

## **Adlington Town Council**

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 22 May 2023

in Adlington Library, Railway Road, Adlington commencing at 7.15pm

Cllrs June Molyneaux and Kim Snape both read out and signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office for their new term of office as a Town Councillor. Cllr Kim Snape accepted the nomination to act as the Deputy Mayor in 2023/24.

### **Present:**

**Councillors:** Cllrs N Buckley (Town Mayor), K Snape (Deputy Mayor), A Robinson, A Rothwell, A Cross, B Speers, J Lowe, J Molyneaux, K O'Donnell, P Walkden and S Clewlow

**In Attendance:** 18 members of the public from Harrison Road, Adlington, Lindsey Blackstock, Chorley Council's Open Space Strategy Officer and C Bailey (Clerk). There were no apologies for absence.

1. **Declarations of Interest were received from:** Cllr Molyneaux for item 6; from the Town Mayor and Cllr Speers for item 7.3 and from Cllr Lowe for item 7.4

2. **Open Forum:** The consultation proposals to improve the Jubilee Recreation Ground, Adlington were discussed. The residents in attendance expressed their concerns about:

- How the consultation had been carried out and being primarily on-line
- The proposed provision of 40 additional sports related parking spaces with access off Harrison Road: was this necessary? is it the most appropriate location as space is available off Station Road?; the potential intrusion and loss of residential amenity for those nearest to the parking, the congestion from the extra traffic along their residential road and trying to turn onto the A6
- Whether their concerns would be considered in developing the plan
- Will the feedback received be shared by Chorley Council, and the
- Need for more time, and face to face consultation opportunities in future.

A detailed note of the points raised is attached as an addendum to the draft minutes

3. **Minutes of the meeting:** of Monday 17 April 2023 were proposed, seconded, and signed by the Town Mayor.

4. **Matters arising for information only.** It was noted that:

4.1 The Clerk has transferred the responsibility for fund-raising for the Adlington Youth Club to Chorley Council and has requested quarterly monitoring updates. It was noted that the LCC Warm Spaces grant funding which has paid for the additional food being provided each week by the three volunteers from the Town Council will need to be enhanced to prevent it from running out and/or the Inspire Scrان Van should be asked to include the Adlington Youth Group in its rota.

4.2 LCC has responded saying it will: prioritise the removal of the dead tree from the embankment between Railway Road and Adlington train station, arrange to cut back over hanging branches and remove the discarded branches

4.3 Andrew Porter Ltd has said it does not own the broken-down fencing in the two locations along the Adlington Circular Walk as identified by Cllr Cross. Cllr Robinson will ask Pincroft Ltd.

### **5. Items for Discussion:**

5.1 The Town Council agreed that:

- The Jubilee Recreation Ground does need improvement
- Its appeal/usage would be widened through work to improve the footpaths and to light them at low level
- The existing hedges should be retained for bio-diversity even if additional 2m high external boundary fencing is installed, and that the
- Consultation does need to include direct engagement with people in future.

5.2 It was agreed that the Coronation events were well received and supported. A concern about there being no bunting on the commercial streets had been received and replied to. It was agreed that the Town Council would:

- Ask for a representative to attend a future meeting of the Adlington Business Network and ,
- Invite the winners of the Coronation best dressed home and business premises to be presented with their Certificate after the Adlington Civic Service.

5.3 The Town Council agreed to support the amendment of Chorley Council's Housing Assistance Policy to be based on a wider definition of need and the offer of more support eg discharge from hospital through easier access to a Disabled Facilities Grant, a Dementia Grant, and an Occupational Therapist assessment.

5.4 The Town Council finalised the arrangements for the Civic Service on Sunday 25 June 2023 to meet at 10.15am outside St Paul's Church, for the buffet to be ordered as proposed for the informal social event at St Paul's Church Club, and for the recipients of the Town Council's 2023 Citizen and the Stephen Higgins Junior Citizen Awards and the two District Coronation Certificates to be presented.

5.5 A date in June 2023 will be agreed for the Finance Working Group to meet to review the 2023/24 budget given cost of living pressures, to consider the proposed transfer to on-line banking and to make recommendations for the Town Council to consider

5.6 It was agreed to ask Chorley Council to arrange for the household waste event on Saturday 8 July 2023 to be held on two different sites if additional funding is secured for the second skip, if the skip driver rota arrangements can be resolved and that it would use social media and posters to advertise the event.

