# Minutes of Wotton-under-Edge Town Council Meeting held on

# Monday 22nd August 2022 at 7.30pm in the Civic Centre

## Present: Cllrs M Tucker, T Creese, P Barton, J Cordwell, R Claydon, J Lewis,

## T Luker, L Taylor, D Thomas, J Turner, N Pinnegar, S Hunt, T Young

## In attendance: A Durn (Town Clerk); 5 members of the public.

## 

## T.6649 To receive apologies for absence

There were none received

## T.6650 To receive Declarations of Interest and requests for Dispensations

There were one received

## T.6651 To approve the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting of 15th August 2022

It was **resolved to** approve the Minutes of Town Council meeting of 15th August 2022.

## T.6652 Public Forum

5 members of the public who reside near the Symn Lane car park development raised the following concerns and queries:

* Being overlooked
* Loss of privacy
* Large wall next to their properties – height, design, safety
* Prevention of anti-social behaviour
* Lighting affecting their quality of life
* Number of spaces for cars and coaches
* Prime users of car park – residents, visitors
* Pollution
* Coaches next to their properties
* Time restrictions of parking and car park
* Rubbish disposal and litter traps
* Maintenance of housing development and bank
* Stability of bank
* Number of vehicles using car park daily
* Planting, landscaping, and screening
* Layout of parking
* Dumped vehicles
* People living in vehicles
* Enforcement of restrictions and usage
* Entrance and exit central reservation – hedge, barrier, merged access

Cllr M Tucker, Chairman of the Council and the Car Park Working Group, offered to meet residents on site at the car park the next day, time to be agreed. The residents accepted the offer with a time to be agreed by email. Residents would also be informed about the date of the next Town Council meeting, the agenda of which is published on the Town Council website.

The Chairman explained to Council that there were 2 lengthy items to be discussed on the car park development and the decarbonisation project. Concerns were raised regarding the complexities of each project and to ensure all councillors including those co-opted since the election had a clear understanding. The Chairman offered to defer the 2 items to be discussed as the sole items at an Extraordinary meeting.

It was RESOLVED to defer the items on the external funding bids for the decarbonisation project, and the items on the Symn Lane car park, to an Extraordinary meeting of the Town Council to be held on Wednesday 31st August 2022 at 7pm at the Civic Centre.

## T.6653 Funding Bids

It was RESOLVED to defer this item to an Extraordinary meeting of the Town Council to be held on Wednesday 31st August 2022.

## T.6654 EXEMPT ITEMS: Prior to consideration of the following agenda items, councillors are invited to pass the following resolution: Pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by S100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that its consideration would involve the disclosure of exempt information

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the Press and public.

## T.6655 Youth Services Contract

The quote options to assist with formulating and procuring the Youth Services contract were reviewed and discussed. Options suggested were to:

1. write the contract in-house as before,
2. employing external assistance to review and make recommendations for the new contract specification and tender documentation,
3. to carry out consultations with young people and local stakeholders, training for councillors on youth work, design and governance of youth services provision, and involvement in the tendering process.

It was RESOLVED to agree to option 3 and to award the contract to the National Youth Agency, to consider the history of youth service provision for Wotton Under Edge, and move forward to make it fit for purpose for a long time to come.

The Chairman gave an update of the meeting held with the current youth services provider and reported that the end of the current contract will be on 9th September 2022. Cllr T Young is researching alternative youth services support whilst the contract is being reviewed and written. A report will come back to Council for the September meeting.

## T.6656 Town Hall

There was an update on the collating of files and reports from the Structural Engineer and Surveyor due to the impact of the death of the Project Manager to enable the project to be progressed, and concerns regarding the scaffolding contract. A further report would be brought to the next Council meeting in September 2022.

## T.6657 Symn Lane Car Park

## a) To receive an update

It was RESOLVED to defer this item to an Extraordinary meeting of the Town Council to be held on Wednesday 31st August 2022.

## b) To agree the landscaping plan as proposed by Stroud District Council Planning

It was RESOLVED to defer this item to an Extraordinary meeting of the Town Council to be held on Wednesday 31st August 2022.

## c) To receive an update on the EV-Chargers project

Cllr Claydon reported that he had drafted a letter to be sent to potential contractors for the EV-Chargers project to ask if they would be interested in getting involved. It was RESOLVED for Cllr Claydon to circulate the letter to Councillors and for comments on the letter with suggested potential contractors to be sent to the Town Clerk, and to delegate responsibility to the Town Clerk to work with the Chairman to collate and review the comments for sending the letter to potential contractors. It was also RESOLVED for the Town Clerk to set up a meeting with the contractor partner of Gloucestershire County Council to discuss the project. A report would come to the Extraordinary meeting of the Town Council to be held on Wednesday 31st August 2022.

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## T.6658 Town Clerk’s Report

The Town Clerk reported on the resignation of a member of staff and the reconfiguration of the hours of the cleaning of the buildings as a result.

The Town Clerk reminded Councillors to bring in their confidential papers for secure disposal if they did not have their own secure disposal.

It was **resolved to** exit the confidential session.

The meeting ended at 9.05pm

Signed: Date: