#### **In the Chair: Councillor C. Wise**

**Attendance:**

A. Cllr. D. Baverstock P. Cllr. J. Critchley

P. Cllr. J. Burnage A. Cllr. K. Dunleavey

P. Cllr. J. Cairney -. Cllr. M. Southey

P. Cllr. M. Cooper A. Cllr. J. Parker

A. Cllr. I. Culley P. Cllr. C. Wise

A Cllr. N. Gwynne P. Cllr. S. Wilkinson

Clerk: Judith Giles Present:

Public: Lisa Mortimer - TTC

Debbie Forder – Events Manager

1. **APOLOGIES**

Cllr. D.Baverstock, Cllr. I. Culley, Cllr. K. Dunleavey, Cllr. N. Gwynne, Cllr. J. Parker, Howard Brisland – Building Manager

1. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None

1. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Building & Town Committee Meeting held on 17th August 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. J. Burnage

**SECONDED:** Cllr. J. Critchley

**CARRIED**

**Matters Arising** –

Agenda Item 10– The Chief Officer reported window blocks have been installed on the Council Chamber windows. The Building Manager to contact the freeholder of Fox & Sons (neighbouring building to the Town Hall) to discuss an access agreement. Agenda Item 14 - Congregational Chapel Burial Ground. The Chief Officer and Cllr. J. Critchley reported they have met with TVBC – Brett Hill to discuss clearing the Congregational Chapel Burial Ground which hopefully will discourage the anti-social behaviour being reported.

1. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –** None
2. **ARCHIVIST REPORT –** Noted
3. **REVIEW OF BOOKINGS**

The Events Manager reported bookings continue to be on the increase. A new Pilates class in the Council Chamber began at the beginning of September four mornings a week. Filmshows commenced again at the beginning of October and tickets are selling well.

1. **FINANCE REPORT**

The Chief Officer presented Month 6. No areas of concern.

1. **PROPOSED BUILDING & TOWN BUDGET 2022-23**

**RESOLUTION NO. 20/18**

It was **RESOLVED** the Committee approve the Building & Town budget 2022-23

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. S. Wilkinson

**SECONDED:** Cllr. C. Wise

**CARRIED**

1. **BUILDING MANAGER’S REPORT (Appendix 1)**

Noted

1. **TOWN & TOURISM CO-ORDINATOR REPORT (Appendix 2)**

Noted

1. **ROMSEY CHRISTMAS SECURITY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 21/19**

In view of the Chamber of Commerce negative response, it was **RESOLVED** not to fund the Romsey Christmas Security

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. J. Cairney

**SECONDED:** Cllr. C. Wise

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

1. **POSSIBLE SECONDARY GLAZING – COUNCIL CHAMBER**

The Chief Officer reported the Building Manager is investigating possible secondary glazing in the Council Chamber as requested.

1. **TOURISM APP**

It was agreed to defer a decision regarding a Tourism App until the Tourism & Town

Co-ordinator has prepared her report.

1. **HENDOG GRAFITTI – MEMORIAL PARK**

The Building Manager is investigating the protection of the artwork and will report back at the next meeting

1. **QUEEN’S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2ND- 5TH June 2022.**

The Chief Officer asked the Committee to let her know of ideas for celebrating the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2nd – 5th June 2022 in the town. These will then be discussed at the next Building & Town Committee Meeting in December.

**GRANTS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 21/20**

It was **RESOLVED** to grant £1,000 to Romsey Young Carers and request what other grants have been applied for

