

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2020**

PRESENT: The Town Mayor, Councillor Stewart Fletcher in the Chair;
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Simon O'Rourke
Councillors: Ian Brown, Mark French, Jonathan Hill, Allan Knox, Mary Robinson,
Donna O'Rourke, Jenni Schumann
Town Clerk

01.20 APOLOGIES
None

02.20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
There was no public participation.

03.20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
There was no declaration of interest.

04.20 MINUTES
The Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 09 December 2019 were proposed and seconded as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.

05.20 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS
Details of official duties undertaken by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor since the last Town Council meeting were submitted for information.

06.20 PLANNING APPLICATIONS
Consideration was given to planning applications received for weeks ended 17 January 2020, 24 January 2020, 31 January 2020, 07 February 2020, 14 February 2020 and 21 February 2020

RESOLVED:

- (1) That no objections be raised to the following applications:-
3/2019/1123, 3/2020/0022, 0078, 0083, 0091, 0098**
- (2) That Ribble Valley Borough Council be advised that the Town Council wishes to express its objections to 3/2019/0988 on the grounds that other applicants in the Town Centre who have wished to change their windows have had to follow the proscribed procedures to gain the requisite consents and have had to use appropriate materials. To permit this application would be to allow the applicants to circumvent the procedure that others have been obliged to follow.**

07.20 ALLOTMENT ACCOUNTS 2018/19

The Town Clerk presented the allotment accounts for 2018/19 noting that the vast majority of allotment tenants had paid their rents. It was explained that the accounts which remained outstanding were for regular late payers, usually people who struggled to attend the Town Hall during working hours. It was confirmed that people were instructed that they could pay by cheque which could be posted out of hours.

08.20 TOWN AWARDS

The Town Clerk submitted details of previous recipients of Town Awards in the various categories. The Town Clerk further advised that two nominations had been received from members of the public for the 2020 Awards. Other nominations were suggested from Councillors present. It was confirmed that Awards were not usually granted to individuals who were paid in the role for which they had been nominated. It was confirmed that the closing date for nominations was 20 March 2020 after which a sub-Committee of the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Leader of the Council would decide on the recommendations to be made to full Council.

RESOLVED: THAT nominations received by the closing date should be provided to the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Leader of the Council in order that recommendations as to Town Award recipients for 2020 could subsequently be made to full Council.

09.20 TOWN CENTRE PLANTERS 2020

The Town Clerk submitted a report on suggestions for town centre planters for 2020. It was noted that alternative suggestions made for 2019 had not been successful with the result that there had been no planters at all. The Town Clerk advised that a member of the public had offered to help with getting support and assistance with town centre planters. It was suggested that money intended for planters be instead donated to the Ribble Rivers Trust towards their Lancashire Woodland campaign, subject to the provision of further information. It was also suggested that the member of the public who had offered to help be invited to submit further information and estimated costs of the ideas she had.

RESOLVED: THAT a decision be made regarding planters or an alternative donation to the Lancashire Woodland campaign upon the receipt of further information

10.20 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

i) Ribble Valley Visually Impaired Group

A request for financial assistance was tabled from RV Visually Impaired Group who required funds for various activities outlined in their application. It was noted that funding had also been requested of RVBC. It was agreed that a donation of £600.00 be made which would cover the costs of the two of the activities outlined.

RESOLVED:

THAT the Town Council make a donation of £600.00 to the RV Visually Impaired Group.

11.20 ACCOUNTS PAID JANUARY 2020

The Town Clerk submitted details of the accounts paid in January 2020 for approval. It was noted that the invoice for the Christmas lights 2019 had been paid in January 2020 as

had the invoice for the illumination of St Mary Magdalene. There was discussion regarding why the Town Council was paying this latter invoice.

RESOLVED: THAT the accounts paid in January 2020 be approved.

The meeting concluded at 7.28 pm

..... Signed
Chair