

Town Council

Minutes of Meeting

Kidsgrove Town Council
Victoria Hall
Liverpool Road
Kidsgrove
Staffordshire
ST7 4EL

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Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 9th September 2021, 7:00pm, Meeting held at The Victoria Hall, Kidsgrove.

21-22-FC4-01 Present

Cllrs Cooper (Chair), S Dymond, D Allport, A Cartwright, S Burgess, M Maxfield, H Maxfield, G Burnett, B Owen, K Johnson, M Stubbs, S Bowyer, E Wareham-Jones.

Attending: Sue Davies (Clerk), Elizabeth Norton (Assistant Clerk)

No members of the public present.

21-22-FC4-02 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Owen, Cllr K Robinson, Cllr C Dickens, Cllr P Waring, Cllr J Waring and Cllr L Dillon.

21-22-FC4-03 To note declarations of members interests.

None.

21-22-FC4-04 Public Participation

No members of the public present.

21-22-FC4-05 To receive and resolve to approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 22nd July 2021.

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting of 22nd July 2021 were approved.

21-22-FC4-06 To receive and note the following draft minutes of Committee Meetings not previously presented to Council:

The following minutes were received by the Council:

- Draft minutes of the Planning, Infrastructure and Highways Committee Meeting of the 12th July 2021.

Chair

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- Draft minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting of the 15th July 2021.

Receipt of the following draft minutes to be deferred:

- Staffing Committee of the 5th August 2021.
- Finance and General Purposes Committee of the 2nd September 2021.

21-22-FC4-07 Matters Arising – To receive updates on any matters arising from previous meetings including:

The Clerk informed that a response has been submitted to the Boundary Commission, as part of their consultation, proposing that the constituency be referred to as Stoke-on-Trent North and Kidsgrove Districts.

It was also noted that the letter has gone to NULBC regarding the naming of Newchapel Recreation Ground and now awaiting a response.

21-22-FC4-08 Finances:

a) To receive bank statement and reconciliations dated 31st August 2021.

The bank statements and reconciliations dated 31st August 2021 were received. It was noted the Lloyds Credit Card Statement for August is not yet available to allow the bank reconciliation although a statement summary is included to demonstrate a zero balance at month end.

b) To receive and approve the schedule of payment requiring approval.

Pending payments were approved at the recent F&GP Committee meeting and therefore there were none to approve this evening.

c) To resolve to agree that the Clerk transfer £100,000 from the Barclays Bank to Unity Bank

Resolved: It was approved by a majority show of hands that the Clerk transfer £100,000 from the Barclays Bank to the Unity Bank.

21-22-FC4-09 To resolve, upon recommendation from F&GP Committee, to approve the Risk Assessment dated September 2021.

Resolved: The Council resolved to agree upon recommendation from the F&GP Committee.

21-22-FC4-10 Victoria Hall Issues:

a) To resolve, upon recommendation from the F&GP Committee, to approve lettings and concessions policy dated September 2021.

Resolved: The Council resolved to approve upon recommendation from the F&GP Committee, the lettings and concessions policy dated September 2021.

b) To receive a request from the Clerk to include Community Speed Watch as a partnership organisation to allow her to arrange free hall use for information/training sessions as required.

Resolved: It was agreed by a majority show of hands to accept the Clerk's request to include Community Speed Watch as a partnership organisation to allow her to arrange free hall use for information/training sessions as required.

21-22-FC4-11 Defibrillators:

To note the theft of the defibrillator from outside of One Sure on Butt Lane and that the defibrillator had been funded by an individual from fund-raising and 'donated' to the community. There seems to be no specific ownership, responsibility, or insurance in place. To consider and resolve to agree that, if the defibrillator isn't returned, that the Town Council replace cabinet and defibrillator and retain ownership.

Resolved: The Council resolved to agree in principle, to fund and install a replacement, and to delegate the task to the Clerk in conjunction with Cllr S Dymond up to a maximum cost of £2000. It was also noted that a possible change of location should be investigated and considered, and the new defibrillator would be covered by the Council insurance.

21-22-FC4-12 Planning Matters

To be deferred to the Planning, Infrastructure & Highways Committee meeting next week, where they can be discussed in further detail.

21-22-FC4-13 To receive any feedback from NULBC and Staffordshire County Council and also the Town Council's representatives on other bodies:

a) Staffordshire County Council (Cllrs Burnett and J Waring)

Cllr Burnett updated in regards Highways work ongoing, and that Kidsgrove is having some of the roads resurfaced. There are ongoing issues with the A50 past the Town Hall which is believed to be the responsibility of Severn Trent Water. It was noted that the pot holes under the railway bridge have now been filled.

b) NULBC (all Borough Councillors present)

Cllr Stubbs updated in regards the air pollution problem at Walleys Quarry that has been affecting large parts of the Kidsgrove parish. As Walleys Quarry have put in an appeal, the issue is moving into a long-term process.