5.7 The proposed content of the Summer Update newsletter was agreed with delivery before the start of the school summer holidays. The Clerk will ask for contributions to the 'what's on' sections.

5.8 The reply from Chorley Council in respect of the potential opportunities to encourage bio-diversity through its mini-meadows and wildlife corridors was noted.

5.9 The Town Mayor's urgent business comprised:

- LCC has awarded a £300 Bio-diversity grant which ATC applied for (opted into) in July 2022 proposed to be split between the two Adlington Primary Schools. The grant criteria suggest that the Town Council should remain involved and ask the Schools to provide an end of project report and photos to be compliant with LCC's requirements. The Town Mayor agreed to be the link with both Schools
- Cllr Lowe agreed to meet Sean Blake of Chorley Council Grounds Maintenance team to progress the repair/renovation of the two benches at Babylon Lane by the traffic lights and the Adlington entry sign on the

Anderton boundary as two approved Eastern Parishes Neighbourhood Area Priority projects.

## 6. Planning

6.1 Application 23/00331/CTY or SCP/2023/0001 for a scoping opinion request on the need for an Environmental Impact Assessment for a proposed anaerobic digester unit and ancillary development on land adjacent to Wigan Lane, Heath Charnock, Adlington, Chorley. Cllr O'Donnell's views were supported as the basis for the Town Council's response to request the assessment be carried out if a planning application is submitted.

23/00394/FUL: Demolition of existing workshop building, repositioning of office building (granted under planning permission ref. 22/01063/FUL), erection of 10 no. single storey industrial units (Use Class B2/B8), 1 no. vehicle shelter, associated access and car parking on land Adjacent The Forge Westhoughton Road Adlington. The layout plan was noted. Concern was expressed about safe access onto the A6 for the additional traffic that would be generated.

As a result of the Planning Inspectorate allowing consent on appeal for planning application 21/01416/FUL (Erection of six buildings comprising 12 no. light industrial business units (resubmission of 20/01053/FULMAJ)) on land South Of Mercer Court And East Of Westhoughton Road Adlington, the Town Council noted the detail design application 23/00379/DIS: Application to discharge conditions relating to landscaping, surface water sustainable drainage strategy, and facing materials.

6.2 The householder applications were noted and left for neighbour comments. *In line with Standing Order 82, and given the Open Forum discussion, the Town Council agreed to extend the meeting.*

## 7 Finance

7.1 The Town Council approved the accounts and budget reports as at 28 April 2023 accepting the Internal Auditor's advice that the £6.38 bank interest be credited to the Higher Interest Account for inclusion in the 2022/23 year-end accounts.

7.2 The Town Council approved the breakdown of expenditure of the National Lottery Grant which totalled £997.11 once the £13 VAT is reclaimed from HMRC.

7.3 The following payments were approved:

Clerk	May 2023 net administration and financial management payment	£483.50
HMRC	PAYE deducted from the gross May 23 payment to the Clerk	£121.00
Clerk	Mileage: 30 miles @ 0.45ppm in March 2023.	£13.50
EE	ATC Clerk's mobile Invoice on 16 May 2023 at £20.58 but shown as paid on the EE website, with a remaining credit note of £8.47 due to recent service disruption	£0.00
Reimburse Cllr Speers	Purchase of aprons and name badges for the Adlington Food Club volunteers	£64.00
Suzan J Christopher	The Town Mayor's Inauguration at the Spinners Arms	£234.75

Reimburse Cllr Buckley	The Town Mayor's Annual Allowance approved at the Annual Meeting on 15 May 2023	£850.00
Information Commissioner	Renewal of the GDPR/Data Protection Act 2018 Data protection fee renewal due by 22/06/2023	£40.00
St Paul's Church Institute	Hire of St Paul's Club for the informal gathering after the Civic Service, Sunday 25 June 2023	£40.00

7.4 The following contributions were approved from the National Lottery Grant towards the following District Coronation event costs:

Reimburse Cllr Lowe	Bunting and napkins for use at the District Coronation events	£11.96
Reimburse Petty Cash	2 Certificate frames for the Best Dressed Home and business premises	£3.00
EXP (Northwest) Ltd	VAT outstanding on the print of 25 large Coronation event posters with Lottery logo	£13.00

**8. Items for Information were noted as:**

8.1 LCC Trading Standards-Safe Trader Scheme

8.2 Notification of Wigan Local Plan Review

8.3 Adlington Satellite Club January – April 2023, Inspire Report May 2023

*The meeting closed at 21.02pm.*