

Romsey Town Council

Town Hall
1, Market Place
Romsey
SO51 8YZ

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th March 2024

In the Chair: Cllr. J. Ray

Attendance:

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

Clerk: Judith Giles

Public: 0

1. PRAYERS

Rev Thomas Wharton said prayers

2. APOLOGIES

Cllr. J. Burnage, Cllr. J. Critchley, Cllr. C. Birkett, Cllr. A. Goddard

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2024 were duly confirmed

PROPOSED: Cllr. S. Gidley

SECONDED: Cllr. M. Cooper

CARRIED

Matters Arising

Agenda item 4. Cllr. M. Cooper reported the phasing of the Alma Road junction traffic lights has been looked and they are now working well.

Agenda item 11. Cllr. M. Cooper reported the Youth Democracy Event organised by Cllr. R. Theron held in the Town Hall was very successful and suggested it is repeated in the future.

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 S. Gidley reported the Edwina Mountbatten Churchill Development Planning Application was unanimously opposed at Southern Planning Meeting held on 12th March 2024

Cllr. K. Dunleavy reported Lee Lane now has had potholes filled which has led to speeding problems again. She has asked Cllr. N. Adams-King to let residents know when work is to be carried out as this has not happened in the past. It is being suggested Lee Lane is closed to vehicles and only open to cycles and pedestrians.

HCC Report

Cllr. M. Cooper reported the HCC consultation on spending cuts is coming to an end. HCC needs to make savings of £132 million pounds. The total budget is down by £750 million as a result of Government grant reductions.

The Winchester Road closure lasted 2 weeks. Cllr. M. Cooper received only one email complaint. He reported the finish on the road surface is of good quality.

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. C. Burgess reported he has had complaints from people tripping over in the Cornmarket where the plastic barriers are placed outside the Salvation Army Shop. He asked if Cllr. M. Cooper can chase up with HCC. Cllr. C. Burgess to show Cllr. M. Cooper the problem by visiting the site. Cllr. J Ray reported he has spoken to the Manager of the Salvation Army shop who explained underpinning has been carried out. Due to Health and Safety issues a delay is necessary in case of more subsidence. Cllr. M. Cooper reported this is a listed building.

Public participation ended – 7.50p.m.

5. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr I. Culley proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 4th January 2024, 25th January 2024, 15th February 2024, 22nd February 2024(draft) and 7th March 2024 (draft)

PROPOSED: Cllr. I. Culley

SECONDED: Cllr. C. Burgess

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 5th December 2023 and 6th February 2024(draft)

PROPOSED: Cllr. S. Wilkinson

SECONDED: Cllr. J. Parker

CARRIED

7. FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Cllr. J. Parker proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Finance & Resources Committee meetings held on 12th December 2023 and 13th February 2024(draft)

PROPOSED: Cllr. J. Parker

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 17th January 2024

PROPOSED: Cllr. C. Burgess

SECONDED: Cllr. N. Gwynne

CARRIED

Kings Chase

Cllr. C. Birkett proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 29th February 2024

PROPOSED: Cllr. C. Birkett

SECONDED: Cllr. C. Burgess

CARRIED

Cllr. I. Culley reported Kings Chase Allotment Committee have been very helpful to plot holders who are having issues. Cllr. R. Theron reported the Committee do want to help and work with plot holders if there are any problems. Cllr. C. Burgess reported the Southampton Road Allotments Committee supported people with ill health or a death in the family and send letter of eviction as a last resort.

9. PROPOSED CLOSURE OF CASBROOK RECYCLING CENTRE

RECOMMENDATION: It is **PROPOSED** by Cllr. C. Burgess and **SECONDED** by Cllr. R.

Theron that Romsey Town Council register its objection to Hampshire County Council's (HCC) proposal to include the Casbrook (Romsey) HWRC in the list of sites being considered for closure. This is in response to HCC's Future Services Consultation covering their Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs).

RESOLUTION NO. 20/49

It was **RESOLVED** Cllr. C. Burgess make changes as discussed. The Chief Officer to forward final version to Councillors. With their approval will then send to HCC

PROPOSED: Cllr. C. Burgess

SECONDED: Cllr. R. Theron

CARRIED

10. ROMSEY FUTURE

Update from Cllr. Critchley on his return

11. ROMSEY TOWN COUNCIL/ROMSEY EXTRA PARISH COUNCIL PROPOSED MERGER

The Chief Officer reported she has been in contact with Caroline Nokes MP who said she would be happy to help RTC in their quest to receive VAT payment owed after the dissolving of Romsey Extra Parish Council and offered to contact HMRC on behalf of RTC.

12. CHIEF OFFICER RETIREMENT

In view of Romsey Town Council Chief Officer – Judith Giles retiring 31st August 2024.

RECOMMENDATION: It is **PROPOSED** by Cllr. J. Ray and **SECONDED** by Cllr. N. Gwynne to commence the process for her replacement.

RESOLUTION NO. 20/50

It was **RESOLVED** in view of Romsey Town Council Chief Officer – Judith Giles retiring 31st August 2024 to commence the process for her replacement.

PROPOSED: Cllr. J. Ray

SECONDED: Cllr. N. Gwynne

CARRIED

The Chief Officer was thanked by Councillors for her 20 year's service

13. BUILDINGS & ENVIRONMENT MANAGER RETIREMENT

In view of Romsey Town Council Buildings & Environment Manager retiring 30th April 2024.

RECOMMENDATION: It is **PROPOSED** by Cllr. J. Ray and **SECONDED** by Cllr. J. Parker to commence the process for his replacement.

RESOLUTION NO. 20/51

It was **RESOLVED** In view of Romsey Town Council Buildings & Environment Manager retiring 30th April 2024 to commence the process for her replacement.

PROPOSED: Cllr. J. Ray

SECONDED: Cllr. J. Parker

CARRIED

Councillors expressed their thanks to Howard Brisland – Buildings & Environment Manager for his excellent work over the last eight years.

14. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Cllr. S. Wilkinson – Bartletts Almshouses, Cllr. J. Parker – Romsey Business Breakfast Forum, Woodley Village Hall Committee Meeting, Thermal Energy Training, Test Valley Association Parish & Town Councils Meeting, Roke Manor Quarry Site Liaison Panel, Cllr. R. Kohli - Abbotswood Bi-Monthly Committee Meeting, Broadlands Meeting re Beggars Fair, Cllr. C. Burgess - Romsey Family Support Group, Southern Water Public Meeting, Cllr. J. Ray - Woodley Village Hall

15. CORRESPONDENCE

None

16. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr. J. Ray thanked Councillors for their support throughout his mayoral year. He reported his Mayor's Ball is on 4th May and welcomed Councillors to attend.

Meeting Closed 8.21hrs

Next Meeting 14th May 2024