



Minutes of the full council meeting be held on 24th June 2021 Held at the Council Offices, Bansons Way CM5 9AS

113/21 Those present and apologies for absence.

Chairman Cllr Piggott
Councillors Battersby, Bell, Cole, Feetham, Mendoza, Reynolds, Seffens, Shami, Vaz.
Also present The Locum Clerk, Press Officer and one member of the public.
Not present Cllr Freeman.

Resolved. Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Birch and Mills. Proposed Cllr Piggott seconded Cllr Cole and carried unanimously.

114/21 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

Declaration of interests for minute 129/21 were received from Cllrs Vaz and Mendoza who are members of the Ongar Millennium History Society

115/21 Public participation.

There was one member of the public present who did not wish to speak.

116/21 Correspondence.

It was noted that the cemetery gate is now opened to provide access to the less mobile, but the problem of dog fouling has returned. It was suggested that the gate be kept closed but unlocked.

An application for an on-street parking order has been submitted to the Parking Partnership to resolve the matter of the Mayflower Way verges.

Parking violations. The residents were advised that an on-street parking order would be the first step in resolving the problem.

Churchill way parking. The residents were advised that an on-street parking order would be the first step in resolving the problem.

117/21 Consultations.

None this month.

118/21 Reports from District and County Councillors.

Cllr Vaz reported on the Local Plan and the District Council Members' briefing delivered before the major update. It is expected that the plans will be signed off in late 2021, or early 2022.

Shelley redevelopment. The Council Housebuilding Cabinet Committee has approved the project and the plans will be shared with the residents through the community liaison officer. A project team is being set-up to consult with internal and external

stakeholders. Cllr Vaz will confirm that the Town Council will be included.

The regeneration of Ongar was discussed by Epping Forest District Council Cabinet in December, but no start date has been agreed. The Highway Rangers have been working on cosmetic improvements to railing and bollards, but no replacements have been provided for street furniture that has been lost. The County Councillor has been advised of the work and potential requirements. A manager has been appointed and will lead a team of interested parties to evaluate regeneration proposals.

119/21 To agree the Full Council meeting minutes of 6th May 2021.

Resolved. The minutes of Full Council Meeting held on are approved as a true record. Proposed Cllr Mendoza seconded Cllr Piggott and carried with one abstention.

120/21 Finance reporting.

- a. To receive a list of all payments up to the end of April 2021.
- b. To receive a list of budgetary information on all accounts.

Resolved. The Council notes the budgetary information for April and confirms that the account balance of £203,582.02 agrees with the reconciliation. Proposed Cllr Mendoza seconded Cllr Reynolds and carried unanimously.

- c. To receive a list of all payments up to the end of May 2021.
- d. To receive a list of budgetary information on all accounts.

Resolved. The Council notes the budgetary information for May and confirms that the account balance of £191,006.50 agrees with the reconciliation. Proposed Cllr Mendoza seconded Cllr Piggott and carried unanimously.

121/21 To approve the terms of reference for Working Groups.

- a. **Regeneration**
- b. **Climate Change**
- c. **Projects and actions working group**

Resolved. The Council will defer approval of the terms of reference until the July Meeting. Proposed Cllr Cole seconded Cllr Seffen and carried unanimously.

122/21 To receive the internal auditor's report and note the actions and recommendations.

Resolved. The Council notes the audit report and actions taken. Proposed Cllr Piggott seconded Cllr Vaz and carried unanimously.

123/21 To approve the year end accounts.

Resolved. The Council approves the year end accounts for publication. Proposed Cllr Reynolds seconded Cllr Mendoza and carried unanimously.

124/21 To approve the annual return governance statement.

Resolved. The council approves the governance statement for signature and publication. Proposed Cllr Mendoza seconded Cllr Seffens and carried unanimously.

125/21 To approve the annual return financial statement.

Resolved. The council approves the financial statement for signature and publication. Proposed Cllr mendoza seconded Cllr Reynolds and carried unanimously.

126/21 To approve the 2021-2022 statement of internal control.

Resolved. The council approves rev 1.1 of the policy for adoption. Proposed Cllr Battersby seconded Cllr Cole and carried unanimously.

127/21 To approve the 2021-2022 risk assessment.

Resolved. The Council approves the 2021-2022 risk assessment for publication. Proposed Cllr Battersby seconded Cllr Mendoza and carried unanimously.

128/21 To consider an invoice from the external auditor for investigation of an anonymous complaint.

The Clerk reported that the Council had received an invoice for £1,300 from the external auditor for costs incurred when they investigated an anonymous complaint about the council finances. The auditor received a full refutation of the complaint and a reminder that the investigation was outside the scope of their authority.

Resolved. The council will refuse payment until the legal basis for an investigation is established. Proposed Cllr Reynolds seconded Cllr Seffens and carried unanimously.

129/21 Grant Applications.

Ongar History Society £460.

Resolved. The Council approves the application for payment. Proposed Cllr Reynold seconded Cllr Bell and carried unanimously but two abstentions for declared interest.

Ongar Netball Club £1,200.

Resolved. The Council approves the application for payment. Proposed Cllr Cole seconded Cllr Battersby and carried unanimously.

Ongar Academy Parent Teacher Association £4,000.

The council considered repurposing money from a financial award from Groundworks UK and the Clerk was asked to investigate the possibility. The Council noted that £1,000 has been raised and would contribute £2,000 towards the project.

Resolved. The Council approves £2,000 applications for payment. Proposed Cllr Mendoza seconded Cllr Battersby and carried unanimously.

130/21 To appoint a contractor for re-roofing the squash court.

Cllr Reynolds reminded the Council that there was a requirement for all contractors to hold liability insurance for £10,000,000 whereas the preferred contractor held liability insurance for £5,000,000. The point was noted.

Resolved. The council appoints Heritage Ltd as contractor to deliver option 'A' roofing for £19,810. Proposed Cllr Seffens seconded Cllr Battersby and carried unanimously.

131/21 To review proposals for refurbishment of recreation ground play area.

Resolved. The Projects and Actions working group will review design proposals and recommend a specification to September full council. Proposed Cllr Battersby seconded Cllr Mendoza and carried unanimously.

132/21 To consider projects suitable for Community Infrastructure Funding.

The Clerk will advise the academy and netball club to apply.

133/21 Topics for consideration at meeting with M.P.

More bollards and street furniture.

Maintenance of roads and verges.

Blocked drains.

Vegetation on footpaths.

Planning and permitted development policy - giving third tier councils more say in decision affecting their locality.

Weight restriction on main road.

Special constables.

134/21 Police liaison.

The Essex Police reports and communications were noted.

The lack of communication was noted.

135/21 To note the dates booked for play in the park.

The dates were noted.

136/21 Items for next agenda.

Amendments to social media and communication policy,

Recreation grounds play area improvements,

800th Anniversary commemorations.

Beacons for jubilee

Future use of chapel

Burial Ground.

Next meeting July 15th at the Council Chamber, CoVID restrictions permitting.

Meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.