



A MEETING OF ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDIUUM WAS HELD ON TUESDAY 30th MARCH 2021 AT 7.00pm BY VIDEO CONFERENCE

Present

Cllr G Forman (Mayor), Cllr K Cargill (Deputy Mayor and Community Care Committee Chairman), C Neal-Sturgess (Planning Committee Chairman), Cllr T Forman (Community Facilities Committee Chairman) and Cllr A Foster (Immediate Past Mayor).

In attendance Mrs V Lowe, Town Clerk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies – all Councillors present.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest on agenda items.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the previous meeting had been signed at Full Council.

4. Matters arising (not otherwise dealt with on the Agenda)

None.

5. Staffing Issues

- a. The Town Clerk reported that Sarah Duran had requested permission to work from home for six months following her relocation to Wales. After a discussion, this was agreed on a trial basis until the end of September 2021. The Town Clerk will deal with the necessary arrangements.
- b. The Town Clerk reported that she was interviewing candidates for the Kickstarter position on the following day.

6. Finance Issues

- a. The monthly management accounts were discussed and approved.
- b. The Town Clerk reported that she had looked at suitable investment options for some of the Town Council's reserves and advised that the Public Sector Deposit Fund managed by the CCLA would be an appropriate option. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would contact CCLA and with a view to investing in this Fund.
- c. The Town Clerk confirmed that a donation of £75,000 had been received from the Friends of the Greig Hall which would be placed in an Ear Marked Reserve in the accounts for the Greig Hall.
- d. The Town Clerk had been advised that the EPCC would qualify for a 33% reduction in business rates in 2021-22 due to closure during the pandemic. SDC had advised that they would be issuing invoices in July 2021 for the 66% payable.
- e. The Town Clerk confirmed that she had almost agreed the paperwork with Bloor Homes to make arrangements for the relocation of slow worms from the Allimore Lane development site. A licence would need to be executed by the Council and a unilateral undertaking was being given by the developer to pay the sum of £20,000 to ATC in consideration of the relocation and associated works.

7. Preparations for the new Council year

The Town Clerk explained that the government had announced that the regulations which allow Town and Parish Councils to meet virtually were not being extended and Councils had been advised that they needed to meet in person after 7th May 2021. The Town Clerk explained that this decision was subject to a legal challenge and had been much criticised in the sector. She had agreed with the Deputy Mayor, that the Mayor Making and Annual Meeting would be combined and held on 4th May 2021 by Zoom before the expiry of the regulations. The timetable of meeting dates for the remainder of the year was agreed with the venues and means of meeting to be confirmed in due course.

8. Greig Hall

The Town Clerk reported that the Energy Performance Certificate inspection had identified work which needed to be completed before a Certificate can be granted. SDC are seeking costings for this work.

9. Planning Committee

Cllr Neal-Sturgess gave an update on applications considered by the Committee during the month. There were no propositions to Full Council.

10. Community Care Committee

There had not been a Community Care meeting.

11. Community Facilities Committee

Cllr T Forman gave an update on the main issues discussed by the Committee. It was noted that the minutes had not yet been produced. There was a proposition to Full Council to authorise purchase of replacement play equipment for Moorfields and Collins Way play areas.

12. Propositions to Full Council

There is a proposition to Full Council as detailed in 11.

The meeting was then closed by the Mayor.