

## **Romsey Town Council**

Town Hall  
1, Market Place  
Romsey  
SO51 8YZ

### **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023

#### **In the Chair:**

#### **Attendance:**

P Councillor D. Baverstock	P Councillor N. Gwynne
P Councillor J. Cairney	A Councillor S. Lamb
P Councillor M. Cooper	P Councillor J. Parker
A Councillor J. Critchley	P Councillor J. Ray
P Councillor I. Culley	- Councillor M. Southey
A Councillor N. Daas	P Councillor C. Wise
P Councillor J. Burnage	P Councillor S. Wilkinson
	A Councillor K. Dunleavey

**Clerk:** Judith Giles

**Public:** 0

#### **1. PRAYERS**

The Reverend Thomas Wharton led prayers.

7.33p.m. Cllr. J. Cairney, Cllr. J Parker joined the meeting

#### **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from Cllr. S. Lamb, Cllr. J. Critchley, Cllr. N. Daas and Cllr. K. Dunleavey

#### **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 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 were duly confirmed

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. J. Parker

**SECONDED:** Cllr. J. Cairney

**CARRIED**

#### **Matters Arising**

None

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**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**

**HCC Report** - Cllr. M. Cooper reported the re-surfacing of Winchester Road from the Plaza roundabout to Bow Lane will commence in May 2023 for 25 nights, 8.00p.m. – 6.00a.m. Outside these hours the road will be open as normal. Cllr. M. Cooper reported he met with Cllr. R. Humby – HCC Leader to look in particular at the south of the town centre. Cllr M. Cooper also took Cllr. R. Humby and Highways Officers to The Hundred and brought to their attention several issues which need to be considered regarding the road/pavements. There is a need to ensure attractive pedestrian links are maintained between the Market Place and South of Town Centre.

**TVBC Report** – None

**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**

Cllr. I Culley asked if the new recycling proposals included sending recycling abroad. Cllr. M. Cooper confirmed the recycling is collected by Contractor - Veolia and any material that can't be recycled is incinerated at Marchwood which is a waste to energy plant. No material is sent abroad. Cllr. I. Culley asked if the number of bins could be reduced. Cllr. M. Cooper confirmed TVBC propose a three bin system. 1. Dry recyclables; 2. Paper; 3. Rubbish and 4. A food waste box which will ultimately be turned into fertiliser.

**Questions from Town Councillors to County Councillor**

Cllr. I. Culley said he has heard swimming pools can be heated by a computer system and asked if this is something HCC would consider. Cllr. M. Cooper said this would be a massive project and although a lovely idea not something HCC will be looking at in the near future.

## **5. PLANNING COMMITTEE**

- i) Cllr. J. Burnage proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2023(draft)

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. J. Burnage

**SECONDED:** Cllr. I. Culley

**CARRIED**

- ii) **RECOMMENDATION:** With effect from 1 April 2023 the Joint Planning Committee shall cease and that a Romsey Town Council Planning Committee be reinstated under the previous Terms of Reference.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23/29**

It was **RESOLVED** with effect from 1 April 2023 the Joint Planning Committee shall cease and that a Romsey Town Council Planning Committee be reinstated under the previous Terms of Reference.

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. J. Burnage

**SECONDED:** Cllr. J. Parker

**CARRIED**

A discussion ensued regarding wood burning stoves as there is a lot of press exposure at the moment regarding the damage they can give out to the environment

## 6. BUILDING AND TOWN COMMITTEE

- i) Cllr. S. Wilkinson proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Building and Town Committee meetings held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023(draft)

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. S. Wilkinson

**SECONDED:** Cllr. J. Burnage

**CARRIED**

- ii) **ROMSEY FUTURE**

**RECOMMENDATION:** to approve the two RTC infrastructure projects which have been endorsed by Romsey Future. With Full Council approval they will then be referred to Hampshire County Council Community Funded Highways Infrastructure Scheme for consideration and action. The projects are as follows:-

1. Upgrade of footpath from Greatbridge Industrial Estate to Grayling Mead and Fishlake Meadows

2. Changes to three footpath barriers to allow mobility scooters to pass

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. J. Critchley

**SECONDED:** Cllr. M. Cooper

**CARRIED**

### **RESOLUTION NO. 23/30**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the two RTC infrastructure projects which have been endorsed by Romsey Future. With Full Council approval they will then be referred to Hampshire County Council Community Funded Highways Infrastructure Scheme for consideration and action. The projects are as follows:-

1. Upgrade of footpath from Greatbridge Industrial Estate to Grayling Mead and Fishlake Meadows

2. Changes to three footpath barriers to allow mobility scooters to pass

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. I. Culley

**SECONDED:** Cllr. J. Ray

**CARRIED**

Cllr. J. Parker reported HCC will design and implement the project. The cost will be met by RTC who will decide if these projects will be funded from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds.

- iii) **NEWSLETTER**

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Newsletter in future will be available on RTC website and other social media platforms. A printed version will be also be available at different locations throughout the area. The Chief Officer asked Councillors to let her know of suitable locations for the Newsletter to be placed.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 23/31**

It was **RESOLVED** the Newsletter in future will be available on RTC website and other social media platforms. A printed version will be also be available at different locations throughout the area. The Chief Officer asked Councillors to let her know of suitable locations for the Newsletter to be placed.

