

DAVENTRY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Daventry Town Council held via Video Conference on Zoom on Monday, 29th June 2020 at 6.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr Lynne Taylor (Town Mayor) – Chairman

Councillors:

Mike Arnold
Dawn Branigan
Lynn Jones
Alan Knappe
Maureen Luke
Peter Luke
Ted Nicholl
Malcolm Ogle
Wendy Randall
John Tippet
Karen Tweedale
Katie Thurston
Mark Wesley

IN ATTENDANCE: Deborah Jewell – Chief Officer (CO)
Sarah Fox – Responsible Finance Officer (RFO)

0 Members of the Public
0 Member of the Press

OPEN FORUM

None.

TC2009.1 APOLOGIES.

Apologies from Cllr Carl Busby and Ted Nicholl.

TC2009.2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

No pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests declared.

TC2009.3 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT.

Cllr Auger referred to the regular updates from Northamptonshire Community Resilience in relation to the coronavirus and latest developments in changes to local government in Northamptonshire. He informed members that the local government reform was moving forward and that the design phase had been completed to ensure that the Unitary Council will be safe and legal from day one.

Cllr Auger advised members of his concerns with a spike in Covid cases in Leicestershire and the affect that this may have on neighbouring counties as restrictions are lifted and people become more relaxed with the government guidelines, he was hopeful that people would remain sensible at each stage.

The Chair brought to Cllr Augers attention concerns that had been raised by residents with the current limitations with the renewal of the blue badge scheme, as applications were only possible online and with the local library being closed residents were finding it difficult to apply/renew.

Cllr Auger advised he would make enquiries and that he would relay his findings to the Chief Officer, for circulation to members.

Cllr P Luke highlighted that this would also apply to bus passes and respectfully asked that this be included in Cllr Auger’s enquiries.

TC2009.4 MINUTES.

RESOLVED:	That the minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 28th May 2020 and the Special Meeting of the Town Council on Monday 22nd June 2020, be approved and signed as a correct record.
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TC2009.5 COMMITTEE MINUTES.

RESOLVED:	<p>That the reports of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (ii) Finance & Policy Committee – 8th June 2020. (iii) Planning & Development Committee – 17th June 2020. <p>Be received.</p> <p>That the recommendations from the Finance and Policy Committee on 8th June 2020 be approved;</p> <p><i>Reference FP2008.5 – Re-Opening of High Street’s Safety Fund</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) That a working group be appointed to scrutinise the scheme should funding be made available (ii) That Cllr Taylor, Arnold, Wesley and Knape be appointed to the working group. (iii) That on allocation of funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDP) being made available approval be given for the recruitment of a Town Safety Manager, salary circa £30k. <p><i>Reference FP2008.7 – Policies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Training Policy, be approved, ii) Expenses Policy, be approved. iii) Communications and Community Participation, be approved. iv) Communications Protocol, be approved. v) Social Media Policy, be approved.
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TC2009.6 POLICIES

The Chief Officer advised that on the completion of the transfer of the public open spaces the Town Council had adopted Daventry District Council’s Tree Policy but having referred to Banbury Town Council on management of open spaces and landscaping, a new policy was required.

Members reviewed the policy and it was

RESOLVED:	That the Tree Management Policy, be approved.
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TC2009.7 OPERATIONAL UPDATE.

The Chief Officer referred to the report, previously circulated.

The Chief Officer informed members that play areas were scheduled to open on 4th July 2020, with Daventry NORSE completing comprehensive inspections of each play area prior to this date. The CO advised informational signs advising of social distancing, sanitising and littering were to be placed at the entrance of each play area in the Town.

The Chief Officer further advised members that the Operations Officer would be working alongside the Community Ranger, PCSO and CCTV control room on Saturday 4th July to provide further support in relation to the safe reopening of the parks and provide support to the Ranger, in anticipation of a busy day with people using the parks and visiting pubs for the first time since their closure on 20th March 2020.

The Chief Officer concluded her report advising that following a review of staff resource and current government guidelines, the Museum were preparing to open to the public from Tuesday 8th September for the next exhibition and the Museum Officer is looking into the possibility of booking appointments via Eventbrite.

TC2009.8 THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (LGA) – CONSULTATION ON NEW MODEL MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT.

Member considered the consultation and concurred that members should submit comments to the office for consideration at the Town Council meeting schedule for 27th July 2020.

ANNUAL WAITING RESTRICTION REVIEW 2020/21, DAVENTRY.

The RFO advised members that a review on waiting restrictions (restrictions on on-street parking) was conducted on an annual basis, providing members of the public the opportunity to propose locations. These proposals are then submitted to the Town Council for review and respond with either their support or objection.

Cllr P Luke commented that he was supportive of the proposed waiting restriction on Queens Road, however Royal Oak Way and Sopwith Way already had waiting restrictions and he expressed concern that more restrictions would disperse the problem of HGV parking to other areas of the Town. Cllr Luke also questioned how the restriction would be policed.

Cllr Knappe, Randall gave their support for all the proposed restrictions but also questioned how they would be policed.

Cllr Tweedale and Thurston understood member concerns in relation to enforcing the restrictions, but concurred without a restriction in place there could be no enforcement.

RESOLVED:	(i) That the Town Council support the proposed waiting restrictions on Queens Road. (ii) That the Town Council support the proposed waiting restrictions on Royal Oak Way North. (iii) That the Town Council support the proposed waiting restriction on Sopwith Way.
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TC2009.9 SECTION 17 CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998

- i) **PCSO.** The Chief Officer shared the report with members on screen. Members noted the report.

- ii) **CCTV.** The RFO advised that the report was not yet available, and that the information would be circulated to members as soon as it was received.
- iii) **Community Ranger.** The CO shared the Community Ranger report with members on the screen.

Councillor M Luke commented that she felt the report from the Community Ranger was positive and non-confrontational and was very pleased with the new appointment.

Cllr Brannigan commented on the noticeable benefit of having a Community Ranger in the Town and highlighted the ongoing work that the Ranger and PCSO were undertaking to deal with street drinking and begging.

The Chair wanted it Minuted that the newly appointed Community Ranger, had made a remarkable difference in the Town, receiving positive feedback via social media. It was also noted that she had very quickly become a friendly and approachable member of the team and has proved that the role is both a valuable and important role within the Council.

TC2009.10 CORRESPONDENCE.

CO advised members of correspondence received from Daventry District Council inviting the Town Council to consider the transfer of three Community Buildings.

Members felt it was important that the Town Council considered the invitation and that further questions were asked to better understand the commitment in relation to both resources and financial implications.

TC2009.11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

Date of next meeting Monday 27th July 2020.

The meeting closed at 19:55 hrs.

SIGNED.....DATED.....