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. M. Cooper

**SECONDED:** Cllr. J.Critchley

**CARRIED Meeting closed 8.36p.m.**

**Building Manager Report to Building and Town Committee 19th October 2021.**

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| **1** | **Ventilation** | **I am reviewing ventilation throughout the whole building in light of the new guidance due to what is now known regarding respiratory dieses.** |
| **2.** | **Council Chamber** | **I am looking in to the possibility of double glazing and draft sealing the large windows.**  **The upgrade for the lighting, PA and AV systems will also start soon.** |
| **3.** | **Covid Working** | **I am still regularly checking the information updates from both the Government and Health & Safety Executive. The Risk Assessment and guidance is then updated. There are still sneaky diktats appearing!** |
| **4.** | **Lift** | **All is now complete and working well. Building Control has yet to be finalized as some new Health & Safety documentation has still to be submitted.**  **The final costs are not all quantified yet (extras!). However, it appears that we will be within the agreed budget.** |
| **5.** | **Cupernham Notice Board** | **A new notice board is being purchased and will be fitted upon receipt. The old one is beyond economic repair.** |
| **6.** | **Market Place Paving** | **Having criticized the paving repair by SSE. The repair by Southern Water outside the Chip shop was excellent! A pity about the unidentified one out the Magistrates Court.** |
| **7.** | **Utilities** | **Our Gas supplier, PFP, want bust and we have now been transferred to BG. Our gas costs have quadrupled at today’s prices. We were fixed for the rest of this FY.**  **Our electricity supplier, Octopus, are unlikely to collapse I am informed. This is fixed until June 22.**  **I have communicated with our Energy Consultant and TVBC’s supplier. There is nothing to do at the present time, but, rest assured I am “on the case”.** |
| **8.** | **Bench Seats** | **Winchester Rd/Cupernham La. Bench has now been refurbished.** |
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| **9.** | **Street Art** | **I have been inContact with HENDOG the artist responsible for the Memorial Park mural regarding its preservation.** |
| **10.** | **Signage in TH** | **This is being renewed to include lift directions and bring it up to date.** |

