

Romsey Town Council

Town Hall
1, Market Place
Romsey
SO51 8YZ

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th January 2024

In the Chair: Cllr. J. Ray

Attendance:

P Councillor C. Birkett	P Councillor N. Gwynne
P Councillor J. Burnage	P Councillor R. Kohli
P Councillor M. Cooper	P Councillor J. Parker
P Councillor J. Critchley	P Councillor J. Ray
P Councillor I. Culley	A Councillor J. Urquhart
P Councillor S. Gidley	P Councillor S. Wilkinson
A Councillor A. Goddard	P Councillor C. Burgess
A Councillor R. Theron	

Clerk: Judith Giles

Public: 0

1. PRAYERS

No Prayers

2. APOLOGIES

Cllr. R. Theron, Cllr. A. Goddard, Cllr J. Urquhart

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

To receive and approve the accuracy of the Minutes meetings held as follows:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st November 2023 were duly confirmed

PROPOSED: Cllr. N. Gwynne

SECONDED: Cllr. S. Wilkinson

CARRIED

Matters Arising

Agenda item 4 – Cllr. J. Critchley reported the cobblestones in Church Place behind the Abbey are dangerous and people are tripping up. Cllr. M. Cooper will investigate.

Agenda item 7 – With reference to Cllr. J. Parker's query regarding Southampton Road payments reported to be coming out of Allotments Earmarked Reserve, Cllr. C. Burgess raised the query with the Allotments Committee and they agreed the comment would be removed from all future statements as this was not correct.

Agenda Item 6 - Cllr. J. Parker reported TVBC have agreed £58,000 has been allocated for the FMC project. The Chief Officer confirmed Tom Crutchfield TVBC will attend the Buildings & Community Committee Meeting on 6th February to give an update.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION 7.35P.M.

PROPOSED: Cllr.Cooper

SECONDED: Cllr. Parker

CARRIED

To receive formal presentations from individuals or organisations which are an identified agenda item:- None

To receive verbal reports from Borough and County Councillors of what has been happening at Borough and County level which is of interest to Romsey Town Councillors

TVBC Report

Cllr. J. Parker advised members the draft Local Plan will be presented at TVBC Cabinet Meeting on 17th January 2024. Part of the consultation allows 8 weeks for comments to be submitted.

HCC Report

Cllr Cooper noted that there was an HCC public consultation as a result of the need to reduce the budget by £132 million. It is the 'HCC Future Services Consultation' and is available on-line. It is open until 31st March 2024.

Cllr. M. Cooper furnished Councillors with a paper "HCC Revised Policy related to 20mph speed limits and 20mph zones" which includes a summary of the key points. (Attachment 1) An in-depth discussion was held. It was agreed to set up a Working Group which will meet on 23rd January 2023. The outcome of this meeting will be reported to the Building & Community Meeting on 6th February 2024.

Questions from members of the public to Borough Councillors

None

Questions from members of the public to the County Councillor

None

Questions from Town Councillors to Borough Councillors

None

Questions from Town Councillors to County Councillor

Cllr. J. Burnage had previously reported the pedestrian crossing on Cupernham Lane, is "silent". Cllr. M. Cooper explained this is because there are houses situated close by. Cllr. J. Burnage said an identical crossing on Viney Avenue/Winchester Road was not "silent" and quite loud. Cllr. M. Cooper agreed they should both be the same and asked Cllr. Burnage to email him and he will chase up appropriate officer.

JC reported the phasing of the lights at the junction Alma Road/Rail Station is not working properly. Cllr. M. Cooper asked Cllr. Critchley to send him an email and he will investigate.

Public participation ended – 8.10

5. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr. J. Critchley proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 26th October 2023, 16th November 2023, 7th December 2023 and 4th January 2024(draft)

PROPOSED: Cllr. J. Critchley

SECONDED: Cllr. I. Culley

CARRIED

6. BUILDINGS AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

Cllr. S. Wilkinson proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Buildings and Community Committee meetings held on 3rd October 2023 and 5th December 2023(draft)

PROPOSED: Cllr. S. Wilkinson

SECONDED: Cllr. J. Burnage

CARRIED

7. FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Cllr. J. Critchley proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Finance & Resources Committee meetings held on 24th October 2023 and 12th December 2023(draft)

PROPOSED: Cllr. J. Critchley
SECONDED: Cllr S. Wilkinson
CARRIED

8. ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE

Southampton Road

Cllr. C. Burgess proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 8th November 2023

PROPOSED: Cllr. C. Burgess
SECONDED: Cllr. C. Birkett
CARRIED

Kings Chase

Cllr. C. Birkett proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 30th November 2023

PROPOSED: Cllr. C. Birkett
SECONDED: Cllr. J. Burnage
CARRIED

9. 2024/2025 BUDGET

RESOLUTION NO. 20/45

It was **RESOLVED** to increase the 2024/25 budget by 4.83% - a precept request to TVBC of £497,128.

PROPOSED: Cllr. J. Critchley
SECONDED: Cllr. J. Parker
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. COUNCIL MEETING USE OF IPADS/LAPTOPS

The Councillor tablets are being priced and will be ordered this week. They should arrive set up for use by the end of the following week.

11. YOUTH DEMOCRACY EVENT

RECOMMENDATION: It is **PROPOSED** by Cllr. C. Birkett and **SECONDED** by Cllr. N. Gwynne to hold a Youth Democracy Event in the Town Hall, Romsey

PROPOSED: Cllr. C. Birkett
SECONDED: Cllr. N. Gwynne
CARRIED

12. ROMSEY FUTURE

Shared Prosperity Fund – TVBC have agreed that of the £1M UKSPF grant, £100,000 should specifically be focused on Romsey Town Centre. To provide as much flexibility as possible, but still achieving the principle aims of the Government, no specific projects have been identified for funding, but a broad scope of deliverables and opportunities should be included. These will help to deliver those projects identified by Romsey Future which help improve the town centre; create and improve local green spaces; and campaigns to encourage visitors to the town. Cllr. J. Critchley said clear co-ordination needs to be put in place between TVBC and town centre projects.

13. ROMSEY TOWN COUNCIL/ROMSEY EXTRA PARISH COUNCIL MERGER

The Chief Officer reported she still waiting for REPC VAT refund from HMRC. She has also chased CCLA for account name change. Cllr. R. Kohli asked if this agenda item can now be taken off Full Council agendas. Chief Officer to arrange.

14. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Cllr. J. Burnage – Kents Almshouses

15. CORRESPONDENCE

None

16. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

Meeting Closed 9.03hrs

Next Meeting 19th March 2024