

Adlington Town Council
Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Adlington Town Council
Held on Monday 10th May 2021 at Adlington Community Centre commencing at 7:30pm

Members Present

Councillors: K O'Donnell (Town Mayor), B Speers, C Hart, J Lowe, P Walkden and S Clewlow.

In Attendance: C Bailey (Clerk). No members of the public attended this meeting. It was arranged at short notice in the Community Centre following the UK Government's requirements that local council meetings take place face to face but compliant with social distancing measures.

1 Election of Town Mayor

It was confirmed that Cllr K O'Donnell would continue as Mayor of the Town Council for the year 2021/22 having accepted the role in an Acting capacity since August 2020. Cllr O'Donnell thanked the Town Council and said he looked forward to being able to have a wider role within the community. His declaration of acceptance of office was completed on 18 August 2020. The Mayoress will be his wife.

2 Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs A Robinson and N Buckley who were at work and Cllrs J Molyneaux and Snape who said they would be late due to another meeting. Cllr O'Donnell declared an interest in item 6.

3 Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Adlington Town Council of 11 May 2020 were approved and signed.

4 Comments from the Acting Town Mayor

Cllr Kevin O'Donnell said that it had been a strange year when Coronavirus social distancing measures had curtailed so much of the Town Council's normal annual programme of events and activities which he hoped could be re-started during the 2021/22 year. Cllr O'Donnell thanked the Councillors and the Clerk for their support and assistance during the year much of which, he said, went unnoticed by the general public as it was often done behind the scenes.

5 Election of the Deputy Mayor

It was confirmed that Cllr Bev Speers would continue as the Deputy Mayor of the Town Council for the year 2021/22 having been appointed on 21 September 2021. Cllr Speers thanked the Town Council. The declaration of acceptance of office was signed backdated from 22 September 2020.

The Town Mayor, Cllr O'Donnell took no part in the discussion of item 6

6 Mayor's Allowance

It was resolved that the Mayor's allowance would be £750, the budget amount which was previously agreed by the Council as representing the appropriate expenditure for the year in office. The payment will be authorised at the 17 May 2021 Town Council meeting.

7 To confirm the Council's eligibility for the General Power of Competence (Localism Act 2011) as set out in the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012

It was resolved that the Town Council is eligible for the General Power of Competence which was confirmed at the 'relevant annual meeting' in May 2019 following the election of Councillors to the Town Council. At that time due to both its electoral mandate of having more than two thirds of its members appointed by being declared elected and by also by the former Clerk being a CiLCA qualified. This power gives local councils' confidence in the legal capacity to act for their communities to work with others to provide cost-effective services and facilities in new ways to meet the needs of local communities. The current Clerk does not yet hold the relevant qualification and two of the nine Councillors who were elected to office in May 2019 have resigned. However the Council's eligibility for

the General Power of Competence is retained for up to four years until the next ordinary election when a 'relevant annual meeting' will have to be held and the position assessed.

8 Appointment of Working Groups and Membership

It was agreed membership would remain unchanged but following normal practice the Town Mayor would attend the meetings of the Finance Working Group. Given the resignation of Councillors A Ball and T Summers during 2020 and the apologies for absence given, it was agreed that Working Group membership would be reviewed and confirmed at the 17 May 2021 monthly Town Council meeting. It was resolved that the interim membership of these Working Groups taking into account the two resignations would be as follows:

Finance Working Group: The Town Mayor, Cllrs C Hart, J Lowe, J Molyneaux, A Robinson, and B Speers;

Planning Working Group: The Town Mayor and Cllr C Hart;

Street Scene Working Group: Cllrs B Speers, A Robinson, J Lowe, and P Walkden;

Website & Communications Working Group: The Town Mayor and Cllrs B Speers, P Walkden, N Buckley, and A Robinson.

There was no discussion of the Terms of Reference of the Working Groups.

The Parish Plan has not been reviewed since 2006. It was proposed that the Parish Plan Working Group comprising The Town Mayor, Cllrs C Hart, J Lowe, and J Molyneaux be disbanded. It was not thought appropriate to consider updating the Parish Plan through the preparation a Neighbourhood Plan due to the input required, the costs involved and concern about the impact that it might have if formally adopted in influencing local planning matters.

9 Representatives on outside Bodies

These were agreed as:

Chorley Council Liaison – The Town Mayor, Cllr O'Donnell

Chorley Council South East Neighbourhood Area Group – The Town Mayor, Cllr O'Donnell

Adlington & District Community Association – Cllr B Speers and Cllr P Walkden

Adlington & District in Bloom Action Group – The Town Mayor, Cllr K O'Donnell, Cllr J Lowe and Cllr A Robinson

Lancashire Flood Action Group – The Town Mayor, Cllr K O'Donnell

10 Delegation of Powers to the Clerk

It was resolved to delegate powers to the Clerk in order to:

- Report minor maintenance issues to the relevant authority on the Town Council's behalf and to email Councillors to keep them informed of these
- Request extensions to planning consultation dates where these fall between meetings

11 Dates of Meetings 2021/22

The previously circulated list of meetings was approved.

12 Items for Information

None

The meeting closed at 7.41pm

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