

## Lichfield City Council

### Minutes of the Meeting of Lichfield City Council held in the Guildhall, Lichfield, on Monday 21 October 2019 at 6.30pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors Mrs D Baker (Mayor), J Anketell, H Ashton, C Ball, , J Checkland, D Dundas, M Field, C Greatorex , Mrs J Greaves, I Jackson P Jones, Mrs A Lax, T Matthews, P McDermott, C Rapley, R Rathbone, P Ray, D Robertson, A Smith, J Smith, C Spruce, M Trent, M Warfield and R Yardley.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Mrs G Boyle, Mrs J Eagland & Miss J Marks

#### **A MINUTES SILENCE WAS HELD IN MEMORY OF MR GODFREY HALFPENNY, MR LESLEY ASHLEY AND MR RICHARD LEWIS.**

#### **61 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor and Sheriff for attending several engagements on her behalf during the previous few weeks. The Mayor then reported that she had recently attended the L2F folk Festival and the Battle of Britain Memorial Service at Fradley.

#### **62 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

Councillors D Dundas and I Jackson declared an interest under Appendix B of the City Council Code of Conduct with respect to the recommendation contained within agenda item 9, Neighbourhood Plan Implementation Working Party and agenda item 11, Lease of Land to Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust.

Councillor Mrs D Baker declared an interest under Appendix B of the City Council Code of Conduct with respect to agenda item 11, Lease of Land to Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust

Councillors P Jones, D Robertson, C Spruce and M Warfield declared an interest under Appendix B of the City Council Code of Conduct with respect to agenda item 12, Boley Park Community Hall.

Councillor M Field declared an interest under Appendix A of the City Council Code of Conduct with respect to agenda item 12, Boley Park Community Hall.

#### **63 COUNCIL MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** *That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 September 2019 (Nos 48-60) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.*

#### **64 MATTERS ARISING**

None

#### **65 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED:** *That the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 29 August 2019 be received.*

#### **66 TO ANSWER QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER 8(2)**

None

#### **67 NOTICE OF MOTION**

It was proposed by Cllr H Ashton and seconded by Cllr C Rapley that;

*'Lichfield City Council declares that a climate change emergency exists, and in consequence resolves to take this into account as a factor in all future deliberations of the Council.'*

The motion was debated at length by members, Cllr Mrs A Lax proposed an amendment to the motion which was seconded by Cllr Spruce. The amendment was put to the vote and declared passed. The amended motion was put to the vote and declared passed. It was therefore;

**RESOLVED:** *That Lichfield City Council declares that a climate change emergency exists and in consequence resolve to take this into account in all future spending decisions of the Council and to carry out environmental impact assessments when appropriate.*

**68 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN IMPLEMENTATION WORKING PARTY (NPIWP)**

Members considered the Minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the NPIWP.

**RESOLVED:**

- a) *That the minutes of the NPIWP meeting held on 2 October 2019 be adopted.*
- b) *That £10,000 of CIL monies be allocated to the Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Trust for use on a specific project; the use of funds to be easily evidenced to allow for reporting of CIL spend to LDC.*

**69 OFFICERS REPORT**

The Mayor took each item from the Officers' Report in turn. Cllr Greatorex commended Officers for their hard work on the Sheriff's Ride and stated that he had enjoyed hosting the two Limburg Students at Staffordshire County Council.

**RESOLVED:** *That the Report as contained in Agenda Appendix 1 be noted.*

**70 LEASE OF LAND TO LICHFIELD AND HATERTON CANALS RESTORATION TRUST (LHCRT)**

Members considered the Town Clerks report at **Agenda Appendix 2** and the recommendations therein and it was

**RESOLVED:**

- a) *That the City Council agree to remove from the lease a small section of land adjacent to Willow Court that is not required by the Trust; and subject to legally required processes the City Council agree in principle to lease the former canal land under the London Road bridge to LHCRT.*
- b) *Subject to legal duties and additional consultation as set out at (c), (d) and (e) below, the Council agree in principle to lease LCC Open Space 26C to LHCRT.*
- c) *That in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972, and the General Disposal Consent 2003, the Council advertise its proposals to grant a 39-year lease (expiry July 2058) to the Lichfield and Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust.*
- d) *At the request of Ward members, the advertisement of proposals be extended to include the distribution of information regarding the proposals to the occupiers of nearby homes and businesses.*
- e) *That the Council consider any objections received following public consultation prior to any decision confirming the lease of the land. Should the lease be confirmed, the City Council would grant permission for 'Phase 1a' only as set out in the report.*

**71 BOLEY PARK COMMUNITY HALL**

Members considered the Town Clerk's report at **Agenda Appendix 3** relating to future arrangements for the day to day management of Boley Park Community Hall. Members discussed the matter at some length with both options being supported by numerous members. On being put to the vote both options attracted equal support; the Mayor's casting vote was in favour of the Hall being returned to City Council control and it was therefore;

**RESOLVED:**

- a) *That Boley Park Community Hall to be formally brought under City Council control (while not ruling out any approaches from the community received during this process)*

- b) That the City Council does not wish to 'opt to tax' at this time, with the proviso that this does not preclude a need to charge VAT on bookings at the Hall at some time in the future, notably if the Council's exempt activity headroom is reduced.*

**72 DISPENSATIONS – GUIDANCE AND PROCEDURES**

Members considered the Town Clerks report at **Agenda Appendix 4** and the recommendations therein.

**RESOLVED:** *That the report be noted; and the City Council adopt the draft Dispensation Request form and draft Dispensation Decision form.*

**73 SHERIFF'S RIDE**

Members considered the Town Clerk's at **Agenda Appendix 4** detailing the increase in costs attributable to the Sheriff's Ride; and asked to note that if the Ride is to continue in its current form and extent, permanent additional costs of approximately £7,000 will need to be allocated from the City Council's budgets, taking the assumed annual budget for the event from circa £7,000 to circa £14,000.

**RESOLVED:** *That the report be noted; and that a cross party working group be established to investigate options for the future of the Ride; the Town Clerk to compile draft terms of reference for consideration by the Council.*

**74 MARKETS WORKING GROUP**

Members considered the Town Clerk's report at **Agenda Appendix 6**.

**RESOLVED:**

- a) That the draft terms of reference be adopted*
- b) The membership of the Working Group comprise Councillor J Checkland as Chairman, Councillor P McDermott as Deputy Chairman. Other members of the Working Group to be Councillors D Robertson, J Smith, C Spruce and M Warfield.*

**75 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

It was proposed by Cllr M Warfield, seconded by Cllr C Spruce and

**RESOLVED:** *That Cllr Miss J Marks be appointed as the City Council's representative on the Staffordshire Parish Council's Association.*

**76 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**RESOLVED:** *That payment of accounts be approved and confirmed as listed in Agenda Appendix 7 for the periods*

- a) 1 July 2019 to 31 July 2019 in the sum of £96,519.71 General Account, and £939.49 Imprest Account.*
- b) 1 August 2019 to 31 August 2019 in the sum of £93,676.14 General Account and £773.46 Imprest Account.*

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:07PM**

**MAYOR**