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. J. Cairney

**SECONDED:** Cllr. J. Parker  
**CARRIED**

**7. FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Cllr. J. Critchley proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Finance & Resources Committee meetings held on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023(draft)

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. S. Wilkinson

**SECONDED:** Cllr. J. Burnage

**CARRIED**

**8. ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE**

Cllr. J. Cairney proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023(draft)

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. N. Gwynne

**SECONDED:** Cllr. J. Burnage

**CARRIED**

Chief Officer to contact Allotments Committee to ensure RTC Councillor is invited to Allotments Committee meetings.

**9. 20s PLENTY FOR HAMPSHIRE**

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is **PROPOSED** by **Cllr. I. Culley** and **SECONDED** by **Cllr. C. Wise** RTC support the '20's Plenty in Hampshire' campaign to ensure that *all communities* in the County will have the possibility of applying for such a limit and that RTC:-

1. Request Chief Officer informs HCC, County Councillor - Cllr Nick Adams King that any agreement about 20mph limits in Hampshire should apply to *all communities* because we have residents who want these limits.

2. Chief Officer to inform Dr Hannah Greenberg confirming our continuing support for the campaign.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23/32**

It was **RESOLVED** RTC support the '20's Plenty in Hampshire' campaign to ensure that *all communities* in the County will have the possibility of applying for such a limit and that RTC:-

1. Request Chief Officer informs HCC, County Councillor - Cllr Nick Adams King that any agreement about 20mph limits in Hampshire should apply to *all communities* because we have residents who want these limits.

2. Chief Officer to inform Dr Hannah Greenberg confirming our continuing support for the campaign.

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. I. Culley

**SECONDED:** Cllr. C. Wise

**CARRIED**

**10. STANDING ORDERS**

**RECOMMENDATION:** to include in RTC Standing Orders the time is minuted, if a Councillor leaves during a Council meeting and the time is minuted when they return.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23/33**

It was **RESOLVED** to include in RTC Standing Orders the time is minuted, if a Councillor leaves during a Council meeting and the time is minuted when they return.

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. D. Baverstock

**SECONDED:** Cllr. J. Parker  
**CARRIED**

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

Cllr. J. Parker reported the Re-organisation Order has been duly signed by TVBC. Romsey Extra Parish Council (REPC) will cease to exist as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 and will merge with Romsey Town Council (RTC) from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023, except for a small part of Awbridge. REPC Earmarked Reserve will be transferred to RTC. The final figures are as follows:- RTC – 95.1%; 4.9% - Awbridge Parish Council. A discussion was held with regards to Romsey Town Council changing name to Romsey Council. It was agreed to not implement a change of name.

##### **RESOLUTION NO. 23/34**

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Full Council in May 2023 the “Building & Town Committee” title be changed to “Building & Community Committee”.

**PROPOSED:** Cllr. J. Burnage

**SECONDED:** Cllr. M. Cooper

**CARRIED**

#### **12. ROMSEY FUTURE**

No Update

#### **13. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS**

Cllr. S. Wilkinson - Bartletts Almshouses

#### **14. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

#### **15. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

As this is the last Full Council meeting before the elections in May 2023 The Mayor, Cllr. N. Gwynne thanked all Councillors for their hard work and support over the last four years. A special thanks was given to Cllr. D. Baverstock who after 20 years service both on RTC and TVBC is retiring. Cllr. M. Cooper said it is a great pleasure to support and amplify Cllr. Baverstock’s achievements as follows:-

When Dorothy was elected to this Council, and to Test Valley Borough Council, on the 1st of May 2003, she had already spent many years serving Romsey and Romsey School as the Deputy Head Teacher, Community. That she has continued on Town and Borough for 20 years is testament to her stamina and commitment to Romsey and its residents.

She replaced Brian Palmer in Cupernham ward serving with Alan Marsh until 2007, followed by Karen Dunleavey until 2015, John Ray until 2019, then Janet Burnage and Neil Gwynne until now. And every time, Dorothy has topped the Ward vote, and that's not just because her surname begins with 'B'.

She has always been prepared to take on additional responsibilities including Town Mayor in 2004 and 2015 and Borough Mayor in 2012. Additionally, she has served on Romsey Extra Parish Council for eight years.

As a Councillor she has always been a strong and vocal advocate of tourism in the town and of the town's open spaces where the War Memorial Park's Green Flag owes much to her efforts. In recent years she has campaigned successfully for additional Security Guards over Romsey's Christmas period.

One of my lasting memories of Dorothy over the last few years has been the mid-evening telephone call... "That'll be Dorothy," I say, when the phone goes... and sure enough it is and Dorothy says.... "Mark; I'VE GOT AN IDEA..." and from those thoughts a very significant benefit has, over the years, been delivered to the people of Romsey.

Her commitment to other organisations in the town is truly impressive including many years of service in the Romsey Show Society; King John's House; The Test Valley Arts Foundation; and Romsey CAB. Outstanding successes, beyond the parameters of politics, include Chairing the War Horse project which raised £80,000 resulting in the unveiling of the Amy Goodman's brilliant War Horse statue in the War Memorial Park in July 2015 and also Dorothy's long term involvement with Unity which works across the whole of Test Valley and which and co-ordinates local organisations that support the vulnerable in our community and which she has chaired for many years. When Dorothy was awarded her British Empire Medal in 2020, Unity's Chief Executive said of Dorothy; "She is a powerhouse of energy and enthusiasm."

I can't better that, other than to say, on behalf of the people of Romsey,

***'Thank you, Dorothy.'***

**Meeting Closed 8.31p.m.**

**Next Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023**