

Romsey Town Council

Town Hall
1, Market Place
Romsey
SO51 8YZ

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th September 2022

In the Chair:

Attendance:

A Councillor D. Baverstock	P Councillor N. Gwynne
P Councillor J. Cairney	P Councillor S. Lamb
A Councillor M. Cooper	P Councillor J. Parker
P 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

Clerk: Nicqui Chatterley

Public: 0

1. PRAYERS

The Reverend Thomas Wharton led prayers. Cllr. K. Dunleavey thanked the Reverend Thomas Wharton for a wonderful Memorial Service in The Abbey to commemorate the passing of Her Majesty The Queen

7.30p.m. Cllr. J. Critchley and Cllr. J. Cairney joined the meeting

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr. M. Cooper, Cllr. D. Baverstock, Cllr. N. Daas and Cllr. J. Parker

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 26th July 2022 were duly confirmed and signed

PROPOSED: Cllr. J. Burnage

SECONDED: Cllr. J. Ray

CARRIED

Matters Arising

Sgt. C. Challis – Police Update. Cllr. J. Critchley asked for the minutes to be amended to read “the Police do not have the authority to stop swimming at Sadlers Mill. They are trying to control anti-social behaviour.”

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PROPOSED: Cllr. K. Dunleavy

SECONDED: Cllr S. Wilkinson

CARRIED

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7.35 P.M.

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 - None

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

None

Questions from Town Councillors to County Councillor

None

RE-COMMENCED 7.38 PM

5. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr. S. Lamb proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 21st July 2022 and 18th August 2022(draft)

PROPOSED: Cllr. S. Lamb

SECONDED: Cllr. J. Burnage

CARRIED

6. BUILDING AND TOWN COMMITTEE

Cllr. S. Wilkinson proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Building and Town Committee meetings held on 14th June 2022 and 16th august 2022(draft)

PROPOSED: Cllr. S. Wilkinson

SECONDED: Cllr. K. Dunleavy

CARRIED

7. FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Cllr. J Critchley proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Finance & Resources Committee meetings held 5th July 2022 and 6th September 2022(draft)

PROPOSED: Cllr. J. Critchley

SECONDED: Cllr. I. Culley

CARRIED

8. ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE

Cllr. J. Parker proposed that the Full Council accept the minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 1st August 2022

PROPOSED: Cllr. J. Cairney

SECONDED: Cllr. C. Wise

CARRIED

Cllr. N. Gwynne is attending a TVBC Whitenap update meeting. He will report back to Council if there is any land available for more allotments.

Chief Officer to ask Allotment's Treasurer if a "budget for income" can be included on Allotment's Statement of Income and Expenditure

9. ANNUAL RETURN 2021/22

RECOMMENDATION: Full Council approve Annual Return 2021/22

RESOLUTION NO. 22/16

It was **RESOLVED** to approve Annual Return 2021/22

PROPOSED: Cllr. K. Dunleavey

SECONDED: Cllr. J. Ray

CARRIED

Council thanked the Chief Officer and her staff for their diligent work resulting in receiving a signed-off Annual Return 2021/22 with no issues.

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

Cllr. N. Gwynne updated Council regarding the Romsey Town Council/Romsey Extra Parish Council Proposed merger as follows:-

Two meetings have been held between REPC and RTC involving the Chairs of both and the Clerk/Chief Officer of both. One further meeting is outstanding; this is to be held before November, as recommendations need to go back to TVBC by then. The second of these meetings also involved Grahame Jackson of Awbridge Parish Council, as a small part of Romsey Extra will be transferred to Awbridge. This second meeting concerned assets, commitments and reserves. Key points:

- a. No significant issues arose re transferring assets, commitments and reserves during the meeting.
- b. Within REPC reserves are £218,310 from CIL. REPC wish to commit these to 3 projects:
 - i. Highwood Lane footpath
 - ii. Whitenap related pedestrian crossing
 - iii. Short extension of footpath connecting Cupernham and Belbins

However, it is unlikely that any work will commence on any of them before 31st March 2023.

- c. Within REPC reserves there are £16,710 received from the building of a solar farm. This is currently intended by REPC for use on (as yet unidentified) maintenance work or projects at Woodley Village Hall.
- d. There are £20K of REPC reserves held for a potential payment to HCC pensions, due to the dissolving of REPC. NOTE Outside of the RTC meeting, HCC advised that no such payment will be incurred.

- e. Unless significant payments are made from reserves between now and 31st March 2023, then a figure in excess of £340,000 is likely to come across from REPC – approximately 97.5% of which will come to RTC, the remainder to Awbridge.

Finally, it was agreed that some form of ceremony or meeting should be set up to mark the dissolving of Romsey Extra as a separate Parish on 31st March 2023. Cllr. Neil Gwynne and Cllr. John Parker to work on a proposal and present back to RTC and REPC for approval.

The following questions were asked:-

Is there a deadline set for Romsey Extra Parish Clerk to respond to Cllr. J. Parker – Romsey Extra Parish Chairman on her personal response to the merger.

Fixed Assets/ Reserves etc. It was felt the three 'projects' of two footpaths and a pedestrian crossing were very unlikely to have reached the point of any payments having been made by March 31st 2023, but that it was hoped to have reached the point of the projects having been 'committed to'. Cllr. J. Parker to expand on this, as Councillors could not see how reserves could be limited prior to transfer, by "commitments" to projects that could only be started post May 2023 elections. Cllr. S. Lamb requested Romsey Extra Parish Council provide her with a breakdown of what funds Romsey Extra have spent over the last five years. Chief Officer to request.

11. ROMSEY FUTURE

Cllr. J. Critchley reported Romsey Future September meeting was cancelled and will now take place in November 2022.

12. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Cllr N. Gwynne - Kents Almshouses

13. CORRESPONDENCE

None

14. DEATH OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN – 8TH SEPTEMBER 2022

The Chief Officer reported a Memorial Service was held in The Abbey on Sunday 18th September 2022 which all Councillors were invited to. Protocols were carried out at the Town Hall throughout the period of mourning. Cllr. K. Dunleavy thanked the Chief Officer and her staff for work carried out in light of the death of Her Majesty the Queen.

15. MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor Cllr. N. Gwynne reported he is attending a Town Crier Competition in Andover.

Meeting Closed 8.19p.m.

Next Meeting 15th November 2022