



**Minutes of a meeting of the full council.
Held on 19th August 2021 at the Council Offices, Bansons Way CM5 9AS.**

152/21 Those present and apologies for absence.

Chairman Cllr Piggott
Councillors Battersby, Bell, Birch, Mills, Reynolds, Seffens, Shami, Vaz.

Also present The Locum Clerk, Press Officer, County Councillor Mclvor.
Apologies Cllrs Cole, Mendoza, PC Shepherd,

Resolved. The council to record and accept apologies for absence from Cllrs Cole and Mendoza. Proposed Cllr Piggott seconded Cllr Mills and carried unanimously.

The Clerk advised the Councillors that Mr Freeman had not attended a meeting for six months, he was automatically disqualified from membership of the council as specified by Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972. The casual vacancy will be advertised.

153/21 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

Cllr Birch declared a non-pecuniary interest 164/21.

154/21 Public participation.

There were no members of the public present.

155/21 Correspondence.

A letter from Ongar Millennium History Society thanked the council for the grant award.

The correspondence over broken railings at the four Wantz roundabout was noted. The matter has been reported as a Highways fault and later referred to the County Councillor for Ongar, Cllr Mclvor and Portfolio Holder for Highways, Cllr Scott.

A complaint about car parking at Jubilee Park was noted and the complainant was reminded that there was no automatic right for the public to park on the site, nor was there any permission to exercise dogs on the field.

156/21 Consultations.

The Qualis Community C.I.C. consultation was noted
Epping Forest District Council Local plan modifications were noted.

157/21 Reports from District and County Councillors.

To receive reports from District and County Councillors on matters relating to Ongar.
Cllr Keska reported that the District Council has returned to in-person meetings.
Cllr Vaz reported on the Shelley redevelopment of the shops and open spaces.

Consultation has been poorly attended. There is a further proposal to extend the playing field and installing a new skate park.

Epping Forest District Council are introducing a litter-picking initiative supported by a cleanest town competition. More news to follow next month.

158/21 Police matters.

P.C. Warren Shepherd was unable to attend.

159/21 To agree the Full Council meeting minutes of 15th July 2021.

Resolved. The minutes of Full Council Meeting held on are approved as a true record. Proposed Cllr Battersby seconded Cllr Seffen carried with two abstentions from councillors who were not present at the meeting.

160/21 Finance reporting.

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

Resolved. The Council notes the budgetary information for July and confirms that the account balance of £156,312.38 agrees with the reconciliation. Proposed Cllr Reynolds seconded Cllr Battersby and carried unanimously.

161/21 To approve the terms of reference for Working Groups.

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

Resolved. The Council approves version 1.6 of the full council terms of reference as published. Proposed Cllr Piggott seconded Cllr Birch and carried unanimously.

Resolved. The council approves the terms of reference for the working groups. Proposed Cllr Piggott seconded Cllr Birch and carried unanimously.

162/21 Grant Applications

The Councillors noted that Ongar Town F.C. had provided more information about their grant application as requested but withdrew their application.

163/21 Remembrance parade

To consider options for the format of the 2021 remembrance.
The Council agreed to support a small ceremony with prayers, readings, wreath-laying and complying with the current social distance rules.

County Councillor McIvor arrived 20.55.

Cllr McIvor introduced himself and confirmed his enthusiasm for working with the Town Council, reminding the Town Councillors to raise any problems at the earliest opportunity.

Considering the heavy vehicles using the High Street. There is no possibility of a weight

restriction being applied and the proposed alternative of a 20mph speed limit would not make any difference. Few vehicles can do more than 20mph during the day and the restriction would be of little value.

'Unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles' signage will be requested, but the full solution will require a full discussion with the Town Council later.

Flooding is an issue throughout the County Division and is a wider problem than any individual Parish. Flooding will happen and there is a clear need for a robust response to mitigation and management.

A works order has been issued for the missing bollards in the High Street which will be considered by the highways panel.

164/21 Christmas shop window displays.

The Town Forum are looking for an opportunity to raise their profile among the business community and would like the opportunity to run the Christmas window dressing competition. The Council agreed to hand over the organisation and delivery of the 2021 competition

165/21 Items for next agenda.

To review proposals for refurbishment of recreation ground play area.

Burial ground.

Budget for 2022-2023. Initial review.

Health care working group.

Repairs to the fencing between the river and car wash.

Works to trees at Jubilee Park and tree whips for planting.

Neighbourhood plan. The clerk advised the councillors that the final version will be delivered in a few days, and their approval would be required before submission to the District Council. Given the short notice for submission, the plan would be circulated for consideration. If there were any concerns that need discussion, this could be done by Zoom, and the decision ratified at the next full council meeting.

Meeting closed 9.32