



AYLESBURY
TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 14 March 2024,
in the Council Chamber, Aylesbury Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury,
HP20 2QP at 7pm**

Present

In the Chair: Cllr S Lambert (Town Mayor)

Councillors

M. Baldwin	S. Bateman	S. Chapple	A. Christensen
T. Dixon	R. King	P. Koya	R. Lloyd
N. Mehta	A. Sherwell	D. Summers	G. Wadhwa
M. Winn			

Officers: Keith Gray, JP (Town Clerk)
Judith Priest (Deputy Town Clerk)

11 Members of the public in attendance

A member of the public asked questions pertaining to the Tring Road allotment gardens. The Town Mayor asked the member of the public to raise their questions with the Town Clerk.

Other members of the public raised questions regarding the allotment gardens on Tring Road, which were answered by the Town Mayor and where further follow-up is required, council officers will be contacting the relevant members of the public.

9 Members of the public left the meeting and two remained.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:18pm.

1. Apologies of Absence

Cllr M Azam (prior commitment), Cllr C Hendren (prior commitment), Cllr T Hunter-Watts (family commitment), Cllr N Hussain (family commitment), Cllr T Hussain (family commitment), Cllr R Khan (family commitment), Cllr A Morgan (illness), Cllr S Morgan (illness), Cllr W Raja (family commitment), Cllr D Thompson (work commitment), Cllr M Willis (work commitment)

Resolved: Council unanimously agreed that the above apologies be received and accepted.

2. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor's engagements for the month of January/February were issued to councillors in advance of the meeting. He highlighted visits to the Man vs Fat Football Match, which he enjoyed and the many visits by young adults and children to the parlour, who all donated supplies for the local foodbank. The Mayor thanked councillors for their continued food donations at the monthly meetings for the Aylesbury Foodbank.

Another highlight in February was the Random Acts of Kindness Day, which was a great way to engage with the community.

The Town Mayor sent his condolences to the family of former Town Councillor Graham Moor who passed away.

The Mayor promoted his upcoming fundraising Race Night on Friday 15 March 2024, to raise funds for his charities.

He also highlighted that the closing date for the Freda Roberts Award nominations is Friday 22 March 2024.

The Mayor asked councillors to consider supporting the council's community events by volunteering and replying to the Senior Communities and Events Officer with their availability.

The Mayor reminded councillors that the St George's Parade takes place on Sunday 21 April 2024, and asked that councillors please RSVP to the Mayor's PA with their attendance.

3. Leader's Announcements

The Leader, Cllr Lloyd, echoed the Mayor and sent his condolences and best wishes to the family of former Town Councillor Graham Moore.

Cllr Lloyd attended the Aylesbury Garden Town Advisory Board which focused on the regeneration of the Town Centre and update on housing around the town.

4. Declarations of Interest & Requests for Dispensation

To declare and note any personal or prejudicial interests, and to declare and note any pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests or requests for dispensation.

No declarations received

5. Minutes

Resolved: To sign and agree, as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 30 January 2024.

6. Matters arising on the Minutes

To receive a report from the Clerk on additional matters not on the agenda, if applicable.

The Clerk advised that the Buckinghamshire Council Regeneration team will be presenting to the council on the regeneration plans of Aylesbury at the full council meeting on Thursday 9 May 2024.

7. Committee Minutes and Chairmen's Reports

Resolved: Unanimously agreed, to take Minutes "as read" and to note/accept Minutes listed below.

- i) **Planning & Licensing Committee** - Cllr M Willis
 - a) To receive the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 29 January 2024.
 - b) To receive the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 26 February 2024.
 - c) To receive any important updates from the chairman following the meeting held on Monday 11 March 2024
- ii) **Policy Committee** - Cllr R Lloyd
 - a) To receive the draft minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7 February 2024.
- iii) **Direct Services** - Cllr W Raja
 - a) To note that the next meeting will take place on Wednesday 20 March 2024.
- iv) **Communities Committee** - Cllr T Dixon
 - a) To receive draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6 February 2024.
- v) **Grants Committee** - Cllr S Morgan
 - a) To note that the next meeting will take place on Wednesday 27 March 2024.
- vi) **Finance Committee** - Cllr A Christensen
 - a) To receive any important updates from the chairman following the meeting held on Wednesday 13 March 2024.

8. Financial

- a) To accept the Cost Centre Budget Monitoring Report to Month 9 (December 2023)
- b) Cash Books for Month 9 (December 2023)
- c) To accept the Cost Centre Budget Monitoring Report to Month 10 (January 2024)
- d) Cash Books for Month 10 (January 2024)

No questions were asked, and comments made regarding the financial report councillors received in advance of the meeting.

Resolved: The council unanimously accepted the Cost Centre Budget Monitoring Reports December 2023 (month 9) and January 2024 (month10) and Cash Books for December 2023 (month 9) and January 2024 (month 10).

e) To receive, note and approve the Internal Audit Report 2023-24: Interim Update.

Cllr Christensen, Chairman of the Finance committee, highlighted that the internal auditor concluded that in the areas examined, the council has always had, and continues to have, effective systems in place to help ensure that transactions are not mismanaged and always reported and accounted where needed. He specifically drew Members' attention to the following, which again, shows that there are no concerns with the councils accounting and financial decision making.

The areas examined included:

- Review of accounting arrangements and bank reconciliations
- Review of corporate governance
- Review of expenditure
- Assessment and management of risk
- Precept determination and budgetary control
- Review of income
- Review of petty cash and fuel cards
- Review of staff salaries
- Investments and loans

Resolved: The council unanimously agreed to receive, note and accept the Internal Audit Report 2023-24: Interim Update.

9. Devolved Services Agreement 2024-2025

Councillors received the proposed Devolved Services Agreement (DSA) in advance of the meeting.

Cllr R Lloyd proposed, seconded by Cllr A Christensen to accept and proceed with the agreement and devolved services for 2024-2025.

Resolved: Councillors unanimously agreed

- a) For the council to sign the Devolved Services agreement between Buckinghamshire Council and Aylesbury Town Council (ATC).
- b) For ATC to continue the current arrangements with the current listed Parish Councils with ATC as the "Cluster Lead" for the required works as stated in the DSA.
- c) For the Town Clerk to continue managing the DSA for and on behalf of ATC.

10. Outside Bodies Report

To receive verbal reports from Outside Body representatives.

Cllr S Bateman, William Harding Trust

Cllr Bateman reported back on the schools that she has worked with on behalf of the trust. One area the schools highlighted that required funding, was for smaller school trips to give all students the opportunity to attend. The Trust has agreed to fund small school trip requests going forward.

Cllr D Summers, Bucks Uniformed Youth

Cllr Summers advised the council that ninety cadets will be attending the St George's Parade.

No further reports from Outside Body representatives were received.

12. Committees Question Time

- i) **Planning & Licensing Committee** - Cllr M Willis
No questions
- ii) **Policy Committee** - Cllr R Lloyd
No questions
- iii) **Direct Services** - Cllr W Raja
No questions
- iv) **Communities Committee** - Cllr T Dixon
No questions
- v) **Grants Committee** - Cllr S Morgan
No questions
- vi) **Finance Committee** - Cllr A Christensen
No questions

13. Date Of Next Meeting

To note the next meeting of the Council, will be held on Thursday 11 April 2024 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP.

The Annual Meeting of the Town will be held on Thursday 11 April 2024 at 6:30pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP.

The meeting closed at 7:39pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Town Mayor