



AYLESBURY
TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Direct Services Committee of Aylesbury Town Council
held at the Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury on Wednesday 8 June 2022 at 7pm**

Present: Cllr W Raja (Chairman)
Cllr M Azam
Cllr C Hendren
Cllr R King
Cllr S Bateman substituting for Cllr R Lloyd
Cllr A Morgan

Officers in attendance: Mr K Gray (Town Clerk)
Mrs J Priest (Deputy Town Clerk)

No members of the public were in attendance.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7pm

1. Apologies

To note and agree apologies for absence.

Resolved: To receive and accept apologies for absence from
Cllr S Lambert (deputy mayoral commitment), Cllr R Lloyd (prior commitment),
Cllr N Hussain (prior commitment)

2. Declarations of Interest & Dispensations Requested

To declare and note any personal or prejudicial interests.

No declarations made and no dispensations requested.

3. Election of Vice Chairman

To receive nominations and elect a Vice Chairman for the 2022/23 municipal year.

Nominations were sought. It was proposed by Cllr A Morgan, seconded by Cllr C Hendren that Cllr S Lambert be elected Vice-Chairman. No further nominations were forthcoming.

Resolved: On being put to the vote it was unanimously agreed that Cllr S Lambert be duly elected to serve as Vice Chairman in 2022/23.

4. Minutes

To receive, accept and sign the draft minutes of 15 March 2022

Resolved: To receive, accept and sign the minutes of 15 March 2022 as a true record.

5. Matters Arising

No matters arising from the minutes.

6. Jonathan Page Play Centre

- a) The Deputy Town Clerk provided an update on the running of the centre, which has returned to normal and is operating under pre-pandemic capacity again, however, rigorous cleaning and hygiene practices remain in place.

The Easter and May Half Term Playschemes were both a great success with 45 children attending for the very first time.

The Play Centre is participating in Active Communities, which encourages children to be more active through play and it is also a green tubs site, which is funded by public health and is an opportunity to learn about growing and eating seasonal food.

The centre will hold an Open Day on 2 July 2022 between 11am-2pm, which is an opportunity for new parents to meet the team and see the centre and the facilities on offer.

Cllr Morgan asked if any Ukrainian children had taken up the offer of a free place yet at playschemes. The Deputy Town Clerk reported that to date no places had been taken up but that information had been provided to all local Ukrainian support groups about the offer.

Cllr Raja asked if the centre is operating again at its full capacity and without covid-19 restrictions. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that the centre is taking up to 65 children per day again.

- b) To look at the budgetary position of cost centre 702 Jonathan Page Play Centre to March 2022 (month 12) and to make any recommendations to take to Town Council if appropriate.

No recommendations were made to take to Town Council.

7. Devolved Services and Environment

- a) To receive an update on Devolved Services and Environment. The Town Clerk will report.

The Town Clerk reported that the devolved services works continue as normal. The grass cutting team were a couple of days behind in their round due to the long bank holiday weekend and machinery requiring servicing, but they are working hard to catch up. The clerk has asked the Devolved Services Officer to contact Buckinghamshire Council officers to find out if they have been given an additional budget to continue with the weed spraying, as they had asked Aylesbury Town Council to stop spraying as it was covered by their contractor. The clerk will report back further at the next meeting.

- b) To look at the budgetary position of cost centre 701 Devolved Services and 403 Environment to March 2022 (month 12) and to make any recommendations to take to Town Council if appropriate.

The clerk confirmed the amounts of money received from Buckinghamshire Council for Devolved Services works as well as additional work carried out for some parish councils, which they pay for separately. The Town Clerk also explained what additional works we do for Buckinghamshire Council which are also separately paid for by Buckinghamshire Council.

No recommendations were made to take to Town Council.

8. Cemetery

- a) To receive an update on cemetery matters. The Town Clerk will report.

The Town Clerk updated the committee on cemetery matters including reports of vandalism. Wildlife cameras have been set-up in affected areas, where there is no CCTV coverage, which shows that crows and magpies are going onto graves and picking on items, pulling out plants and strewing them around. To date no human interference with the graves has been detected on the cameras.

- b) To look at the budgetary position of cost centre 601 Cemetery to March 2022 (month 12) and to make any recommendations to take to Town Council if appropriate.

No recommendations were made to take to Town Council.

9. Allotments

- a) To receive a quarterly update on allotment availability and associated matters

Councillors reviewed the report provided and had no further questions.

- b) To look at the budgetary position of cost centre 401 Allotments to March 2022 (month 12) and to make any recommendations to take to Town Council if appropriate.

No recommendations were made to take to Town Council.

10. Town Hall

- a) To receive an update on matters concerning the Town Hall.

The Town Clerk updated the committee on maintenance works required at the Town Hall building and reported that some of the window flashing needs replacing and pointing work needs to be done. The second floor offices are being refurbished at present, as this had not been done in the last 15 years. Carpeting needs replacing as well as blinds and overall maintenance due to leaks.

- b) To look at the budgetary position of cost centre 102 Building to March 2022 (month 12) and to make any recommendations to take to Town Council if appropriate.

No recommendations were made to take to Town Council.

12. Date of Next Meeting

To note the date of the next meeting for Wednesday 7 September at 7pm in the Council Chamber.

There being no further business of the Direct Services Committee, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7:21pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chairman