispose of the waste.
- On the proposition of Cllr Goffey, seconded Cllr Ireland it was **RESOLVED** to nominate Cllr Wood to attend a meeting and report back to the Council.
- 841 **Data Incident** – The Clerk reported on a third-party data breach which had been investigated and was thought not to have affected the Council. The Information Commissioner had been consulted as part of the investigation process.
- 842 **Asset Register** –
- 842.1 Cllrs Goffey and Travers had commenced the audit and would be continuing at a date to be confirmed.
- 842.2 On the proposition of Cllr Leech, seconded Cllr Matravers, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the Asset Register as at 31st March 2021.
- 843 **Policies and Documents** – On the proposition of Cllr Tolley, seconded Cllr Sanger, it was **RESOLVED** approve the Internal Control Statement as recommended by the Policy & Resources Committee.

Clerk

Cllr
Wood

Cllrs
Goffey &
Travers

- 844 **Finances** – On the proposition of Cllr Marsh, seconded Cllr Wood it was **RESOLVED** to approve both schedules of payments.
- 845 **Mayors Charity Account** - On the proposition of Cllr Travers, seconded Cllr Holt it was **RESOLVED** to approve the account which stood at £6.23 at 31st March 2021.
- 846 **2021/22 Meeting Schedule** - On the proposition of Cllr Tolley, seconded Cllr Leech it was **RESOLVED** to approve the schedule for ratification at the Annual Council meeting on 5th May.
- 847 **Reports of Council Working/Task & Finish Groups -**
- 847.1 **Climate Change** – Cllr Goffey reported that a meeting had been held on 13th April and electric car charging points were due to be discussed at the next meeting. A review of the recycled paper currently being used by the Council would be undertaken.
- Cllr Goffey had attended 2 other external meetings including WDBC’s climate change forum.
- 847.2 **COVID19 Recovery** – The group would be combining with the Placemaking group.
- 847.3 **Charter Hall Roof Replacement** – The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received immediately prior to the meeting and would be circulated to the working group.
- 847.4 **Placemaking Working Group** – The Clerk reported that a response was still awaited from a WDBC Officer following a previous presentation to the Council.
- 848 **Reports on Current Activities by Community Groups with Town Council Representation** -
- 848.1 **Neighbourhood Plan Group** – The draft had been forwarded to a WDBC Officer for comment and a schedule of dates had been put together. Thanks was extended to the Chairman for pulling the paperwork together.
- 849 **Members’ Reports and Requests for Agenda Items -**
- 849.1 **Okehampton Matters** – The next meeting was on 28th April.
- 849.2 **Okehampton COVID19 Support Group** – Cllr Button reported that the group had remained quiet and were supporting the homeless through WDBC. Fortnightly meetings instead of weekly likely to be held in the future.

Cllr Yelland thanked Councillors, the Clerk and staff for their support and work during the difficult and challenging year and closed the meeting at 8.15pm

Councillor
Mayor