

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting, 7.00pm on Tuesday 19th January 2021 via Zoom.

Present: Councillors, J Emmerson, (Chairman), Barnes, Brown, Dodds, Irwin, Kirby, Rutland, Strike, Turnbull and Watson.

In Attendance: Mrs. J. McGeeney, Town Clerk and J Stevely. Also in attendance Ward Councillor Faulks, Ward Councillor A Watson, J Stephenson and I Martin Stockton Borough Council Enforcement.

The Chairman, Cllr James Emmerson, opened the meeting and welcomed all present to the virtual January 2021 Meeting of Ingleby Barwick Town Council.

- 1. Housekeeping:** The meeting was held using Zoom video technology in line with the changes to the regulation which came into force on 4th April 2020. The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020.
- 2. Notice of Meeting:** The Chairman noted the Notice of the Meeting had been published on the Town Council's website and on the notice board at the Ingleby Barwick Community Hall, Beckfields.
- 3. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr M Patterson.
- 4. Declaration of Interests:** Cllr Watson declared a personal/non-prejudicial interest in all items involving her role as a Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) Ward Councillor, also as an owner of Fix-It DIY. Cllr Strike declared a personal/non-prejudicial interest in all items involving his role as a Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) Ward Councillor, Chairman of the Ingleby Barwick Community Partnership and as an attendee of the Living Hope Church. Cllr Barnes declared a personal non prejudicial interest in all items involving Ingleby Healthcare. Cllr James Emmerson declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in respect of Item 16 – Complaint against the Town Council from Ward Councillor R Patterson.
- 5. Public Participation Part 1:** Ward Cllr Faulks highlighted an incident that had taken place on Christmas Eve involving a car crashing into a property. Ward Councillors Faulks and Patterson had visited the resident. Stockton Borough Council had been contacted regarding winter maintenance of the roads. Cllrs were reassured this was taking place.
- 6. Enforcement:** Jamie Stephenson introduced Cllrs to Ian Martin one of two new Ingleby Barwick Enforcement Officers. Dawn Tyreman, who would normally prepare a written report for Councillors, had been seconded to the Covid Lateral Flow mass testing site at Thornaby Pavilion therefore no written report was available. Jamie highlighted that, since 15th December 2020, 17 incidents had been responded to. Councillor Watson made reference to Covid Marshalls and was advised that a number of Marshalls had been trained and were working seven days a week patrolling streets and offering guidance.
- 7. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 15th December 2020 and the Special Meeting held on 14th January 2021.** There being no amendments. Cllr Strike PROPOSED and Cllr Watson SECONDED and it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Town Council

Meeting held of 15th December 2020 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Councillor Irwin PROPOSED and Cllr Emmerson SECONDED and it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the Special Town Council Meeting held on 14th January 2021 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

8. Clerk and Chairman's Report:

i) Solar Panels - The Clerk provided an update on the position of the solar panels – ongoing discussions were being held between the Town Council, Wharton Construction and Kinsler. Further updates would be provided in due course.

9. **Social Media:** The Clerk proposed that a Facebook page for the Town Council be established. The page would be informative as well as promoting the Town Council with details of its meetings, events and its community newsletters. The page would be for the use of Town Councillors and Officers only. Members of the public would not be able to post or comment but encouraged to email the Town Council with any concerns. All Councillors were in full support of the proposal. AGREED an Ingleby Barwick Town Council Facebook page be established.

10. **Borough Councillors' Reports:** Written reports from the East and West Wards by the Borough Councillors were presented. Issues related to

- Anti-social behaviour and crime
- CCTV
- Grey's Court – purchase of CCTV camera from the Community Participation budget
- Flooding from Beckfields Green
- Cemetery Provision
- Nitrous Oxide cannisters
- New pedestrian crossing The Rings and Pennydarren Way - traffic calming update

11. **Committee Minutes and Committee Update Report – To receive Update report from the Chairmen of the Town Council Committees and approve the minutes of the following Town Council Committees:-**

- i) Finance Committee – 5th January 2021 - PROPOSED by Cllr Irwin and SECONDED by Cllr Kirby. Cllr Irwin provided an update on the Finance Committee. Cllr Strike queried whether any monies above £85,000 would be covered by the FSA in case of loss. The Finance Committee would raise this at the next meeting.
- ii) Hub Maintenance Committee – 11th January 2021 – PROPOSED by Cllr Kirby and SECONDED by Cllr Rutland. Cllr Kirby provided an update on the Hub Maintenance Committee.

12. **Finance – Monthly Reports:** The Clerk presented the financial transactions for the General Account from 1st – 31st December 2020 and the financial transactions from the Hub Account from 1st to 31st December 2020. It was RESOLVED that financial reports be APPROVED.

13. **Annual Return 2019/20** – The Clerk reported that Mazars had completed the external audit for the Town Council’s accounts for the financial year 2019/20. The external Auditor report had been presented. A minor scope for improvement in 2020/21 was, although the Council had provided explanations for all significant variance, the reasons given for unusual income or expenditure in a particular year did not include values, so it was not possible to determine if the variance was sufficiently explained from the information submitted for audit. In future, all explanations provided on the variance analysis should be quantified. RESOLVED that the Annual Audit 2019/20 be ACCEPTED.
14. **Appointment of Internal Auditor for the year 2020/21:** Councillors agreed that Mr David Holmes from Veritau be appointed to act as the Internal Auditor for 2020/21.
15. **Planning Applications:** Details of the Planning Applications up to week ending 10th January 2021 and the Delegated Decision up to 10th January 2021 were presented.

COUNCILLOR EMMERSON AND WARD COUNCIL FAULKS LEFT THE MEETING. COUNCILLOR SALLY ANN WATSON IN THE CHAIR.

16. **Complaint against the Town Council from Ward Councillor R Patterson:** The Clerk had circulated details of two complaints from Ward Councillor R Patterson regarding car parking at The Rings Community Hub and The Rings Community Centre social media post by IBTC Clerk and apolitical guidance which had been sent to the Chairman of the Town Council. Due to the personal nature of the Chairman and the Complainant it was felt appropriate for the Town Clerk to respond in this instance. PROPOSED by Cllr Strike and SECONDED by Cllr Irwin. A vote was held and unanimously agreed that the Clerk respond to the complaints above.

COUNCILLOR EMMERSON AND WARD COUNCILLOR FAULKS RETURNED TO THE MEETING. COUNCILLOR EMMERSON IN THE CHAIR.

17. **Matters of Concern to Councillors:** None.
18. **Date of Next Town Council Meeting** - to be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 16th February 2021 via zoom.
19. **Public Participation Part 2** - 5 Minutes for Public Participation. Cllr Faulks asked whether further consideration had been given to the offer by Cllr Kirby to provide plants in an area of land adjacent to the Hub grounds which was privately owned. Cllr Kirby responded that at this time she had not taken the matter further.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their participation.

The meeting finished at 8.00pm.