**Item No**

**Lisa Mortimer MRICS – Romsey Town and Tourism Co-ordinator**

**Report to Romsey Town Council Building and Town Committee - Tuesday 19th October 2021**

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| **Item No** | **Subject** | **Report** |
| **1** | **General commentary** | Since my last report to your 17th August 2021 meeting, Romsey has enjoyed a lovely Summer and a more “normal” feel to every- day life, with events and festivals slowly returning to the Town.  As Lockdown eased, local businesses and all retail venues were able to fully open, with restaurants, pubs and coffee shops all able to serve an unlimited number of customers, both internally and externally.  Certainly the hospitality businesses centered around the Market Place and Cornmarket areas are using their external licenced space to full advantage, whilst the temporary planning powers are still in place.  The Secretary of State has used the enabling power in the Business and Planning Act to extend the duration of the temporary pavement licence provisions for 12 months to **30 September 2022**. This means that businesses can apply for a pavement licence to be in place within this extended period, up to 30 September 2022. |
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| **2** | **Around the Town Centre:** | The Market Place with its wide external seating area, continues to be a popular venue for people to meet and to enjoy alfresco coffee, meals and drinks and generally socialise.  In terms of footfall, latest figures show that  **Abbey Walk, Church Street Romsey**  This commercial investment comprising 4 shops and 7 flats above (sold off) sold at auction on 23rd September at £499,000 giving a net initial yield of 11.7%.  <https://auctions.allsop.co.uk/lot-overview/freehold-retail-residential-ground-rent-investment-in-romsey/c210923-172?searchid=UKASMZmGp0O7KJHWpIHNityFx9AVG3T%2F0drz7N5F7A8%3D&view=table&idx=121>  **17 Bell Street Romsey**  **Forest and Cove opened on 27th August.**  <https://www.instagram.com/forestandcoveromsey/>  New shop features art and crafts from local artists and also creates an artists space and classes for art and jewellery making (example below)  <https://www.rebecca-jackson.co.uk/about/>  **9 Latimer Street (Hayes Music) –** To Let via Primmer Olds  <https://primmeroldscrm.agencypilot.com/crm/store/documents/other/960382_noad9akiz7c53zu1.pdf>  Quoting Rent £29,500 per annum via a new FRI lease  **34 The Hundred** (Former Carphone Warehouse) now Alex Nails and Beauty opened on Thursday 7th October 2021.  **Planning Applications in Town Centre since last report in August 2021**  **8 Market Place Romsey SO51 8NB – Cocky Anchor**  Temporary installation of a Marquee in the garden of the Micro-Pub from November to February to be fixed by anchors in the perimeter bed of the garden  Ref. No: 21/02769/FULLS | Received: Wed 22 Sep 2021 | Validated: Wed 22 Sep 2021 | Status: Current  **8 Market Place Romsey SO51 8NB – Cocky Anchor**  Variation of Condition 3 of 21/00548/FULLS (Proposed changes of use of ground floor to Micropub (A4); New Shopfront and Shop Door, reinstatement of windows on ground floor southern elevation, new glass canopy on rear elevation, creation of pedestrian access in southern boundary wall, new front dormer window and new rooflights, access to basement with cellar doors mounted at street level and revised licencing hours for the 'Garden' to reflect the 'Micro-Pub' 11.00am to 10.00pm) to extend the Hours of Business to 10.00 to 23.30 Open for comment icon  Ref. No: 21/02788/VARS | Received: Fri 24 Sep 2021 | Validated: Fri 24 Sep 2021 | Status: Current  **21 The Hundred Romsey – Judy Webb Florist**  Change of use of first and second floor flat to offices alterations to shop front and single storey rear extension  Ref. No: 21/02691/FULLS | Received: Tue 14 Sep 2021 | Validated: Tue 14 Sep 2021 | Status: Current |
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| **3** | **Town Centre events and markets:** | **Romsey Makers Market**  The makers market is going from strength to strength and after being in the town centre for around 18 months (aside from lockdowns) it has now gained a solid reputation and is well established. Each week there is something new to see as well as having regular traders, new traders are signing up all the time. The market is held in both the Corn market and on the Market Square and creates an “artisan” type atmosphere within the town, often buskers join in too.  **Romsey Market**  The Market is running very smoothly.  The quarter just ended was the highest quarterly income for several years.  This is partly due to a small pitch price increase but there has been a real surge in demand for stalls following the Lockdowns and people’s desire to shop locally where possible.  The next two quarters are always the most challenging since the weather can have a dramatic impact, as we have seen even in the past few days.  However, there is now a solid core of committed traders and there is regular interest from potential traders and some names on a waiting list.  The Saturday Charity spaces are still greatly appreciated by local groups and the use of these is starting to pick up now that restrictions have eased for example the Lions Book Stall on a Saturday.  Working with local businesses that have table licences has been fine and the co-operation has led to a good ‘buzz’ around the Market Square on trading days in good weather.  **Romsey Antiques Market**  The second Romsey Antiques Market post lockdown took place on Sunday 17th October. There will not be a Christmas market but the Event will be held again in March 2022.  **Health and Well Being Events**  2 health and well- being events took place for end of August at the Town Hall and also on 23rd September which was designed to help those people who feel nervous or anxious about getting out and about again. Although these 2 events were poorly attended in terms of actual numbers, the event was very well-received by those who came and appreciated the hospitality. |
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| **5** | **Meetings Attended** | Attached is a schedule of meetings I have attended since my last report and planned meetings (so far). |
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| **6** | **Potential on line trading platform for Romsey Businesses**  **“Bricks and Clicks”** | Business case and project plan submitted  Verbal summary to be given at meeting |
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| **7** | **Tourism and Work with the Romsey Future Tourism Group and Proposed Romsey Tourism & Community Heritage App** | In terms of tourism, the staycation and day-trip market has benefited Romsey, with many local tourists re-discovering the sometimes forgotten gems that we have on our own doorstep. Working with our colleagues at Tourism South East, this market is predicted to keep growing into 2022 and new initiatives are currently being worked on to attract more visitors and visitor spend into Romsey. Including an update of Visit Romsey Website.  Further verbal summary to be given at meeting |
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| **9** | **Cruise Passenger & Local Tourism** | Verbal summary to be given at meeting |

LM 13.10.2021

**TTC Meetings since last report in August 2021**

26th August – Presentation by ShopAppy

7th September - Well Being Meeting Wash Up

8th September – Abbey Development Project Meeting

13th September – Romsey Future Meeting

22nd September – Romsey Future Tourism Group Meeting

23rd September – Well Being Event at RTH

5th October – Christmas Planning Meeting at RTH

7th October – Meeting with Dave Tasker (TVBC) at RTH

7th October – Catch up meeting David Gleave (TVBC)

13th October – Romsey Future Tourism Group Meeting

Planned Meetings this month (October)

20th October – Romsey Future Meeting

25th October – Safe and Wellbeing Event – Crosfield Hall