

# Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 12 September 2024, in the Council Chamber, Aylesbury Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP at 7pm

#### Present

In the Chair: Cllr A Sherwell (Town Mayor)

#### Councillors

S. Bateman S. Chapple M. Azam M. Baldwin N. Hussain T. Hunter-Watts C. Hendren A. Christensen R. Khan BEM R. King P.Kova T. Hussain **D.Summers** W.Raja R.Llovd N. Mehta M. Winn D.Thompson

Officers: Adil Iftakhar (Deputy Town Clerk)

No Members of the public in attendance.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

## Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr M Willis (work commitment), Cllr S Lambert (prior commitment), Cllr S Morgan (prior commitment), Cllr T Dixon (family commitment) and Cllr G Wadhwa (prior commitment).

Resolved: Council unanimously agreed that the above apologies and reasons be received and accepted for Cllr M Willis, Cllr S Lambert, Cllr S Morgan, Cllr T Dixon and Cllr G Wadhwa.

# 2. Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor provided an overview of the many engagements he and the Deputy Mayor attended throughout July and August. These included visits to ATC events such as Live in the Park and Proms in the Park. A full list of the engagements was circulated to councillors in advance of the meeting.

## 3. Leader's Announcements

The leader, Cllr Lloyd updated members on the recent visit by Laura Kyrke-Smith, MP for Aylesbury in which he discussed special expenses, devolution, direct services and asset transfers from Buckinghamshire Council. Matthew Barber, Police Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley also visited the Town Hall for the launch of DISC to combat retail crime across the county, this initiative has already been praised by retailers. Cllr Lloyd also reported that

schools are not eligible for HS2 grant funding, however, there is grant funding available from EKFB the contractor for HS2 in which local schools can apply, furthermore, he reminded councillors of remembrance Sunday and that invites would be going out shortly to all members.

# 4. Declarations of Interest or 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 and no dispensations requested.

#### Minutes

Resolved: To sign and agree, as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 11 July 2024.

## 6. Matters arising on the Minutes

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

The Deputy Town Clerk verbally updated members on the progress around the Railway Club and Community Centres.

# 7. Committee Minutes and 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 15 July 2024.
  - b) To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 12 August 2024.
  - c) To receive the draft minutes of the meeting held on 27 August 2024
- ii) Policy Committee Cllr R Lloyd
  - To receive the draft minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17 July 2024
- iii) Direct Services Cllr W Raja
  - To note that the next meeting will take place on Wednesday 11 September 2024.
- iv) Communities Committee Cllr T Dixon
  - a) To receive draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 30 July 2024
- v) Grants Committee Cllr S Morgan
  - To note that the next meeting will take place on Wednesday 16 October 2024.
- vi) Finance Committee Cllr A Christensen
  - To note the next meeting will take place on Wednesday 25 September 2024.

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#### Consultations

To consider Aylesbury Town Council's response to the following consultations:

(a) New delivery model for Buckinghamshire Libraries

**Resolved**: The Clerk to object and raise concerns as stipulated by councillors within the debate to the Chief Executive of Buckinghamshire Council.

(b) Draft Buckinghamshire Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

**Resolved:** The Clerk to object and raise concerns as stipulated by councillors within the debate to the Chief Executive of Buckinghamshire Council.

Cllr R Khan BEM left the meeting at 7:19pm

# 9. Community Board Boundary Review

To note and or comment on the Community Boundary Review as set out in appendix 1 and appendix 2.

**Resolved**: The Clerk to write to the Chief Executive of Buckinghamshire Council in relation to the concerns raised by councillors in regard to the community board boundary review.

# 10. Unadopted Roads

Cllr P Koya proposed the following motion, which was seconded by Cllr N Hussain:

Residents from both new and historic developments in Aylesbury are raising concerns about the process of or lack of adoption. These challenges include maintenance charges alongside council tax and the lack of maintenance of those assets. Aylesbury Town Council recognises the challenges associated with unadopted roads and open spaces and moves that the Town Council contacts the Secretary of State for "Housing, Communities and Local Government", the Local Member of Parliament for Aylesbury and NALC to highlight the issue(s) and lobby for an improved adoption process.

After a lengthy discussion on this topic, the following amendment by Cllr A Christensen was proposed and this was seconded by Cllr M Baldwin:

Residents from both new and historic developments in Aylesbury are raising concerns about the process of or lack of adoption. Aylesbury Town Council recognises the challenges associated with unadopted roads and open spaces and moves that the Town Council contacts the Secretary of State for "Housing, Communities and Local Government", the Local Member of Parliament for Aylesbury and NALC to highlight the issue(s) and lobby for an improved adoption process.

Resolved: The council unanimously accepted the amended motion as tabled, therefore the Clerk is to write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Local Member of Parliament for Aylesbury and NALC in relation to the above-mentioned motion.

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#### 11. Financial

- a) To accept the Cost Centre Budget Monitoring Report to Month 4 (July 2024)
- b) Cash Books for Month 4 (July 2024)

Questions raised were addressed by the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Deputy Town Clerk jointly regarding financial reports.

Resolved: The council unanimously accepted the Cost Centre Budget Monitoring Reports July 2024 (month 4) and Cash Books for July 2024 (month 4).

# 12. Outside Body Reports

To receive verbal reports from Outside Body Representatives.

### William Harding's Chairty, Cllr S Bateman

The charity is creating a new website so that it is more accessible and user friendly in line with the accessibility requirements for public bodies.

#### Elizebeth Eman Trust, Cllr N Mehta

An update was provided by Cllr N Mehta and Cllr A Sherwell on the old red lion public house.

## Aylesbury Vale Multicultural Centre, Cllr D Summers

The AGM to take place in October with Cllr D Summers to chair the meeting as the honouree chairman.

No Further reports from Outside Body representatives were received.

#### 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

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14. Date Of Next Meeting

To note that the next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 10 October 2024 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP.

The meeting closed at 8:18pm