Cllr Burgess updated on complaints received by residents of Kidsgrove and Butt Lane regarding the quality of repair on the roads.

Cllr Burnett informed of complaints being made by residents near the layby on Kidsgrove bank that a nearby property owner is causing a nuisance by burning rubbish late at night. The Borough Council have been informed and they are going to send a letter to the individual.

Cllr Dymond updated regarding complaints of overgrown areas from Townfield Close and Old Butt Lane.

c) Kidsgrove LAP (Cllr J Waring)

As there have been no meetings during Covid, there was nothing to report.

d) Talke and Butt Lane LAP (Cllr K Robinson)

As there have been no meetings during Covid, there was nothing to report.

e) Town Deal Board (Cllr Stubbs)

Cllr Stubbs provided an update on the meeting held at the Victoria Hall and thanks were expressed to the Clerk for arranging this. The structure is being changed slightly to allow individual projects to be focused on. There were a series of reports Chatterley Valley, Station project and the Shared Service Hub, Canal Planting project and the Sports Centre.

f) SPCA (Cllr S Burgess)

A meeting due to be held was postponed until the 20th September and an update will then be provided at the next meeting.

g) Kidsgrove Rotary (Cllr Dickens)

Cllr Dymond provided an update to say the Bonfire Night celebration will go ahead this year Saturday 6th November 2021.

h) Royal British Legion (Cllr Dymond)

Cllr Dymond advised the poppy appeal had started its preparations and she will be contacting local shops and schools. New to this year, there will be the option to donate via contactless card payment.

i) Go Kidsgrove (Cllr P Waring)

No update.

j) Kidsgrove Leisure Centre Group (Cllr G Burnett)

The roof repair is currently ongoing.

k) Talke Mining Memorial Group (Cllr S Dymond)

Cllr Dymond has spoken with the group who have reported the group have received some materials and tools by donation. The group are currently seeing quotes for the work and will call a meeting once they are available.

21-22-FC4-14 CCIN membership – to receive an update.

Cllr Stubbs advised a meeting was to be held the following day to discuss improving things for its members. He has been successful in the submission of an example of a 'Good Act', and the story of the Kidsgrove Ranger will be published into the reports. A copy, once received, will be sent across to the Full Council.

21-22-FC4-15 To receive Mayor and Clerk's reports and correspondence received.

The 'Local Plan' at NULBC are preparing their consultation, and the Clerk has also received a request to use the Victoria Hall for a public session. The Clerk has agreed this with the Borough, and we will also hope to have a stand alongside for the Neighbourhood Plan group.

Correspondence between the Council and the local MP Mr Gullis was received. It was agreed that the Clerk arrange a meeting for her and the Group Leaders, and invite Mr Gullis, so they can discuss about issues raised.

The Mayor reported the new Veterans breakfast club opened in Kidsgrove last month at the Clough Hall Pub. Next meeting is this Saturday, and the Mayor attended the opening of the Reginald Mitchell Bar suite.

Tri services have been gifted some land in Harriseahead which is going to be turned into a bespoke Veterans rest bite outdoor facility.

21-22-FC4-16 To agree the date and time of the next meeting: Thursday 4th November 2021.

21-22-FC4-17 Matters to be considered with the Press and Public Excluded:

Exclusion of press and public: To resolve under 1960 (admission to meetings) Act to exclude the press and public due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

Resolved: To move exclude the press and public for the following items:

21-22-FC4-18 To receive a report from the interview panel set up by the staffing committee relating to the appointment of a Facilities Officer and to resolve to approve the recommendation.

Interviews for the role have now completed. The recommendation is that Mr Michael Thompson is offered the post. The council approved by a majority show of hands.

21-22-FC4-19 To receive an update on the bar tender progression and to resolve to delegate agreement of the bar contract to the F&GP Committee. To resolve to approve associated solicitors' costs relating to the contract.

Cllr M Stubbs declared an interest.

Resolved: The Council approved the solicitors' costs relating to the contract by a majority show of hands.

21-22-FC4-20 CCTV: To receive updates on the SLA and to resolve to delegate approval or otherwise of the SLA to the Planning, Infrastructure and Highways Committee. To resolve to delegate approval necessary Wayleave agreements to the Planning, Infrastructure and Highways Committee.

It was proposed to hold an extraordinary Full Council meeting on 14th October to discuss any details and see final arrangements before delegating to Planning, Infrastructure and Highways. This was agreed by a majority show of hands.

Meeting Closed 20:38 pm