

## **Lichfield City Council**

### **Minutes of the Meeting of Lichfield City Council held in the Guildhall, Lichfield, on Monday 27 January 2020 at 6.30pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Mrs D Baker (Mayor), J Anketell, C Ball, Mrs G Boyle, J Checkland, D Dundas, Mrs J Eagland, M Field, C Greatorex, Mrs J Greaves, I Jackson, Mrs A Lax, Miss J Marks, T Matthews, S Pritchard, C Rapley, R Rathbone, P Robertson, A Smith, J Smith, C Spruce, M Warfield and R Yardley.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors H Ashton, P Jones, P McDermott, P Ray and M Trent.

**A MINUTES SILENCE WAS HELD IN MEMORY OF FORMER COUNCILLOR AND MAYOR BARRY WHITE,  
AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ**

#### **94 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reported on several recent engagements which she had attended including Foundation Day at Lichfield Cathedral School, Sunday Service at St Peter and Pauls RC Church and the Mayor & Sheriff's Charity Beer & Skittles event.

#### **95 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor M Field declared an interest under Appendix A of the City Council Code of Conduct with respect to agenda item 8, Neighbourhood Plan Implementation Working Party as he is employed at Curborough Community Centre.

Councillor C Ball declared an interest under Appendix B of the City Council's Code of Conduct, also with respect to agenda item 8 as he is a volunteer at Curborough community Centre.

#### **96 COUNCIL MINUTES**

***RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 2 December 2019 (Nos 77-93) be confirmed and signed as a correct record.***

#### **97 MATTERS ARISING**

None

#### **98 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

***RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 20 November and 12 December 2019 be received.***

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

None

### **THE MAYOR ADJOURNED THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC FORUM**

A member of the public addressed the Council regarding political flyposting on City Council lampposts. There was considerable discussion following which the Leader of the Council asked the Liberal Democrat members to respond. All members condemned the practice of fly posting.

### **THE MEETING WAS RECONVENED**

#### **100 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN IMPLEMENTATION WORKING PARTY (NPIWP)**

Councillor Dundas drew members' attention to the minutes of the NPIWP meeting held on 8 January 2020 and the recommendations therein as detailed in the agenda.

***RESOLVED: That the Minutes and recommendations of the meeting of the NPIWP held on 8 January 2020 be adopted.***

#### **101 MARKETS WORKING GROUP**

Councillor Checkland drew members' attention to the minutes of the Markets Working Group at Agenda Appendix 2, together with the several recommendations that were made in regard to the discontinuation of the Farmers' Market, the establishment under the Food Act Part III of a new 'Producer's Market' to take place on the first Sunday of the month, and authority to enter into a preliminary agreement with CJ Events Limited to provide this market (all recommendations are detailed within the agenda). The recommendations were confirmed by vote prior to formal adoption of the Minutes.

**RESOLVED:** *That the Minutes and recommendations of the Market Working Group meeting held on 17 December 2019 be adopted, to include the establishment of a 'Producer's Market' under the provisions of part III of the Food Act 1984.*

#### **102 SHERIFF'S RIDE WORKING PARTY**

Members considered the Minutes of the Sheriff's Ride Working Party at Agenda Appendix 3

**RESOLVED:** *That the minutes of the Sheriff's Ride Working Party held on 13 January 2020 be adopted.*

#### **103 OFFICERS' REPORT**

The Mayor took each item from the Officers' Report in turn. Councillor Greateorex asked if the work of the PHD student at the Samuel Johnson Birthplace could be made accessible to the public, he also urged members to become involved in the forthcoming Twinning weekend in Limburg. Councillors Spruce and Lax commended Officers for an excellent report which reflected the work of the City Council. Councillor Mrs J Eagland informed members that the Officers report was now being used by Talking Newspapers.

**RESOLVED:** *That the Report as contained in Agenda Appendix 4 be noted.*

#### **104 FEES AND CHARGES 2020/21**

Members were asked to consider fees and charges for 2020/21.

**RESOLVED:**

- a) *That no increase in charges for Market stalls or the associated service charge be levied for the 2020/21 financial year.*
- b) *That due to combined low uptake amongst traders and administratively burdensome aspects of the incentive, the £1.00 per stall discount for transactions received in line with the conditions as set out above be withdrawn from 1 April 2020.*
- c) *That with effect from 1 April 2020 Guildhall hire charges be as detailed in Agenda Appendix 5.*
- d) *That no increase be applied to the charges for photocopying.*

#### **105 FINANCIAL PROGRESS REPORT 1 APRIL 2019 TO 30 NOVEMBER 2019**

Members considered the financial progress report for the period 1 April 2019 to 30 November 2019 as detailed in Agenda Appendix 6.

**RESOLVED:** *That the eight-month Financial Progress Report be noted.*

#### **106 BUDGET ESTIMATES 2020/2021**

Members considered the draft budget estimates as detailed in Agenda Appendix 7.

**RESOLVED:** *That the Council approve the Budget Estimates and Report for the 2020/21 financial year totalling £964,571; and that the amount of precept for 2020/21 be set at £817,890.*

#### **107 REPAIR, RENOVATION AND SPECIFIC PROJECT PROGRAMME 2020/21**

Members considered proposals for the repairs, renovation and specific projects as detailed in Agenda Appendix 8.

**RESOLVED:** *That the report be noted.*

**108 SUBSIDY REVIEW – LICHFIELD ARTS AND LICHFIELD FESTIVAL**

Further to Minute 99 of the City Council's meeting on 28 January 2019, the arrangements between the Council, Lichfield Arts and Lichfield Festival are to be reviewed annually by the City Council.

**RESOLVED**

- a) The current charges associated with the separate licences to occupy remain appropriate given the stability in market rent valuations and the charitable nature and positive impact on the City of both bodies.*
- b) That existing arrangements in regard to glass collection and hire of the Ashmole Room be confirmed as appropriate*
- c) That the City Council reconsiders this matter at its meeting scheduled for January 2021.*

**109 NALC SPRING CONFERENCE**

Members were asked to appoint a Councillor to attend the NALC annual Larger Councils conference on 17 March 2020, no nominations were received, and it was

**RESOLVED:**

- a) That any member wishing to represent the Council at the NALC Spring conference would inform the Leader*
- b) Delegated authority be given to the Town Clerk to make the necessary booking arrangements.*
- c) The Council meet the costs of the conference fee, (£224.14+VAT) and related subsistence and travel expenses.*

**110 DRAFT CITY CENTRE MASTERPLAN**

Members considered the City Council's draft response to the City Centre Master Plan as detailed at Agenda Appendix 9. Councillor Rapley proposed 3 amendments to the submission which were seconded by Councillor Rathbone. The proposal to include an overpass/underpass within the Birmingham Road Gateway and the provision for more car parking to service the Cathedral at the 'Bird Street Courtyard' were put to the vote and lost. Consideration was given to the third amendment - to change the City Council's response on Question 11 (Circular Minster Pool Walk), this was put to the vote and decided to change the response from 'No' to 'Yes' but to retain the existing comments regarding concerns as to the deliverability and effectiveness of the proposal.

**RESOLVED:** *That the draft City Centre Masterplan Consultation response with the agreed amendments be adopted, and that the response be submitted to Lichfield District Council.*

**111 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

**RESOLVED:** *That payment of accounts be approved and confirmed as listed:*

- a) For the period 1 October 2019 to 31 October 2019 in the sum of £103,014.23 General Account and £704.51 Imprest Account.*
- b) For the period 1 November 2019 to 30 November 2019 in the sum of £95,201.20 General Account and £1,294.56 Imprest Account*

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.09PM**

**MAYOR**