



FAIR OAK & HORTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the FULL COUNCIL “virtual” meeting held on Monday 21 September 2020 at 7.00 pm

P – present, Pt – part of the meeting, Ab – absent, Ap – apologies.

Ab	Cllr Abbott	P	Cllr Douglas Chairman	Pt	Cllr Mignot (from item 46)
P	Cllr Anderson	P	Cllr Forfar	Ab	Cllr Scott
Ap	Cllr Barrett	P	Cllr Higby	P	Cllr Spearey
P	Cllr Bird	Ap	Cllr Marsh	Ap	Cllr Tennent
P	Cllr Couldrey	P	Cllr McGuinness	Ab	Cllr Warrillow

Officers in attendance: Ms M Stephens, Clerk, Mrs L Greenslade, Deputy Clerk & Mrs J Cahill, Responsible Finance Officer

PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were “live” at the meeting. One emailed question had been received from a member of the public which the Clerk read out relating to the Fair Oak Library. Cllr Couldrey had responded to the member of public direct. The Chairman said these would be discussed as and when a formal decision had been made on the Council’s way forward.

34 MINUTES OF MEETINGS (PAPER A)

RESOLVED:

- That the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 20 July 2020 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record;
- That the minutes of the Asset Committee meetings and recommendations of 13 January & 8 September 2020 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record; and
- That the planning delegated decisions of 20 & 31 July, 14 & 28 August 2020 be noted.

35 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest raised.

36 REPORT OF THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER (REPORT B)

Members considered the report of the Responsible Financial Officer and raised no queries.

RESOLVED:

- That the contents of the report be noted; and
- That the BACS payments be authorised.

37 APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

RESOLVED:

That Mrs Eleanor Green of "Do the Numbers" be appointed Internal Auditor for the financial year 2020/21.

38 APPOINTMENT OF BUDGET AND TASK & FINISH GROUP

RESOLVED:

- a) That Cllrs Couldrey, Douglas and Higby serve on the Budget Task & Finish Group; and
- b) That the meeting dates of 27 October and 24 November 2020 be noted.

39 LIBRARY TASK & FINISH GROUP (REPORT C)

Members considered the findings and recommendations of the Library Task & Finish Group. The Group had held discussions with the County Council's Libraries Service and considered that it might be possible to mitigate the loss of the formal Library at Fair Oak by establishing an informal community library in its place. This would be run and staffed by volunteers. Members appreciated that important considerations needed to be considered and these would be discussed and agreed at a future Council meeting.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the Council agree to facilitate the establishment of a community library by calling for volunteers and helping them to take the project forward;
- a) That as an alternative to handing over control of the project to the new charity immediately, that the Task & Finish Group continue to hold discussions with HCC to finalize the details and establishment of the library; and
- b) That a final report be submitted to the Council, to include any financial and legal obligations of the final arrangements when appropriate.

40 MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT (REPORT D)

RESOLVED:

That the Members' Code of Conduct be adopted.

41 WORK PROGRAMME (REPORT E)

RESOLVED:

That the Report be noted.

42 CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

RESOLVED

That the Council offices be closed on the following days during the Christmas period: -

Thursday 24, Friday 25, Monday 28 & Tuesday 29 December 2020 and Friday 1 January 2021.

43 MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

Members made no changes to current committees. The vacancy on the Asset

Committee remained.

44 ADDENDUM STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT CONSULTATION (27 AUGUST-12 OCTOBER 2020)

Members were asked to email the Clerk with their comments.

RESOLVED

- a) That all Cllrs' comments would be collated by the Clerk;
- b) That a response be prepared by the Clerk in consultation with Cllrs Douglas and Scott; and
- c) That a formal response be submitted to Eastleigh Borough Council.

45 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

RESOLVED

That under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960, the public and the Press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information which would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of its confidential nature (commercial matter).

46 SCOUT HUT, SHORTS ROAD

The Clerk reported that she had been in discussion with the Scout Leader in August who confirmed their team had met and agreed to hold an "Extraordinary" meeting of the group in October to endeavour to move the relinquishing of their lease forward. He had stated that they had been happy with the Council's formal offer but said their legal fees had spiralled and exceeded the Council's previous contributory offer.

RESOLVED

- a) That a contribution towards costs not exceeding £5,000 be agreed; and
- b) That a deadline date of one month be given to the Scouts for acceptance of the Council's offer.

This was all the business and the meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

Signed.....

Chairman