

CLITHEROE TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on Monday 24 May 21
In the Council Chamber, Clitheroe Town Hall**

**PRESENT:- The Town Mayor, Councillor Simon O'Rourke, in the Chair
The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jenni Schuman
Councillors Ian Brown, Stewart Fletcher, Jonathan Hill, Mary Robinson,
Town Clerk**

13.21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence, together with reasons, had been received from Councillors Mark French, Allan Knox and Sue Knox.

14.21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

15.21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

16.21 MINUTES

The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 15 February 2021 were approved and would be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

17.21 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to planning applications received for weeks ended 30 April 2021, 07 May, 14 May and 21 May 2021

RESOLVED:

- (1) That no objections be raised to the following applications:-
3/2021/0375, 0376, 0392, 0405, 0420, 0425, 0429, 0444, 0481 & 0482**
- (2) That Ribble Valley Borough Council be advised that the Town Council wish to object to application 3/2021/0418. The Town Council supports the concerns and requirements of the LHA regarding the setting back of the gate and the height of the wall. Similarly, the Town Council agrees that the proposals, if approved, would result in features out-of-keeping in an open plan estate.**

18.21 CHANGES TO BANK MANDATE 2021/22

The Town Clerk explained that it was normal procedure for the Deputy Mayor to be added to the Town Council's current account mandate. Apart from during periods of change at the beginning of a municipal year the usual signatories on the account were the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Council Leader. It was agreed that Councillor Jenni Schumann be added to the bank mandate. Councillor Mary Robinson explained that it had been considered more convenient for her to remain a signatory on the mandate rather than add the new Leader, Councillor Mark French, as Councillor Robinson was able to attend the office for signing during office hours more easily than Councillor French.

RESOLVED:

THAT Councillor Jenni Schumann be added as a signatory to the Town Council current account

THAT Councillor Mary Robinson remain a signatory on the Town Council current account

19.21 TOWN COUNCIL POLICIES

The Clerk had previously circulated drafts of a Social Media Policy and a Press Policy for consideration. It was agreed that both policies be approved for adoption.

RESOLVED: THAT the Social Media Policy and Press Policy be approved.

20.21 MAYOR OF CLITHEROE WELFARE FUND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO 31 MARCH 2021

The Clerk explained the Mayor of Clitheroe Welfare Fund statement for the year to 31 March 2021 noting that a total of £1,222.52 was available for distribution to the former Mayor's chosen charities. Councillor Stewart Fletcher confirmed that his chosen charities were the Ribble Valley Food Bank and the Ribble Valley CAB. The Clerk agreed to liaise with the signatory on the account to raise the appropriate cheques for Councillor Fletcher.

RESOLVED: THAT the sum of £1,222.52 be approved for distribution to the Town Mayor 2019-21 chosen charities.

21.21 ACCOUNTS PAID APRIL 2021

The Town Clerk submitted details of the accounts paid in April 2021 for approval.

Resolved: THAT the accounts paid in April 2021 are approved.

22.21 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST

i) *Clitheroe Royal British Legion*

A request for financial assistance had been received from Clitheroe Royal British Legion who were making improvements to their beer cellar, in particular installing a more efficient cooling system. After due discussion it was decided not to make a contribution as the donation was not included in the budget and it was also felt

making such a donation could set a precedent for other venues with beer cellars to apply for funding.

Resolved: THAT the funding request be declined as it was not included in the budget and could set a precedent

23.21 PARISH LENGTHSMAN'S REPORTS

i) General Report

It was noted that the lengthsman had spent some time researching new SpIDs. It was confirmed that the lengthsman would begin strimming footpaths in the near future as vegetation was starting to grow again.

ii) Allotment Report

A report detailing activity regarding tenancies on the four allotment plots was considered. It was noted that there had been some new tenancies granted recently. The Clerk advised that the waiting list had grown considerably during the 2020 lockdowns and prospective allotment holders were now being advised it could take 3-4 years to reach the top of the waiting list. It was further noted, however, that some of those who had applied in 2020 may not be serious applicants as they could have been looking for something to do during the lockdowns so would now no longer be interested.

Signed:
Chair

Part II

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That by virtue of the fact that the following items of business be exempt information under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be now excluded from the meeting

24.21 LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS 2021

The Town Clerk provided a verbal update on arrangements for the Last Night of the Proms Concert, scheduled for Saturday 07 August 2021. It was explained that all involved were aware that the event could be cancelled if H M Government guidance was changed to not allow mass participation events. It was noted that a risk assessment would need to be provided to RVBC. A decision had been taken to not provide seating other than for the band and visiting dignitaries so audience members would need to be advised in advance to bring their own seats or rugs. It was suggested that audience numbers in certain areas would have to be limited to comply with social distancing guidelines and other health and safety

considerations. It was noted that marshals from Rotary usually attended to help with the event and could be asked to ensure audience members were seated sufficiently apart from each other.

25.21 SPEEDING – LOW MOOR

Issues regarding speeding, particularly in Low Moor, were discussed but it was noted that the issue affected the whole of the town. It was explained that SpIDs were costly but effective. However, solar SpIDs and those run from lighting columns needed to be fixed so could not be moved from location to location but the moveable battery-powered SpIDs required frequent charging in an urban location.

It was suggested that a selection of speed limit and slow down signs be purchased which could be easily fixed to lighting columns in areas prone to speeding issues. It was noted that discussions would need to take place with Lancashire Highways before such signs could be purchased and installed.

RESOLVED: THAT discussions be initiated with Lancashire Highways regarding the possibility of displaying speed limit and slow down signs in areas prone to speeding issues.

The meeting closed at 19.55pm.