

Minutes of an Extra-Ordinary Meeting of Sandwich Town Council, held remotely on Monday 14th September 2020 at 6:00pm.

The statutory requirements for meetings under the Local Government Act 1972 cannot be met during the current Coronavirus pandemic. As a result, s78 of the Local Authorities and Police Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 ('the 2020 Regulations') have come into force which enables the Town Council to hold meetings remotely.

Present: Councillors: The Mayor, Cllr PG Graeme (in the chair)

**HJ Bragg
AC Broun
Mrs D Carter
PI Carter
Ms AE Fox
J Franklin
DR Friend
MJ Holloway
MJ Lintott
HW Sampson
Ms D Sivrikaya
WP Staple
DMA Wood**

**Officers: Miss L Fidler
Mrs A Hollobon-Baxter**

01.09.20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Heaven due to a personal commitment. Apologies from Cllr Felton were received after the meeting, due to a technical joining problem.

02.09.20 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT INTERESTS

Cllrs Friend and Graeme disclosed an other significant interest in matters relating to Age Concern Sandwich (minute 03.09.20), as an employee and treasurer of this organisation.

03.09.20 AGE CONCERN AND KCC WELLBEING SERVICE COMMISSIONING TIMETABLE

The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Holloway took the Chair for this item of business. Councillors considered a letter from Mrs T Ward of Age Concern Sandwich, dated the 8th September 2020, and considered supporting this organisations appeal for the KCC Wellbeing Service Commissioning to recommence at a later stage, when there is more stability in the sector. Such an appeal would be made to Cllr Clair Bell, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health at KCC.

RESOLUTION: A letter in support of Age Concern Sandwich's appeal will be written to the KCC Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health, proposing that the KCC Wellbeing Service Commissioning timetable be postponed until after the Covid-19 pandemic.

04.09.20 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

- (i) It was recommended that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.
RESOLUTION: That the press and public be excluded for the following items of business.

(II) FORECOURT / MARKET SQUARE PROJECT

Members considered a report from the Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk, seeking various resolutions required in order to progress the PWLB application for the Forecourt Project. It was recommended that this information be considered confidentially due to the information contained therein about the business plan for the Forecourt, which contains proposals for different licenses and agreements in the future.

RESOLUTIONS:

- a) **The outcome of the most recent public consultation was noted.**
- b) **It was resolved to seek borrowing approval from the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government to apply for a PWLB annuity loan of up to £350,000 over the borrowing term of 50 years for the Guildhall Forecourt Project. The annual loan repayments will come to around £13,099.90. And it is not intended to increase the council tax precept for the purpose of the loan repayments.**
- c) **It was resolved to ring-fence all income from the Forecourt in September 2020 to August 2021 in order to facilitate the first loan repayment (to be paid in either 2021/2022 or 2022/2023), and the draft Budget for 2021/2022 and 2022/2023, that includes the loan repayments of both the new loan and the existing loan and how they will be facilitated, was noted.**

05.09.20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

28th September 2020 at 6pm.

Signed.....

Date.....