



Town Hall | 61 Newland Street | Witham | CM8 2FE  
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## MINUTES

### WITHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Date: **Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Place: **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Newland Street, Witham, CM8 2FE**

Present: Councillors

J.	Bayford	(Town Mayor)
J.	Goodman	(Deputy Town Mayor)
S.	Ager	
S.	Hicks	
C.	Jay	
A.	Kilmartin	
T.	Pleasance	
S.	Rajeev	
M.	Weeks	
R.	Playle	(Witham Northern)
N.	Smith	(Town Clerk)
G.	Kennedy	(Committee Clerk)
C.	Strachan	Assistant RFO)

#### **27. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K. Atwill who was travelling abroad, P. Barlow who was working, C. Lager and M. Lager who were on holiday, J. Williams who had a previous engagement and R. Williams who was unwell.

**RESOLVED** That the apologies be received and approved.

#### **28. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Town Council held 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022 be received, confirmed as a true record and signed by the Town Mayor.

#### **29. INTERESTS**

No interests were declared by members.

### **30. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There was no member of the press or public present.

### **31. ESSEX COUNTY AND BRAINTREE DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE**

An Essex County Councillor was unable to attend so tabled a report.

An Essex County Councillor explained that the Members' Pothole Scheme had been instigated again and they would be able to arrange for 36 potholes, in two tranches, to be repaired. They said that this would mean roads and footpaths that do not usually meet the criteria could be repaired. A Community Initiative Fund had been set up with grants of up to £10,000 available for schemes, which would benefit the community. Extensive work was due to start on Chipping Hill Bridge from August to mid-October but they would seek clarification about possible road closures. They said that there had been a change of staff for the Local Highways Panel and they would be meeting with a senior officer to get an update on the outstanding requests, in particular Crossing Road crossing which has not been delivered.

A Braintree District Councillor explained that they had spoken at the recent Planning Committee in support of the Gershwin Park development. Unfortunately, the application had been refused on the advice of its Planning Officer and the developers would be making an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate.

In their capacity as a District Councillor, a member referred to the Morrisons' application which had been granted permission by the Planning Committee on the basis that there could be conflict between vehicles and pedestrians/cyclists if vehicles used the proposed route from Morrisons to Cut Throat Lane.

The Town Mayor thanked everyone for their reports.

**RESOLVED** That the reports be received and noted.

### **32. TOWN MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS**

Details of the Town Mayor's engagements undertaken for period 10<sup>th</sup> May to 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were received.

The Deputy Town Mayor spoke of an additional event he had attended on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022.

**RESOLVED** That the details be received and noted.

### **33. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk's report on matters arising was received.

Members commented that a Zoom meeting had been held the previous evening with Mr Goodwin of the National Highways and it was proposed to meet up with him to seek a solution for an alternate route for agricultural vehicles, which would not be allowed on the widened A12.

**RESOLVED** That the report be received and noted.

