



Town Hall
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Clerk: Karen Wakefield

The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Full Council held on Wednesday 15th May 2024 at 7.00pm

PRESENT: Cllrs L Brazier (Town Mayor), D Batey, P Beedle, A Brazier, R Fazil, G Lake, J Munroe, L Shilling, B Wells, S Willis

Mrs K Wakefield – Clerk Mrs Janine Fletcher – Deputy Clerk

APOLOGIES: Cllrs M Pringle, D Shelton, R Shilling and M Staley for personal reasons

Resolved: that these apologies be accepted

Declarations of members interests: None

Declaration of any intentions to record the meeting: None

24/58 To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held on Wednesday 10th April 2024

The Minutes, having previously been circulated, were signed as a true and correct record.

24/59 To receive an update on a casual vacancy

The Clerk reported that the legal process to fill a casual vacancy had been carried out and the official notification had been received from NSDC that as an election has not been called by the required number of electors OBTC can now co-opt.

Notices for co-option had circulated and 2 members of the public had shown an interest in the vacancy. They will be invited to attend the next Full Council meeting on 12th June to give a short presentation.

24/60 Clerks Report *(not already covered on the agenda)*

The Clerk informed members that the timber ramps on the skate park had been dismantled and the contractors were in the process of clearing the debris.

Central Park will remain closed until the site has been checked. Cllr L Brazier as the Mayor would issue a public statement once this has taken place.

A suggestion had been received from a member of the public that the concrete slab be used for novices to learn how to use a skateboard and maybe painted with designs to stimulate play. The Clerk will contact the Community Team at NSDC for their input.

24/61

To suspend Standing Orders to allow for:

1. Questions or Statements from Members of the Public

None present.

24/62

To resume Standing Orders

Not applicable.

24/63

To receive any Questions to Council from Members

None.

24/64

Junior Town Council

1. To receive an update on JTC activities

The Clerk reported that the schools were working on their sunflower competition along with preparing for a Road Safety Day of Action. Inspector Charlotte Ellam had confirmed that she would be attending the next meeting.

24/65

Finance & Audit

1. Financial Year ended 31st March 2024

- a. To receive and consider the Internal Auditors written report

Noted, thanks were given to all staff involved.

- b. To approve and complete Section 1 of the Annual Return (Annual Governance Statement)

Section 1 of the Annual Return (Annual Governance Statement) was read out point by point, discussed by members and agreed as correct. The Return was duly completed and signed by the Chairman.

- c. To receive the Income and Expenditure account and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st March 2024

Received and Noted.

- d. To approve and complete Section 2 of the Annual Return (the Accounting Statements) for the year ended 31st March 2024

Section 2 of the Annual Return (the Accounting Statements) was read out point by point, discussed by members and agreed as correct. Section 2 completed and duly signed by the Clerk and countersigned by the Chairman.

2. To receive the schedule of accounts for payment

An amended Schedule of Accounts for Payment was tabled, duly approved and signed.

The Clerk as RFO reminded members that all invoices were available on the table for inspection at this meeting.

24/66 Special Projects

To receive any relevant updates and agree future actions regarding the following:

1. Town Centre Regeneration – Levelling up Fund

A further meeting had been held with the architects who had tabled the latest proposed drawings of the site.

Other parties requirements still to be taken into consideration.

NSDC are in the process of purchasing the bank.

It had been noted that Mark Spencer MP had posted on social media that he had been working with a further outside body to bring a banking hub to the town. The Clerk was currently making further enquiries about this.

24/67 Events

1. To receive a recommendation from the Events Working Party regarding Fairground Operators

Cllr L Brazier, as Events Chairman, informed members that at the previous Events WP meeting a discussion had taken place regarding the behaviour of the fairground operator. He had been rude to staff and created a health and safety concern amongst other issues and the Events WP had agreed to cut all ties with this provider and would request that Council ratified this decision.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Council have a duty of care to their staff and the public. Cllr L Brazier as Chair of the Events WP and Council made recommendation that all ties were cut with this fairground provider.

Proposed:	Cllr L Brazier	Seconded:	Cllr D Batey
Decision:	Unanimous		

24/68 To receive the draft minutes of the following committees and working parties and note the decisions made thereto:

The following minutes were noted and acknowledged.

1. Events Committee – 8th April 2024
2. Finance & Audit Committee – 17th May 2024

24/69 Correspondence

None

24/70 To note items for inclusion on future agendas

None.

24/71 To note the date and time of the next meeting

Wednesday 12th June 2024 at 7.00pm

Meeting closed at 7.34pm