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Community Way
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Rickmansworth
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MINUTES OF the 358th MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
ON THURSDAY 24 JUNE 2021

Present: Cllr Cole in the Chair
Ryan Bennett – Clerk to the Council
Amanda Gardiner – Administrative Officer

Cllrs Benner, Hughes, Mitchell, Panju, Tobin, Vassiliou, Whitmore and Yeung

Voting Members: 9

Members of the Public: 0

CC2205/21 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Gallagher (attending TRDC Planning Meeting to speak on 2 properties in Croxley Green called into Committee) and from Cllrs Birch, Crabtree, Kyriakou, Montague and Taylor.

CC2206/21 Declarations of Interests by Members

The Chairman recommended that any declarations be made at the appropriate time.

CC2207/21 Parish Matters

No matters were brought to the attention of Councillors.

CC2208/21 Representations from the Public

No representations were made.

[Under Standing Order 13.1.1.10 the following items were added to the Agenda:

CC2214/21 Annual Governance and Accountability Return

CC2215/21 Annual Accounts for year ending March 2021

CC2216/21 Grant Application from Croxley Green Residents Association

CC2217/21 Professional Advice on Responding to the Local Area Plan Consultation

CC2209/21 Minutes

The Minutes up for review were the Minutes of the 357th Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 22 April 2021 and the Annual Meeting held on Thursday 13 May 2021.

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the 357th Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 22 April 2021 and the Annual Meeting held on Thursday 13 May 2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

CC2210/21 Matters Arising

AGM186/21 - A councillor asked if a response had been received from Gagan Mohindra MP. The Clerk advised that no response had been received.

CC2211/21 Committee Reports

CC2211.1/21 Planning and Development Committee held on Thursday 1 & Tuesday 21 April and Thursday 6 & Tuesday 18 May 2021

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the Planning and Development Committee meeting held on Thursday 1 & Tuesday 21 April and Thursday 6 & Tuesday 18 May 2021 be adopted as a report of the meeting.

CC2211.2/21 Any matters arising

There were no matters arising.

CC2211.3/21 Leisure, Events & Environment Committee held on Tuesday 2 March 2021

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the Leisure, Events & Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 2 March 2021 be adopted as a report of the meeting.

CC2211.4/21 Any matters arising

There were no matters arising.

CC2211.5/21 Finance & Administration Committee held on Thursday 11 March 2021

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the Finance & Administration Committee meeting held on Thursday 11 March 2021 be adopted as a report of the meeting.

CC2211.6/21 Any matters arising

There were no matters arising.

CC2212/21 Clerk's Report

The Clerk provided a summary of activities undertaken by the Parish Council office and Parish Rangers. See report on Parish Council website.

CC2213/21 Croxley Green Treasure Trail

Cllr Benner introduced the paper on creating a Croxley Green Treasure Trail. Positive feedback was received from individuals and families that completed the Easter Egg Trail around Croxley Green and they asked for more activities like it that they could do around Croxley. It is proposed that Cllr Benner creates a Croxley Green Treasure Trail using local landmarks on the new Parish Map. A prize of a chocolate coin will be issued to those who complete the trail.

Resolved:

- That the treasure trail is created and allocated a budget of £250 to purchase prizes.
- That the trail is included on the reverse of the map included as part of the Parish Pump (no funding required as already granted).

CC2214/21 Annual Governance and Accountability Return

The Chairman introduced this item and asked the Clerk to explain in more detail. The Clerk advised that the Annual Return was circulated with the Agenda for Members to review.

Resolved:

- That the Annual Return Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement) items 1 – 8 be answered in the affirmative ('yes') and item 9 be answered as Not Applicable and be signed accordingly.

CC2215/21 Annual Accounts for year ending March 2021

The Chairman introduced this item and asked the Clerk to elaborate. The Clerk advised that the Annual Accounts ending 31 March 2021 were circulated with the Agenda for Members to review. Councillors commented that the accounts date did not reflect the current year and that an updated set of accounts be requested to reflect the change at a later date.

Resolved:

- That the Annual Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021 be approved and signed;
- That the Annual Accounting Statements (Section 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return) for the year ending 31 March 2021 be approved and signed.

CC2216/21 Grant Application from Croxley Green Residents Association

The Clerk introduced the grant application from Croxley Green Residents' Association who are seeking funding to pay for the services of an environmental planner to review and assist in responding to Part 1 Policies of the TRDC draft Local Plan consultation. This is in conjunction with the Joint Three Rivers Residents' Association (JTTRA). The green belt within Three Rivers will be under significant threat to meet the governments housebuilding targets. A councillor confirmed that the information gained from the environmental planner would be shared with the Parish Council to inform the Parish Council's response to the TRDC draft Local Plan.

The Vice-Chairman advised that a grant application would normally only be accepted once per financial year, but if required CGRA would be able to submit a further grant application in the current financial year.

Resolved:

- That a grant of £480 be paid to Croxley Green Residents' Association.

CC2217/21 Professional Advice on Responding to the Local Area Plan Consultation

The Clerk introduced the paper on Professional Advice on Responding to the Local Area Plan Consultation and asked Cllr Mitchell to elaborate. Cllr Mitchell advised members that this paper is to seek funding to pay for the services of an environmental planner to review and assist in responding to Part 2 Site Allocations in particular CFS19 (Sycamore Road) and CG65 (Red Cross Centre).

Cllr Panju left at 8:40pm and played no further part in the meeting.

Resolved:

- That a budget of up to £600 is approved for the use to obtain professional advice in responding to the TRDC local plan consultation.

CC2218/21 Exclusion of Press and Public

The Chairman moved, duly seconded, the following motion and it was agreed:

that under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it

involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined under paragraphs 1 to 7 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act. It has been decided by the Council that in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

CC2219/21 Croxley Green Woodland Acquisition

The Chairman introduced this item and asked the Clerk to elaborate. The Clerk took members through the supporting papers supplied to them in confidence.

Resolved:

- That the matter be progressed as discussed.
- That the detail of the decision of this meeting is not released to the general public at this time.

CC2220/21 Croxley Green Woodland Further Actions

The Chairman introduced this item and asked Cllr Mitchell to elaborate. The Clerk & Cllr Mitchell took members through the supporting papers supplied to them in confidence.

Resolved:

- That the matter be progressed as discussed.
- That the detail of the decision of this meeting is not released to the general public at this time.

CC2221/21 Closure

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:10pm