

Signed: [REDACTED]



Rugeley Town Council

Minutes of Full Council Meeting held at the Rugeley Town Council Offices
7.30pm Wednesday 6th December 2023

PRESENT:

Councillors:-	P Ansell	W Clark
	A Cooney	D Foceac
	D Gaye	K Hart
	I Gibson	I Hodgson
	R Hughes (part)	G Kirkham
	J Lees	O Lyons (part)
	A Miller	I Pyke
	N Stanley	

In attendance:-

Cllr J Newbury - part
S Buxton - Town Clerk
M Matthews – Finance Officer
A Mantle – Admin Assistant
1 member of the public

Min No	Item	Action
129 129.1	Apologies Apologies were received from Cllrs Davey, Green and Sparkes Agreed to accept the apologies of Cllrs Davey, Green and Sparkes	
130 130.1	Declaration of Personal & Prejudicial interest in any item on the agenda Cllr Hughes declared a pecuniary and prejudicial interest in Item 147 VAT and will leave the meeting for the discussion	
131 131.1	To receive requests for any dispensation None	
132	Car parking with Cllr Josh Newbury from CCDC Cllr Newbury recapped what had happened with regards to car parking over recent years with the area of CCDC, and a detailed discussion on various initiatives and ideas took place It was proposed to form a working party of three – Cllrs Kirkham, Sparkes and Pyke, to discuss car parking options <i>Proposed: Cllr Kirkham; Seconded: Cllr Cooney</i> Agreed that a working party of Cllrs Kirkham, Sparkes and Pyke be set up to work with CCDC and Cllr Newbury	

	Thanks were expressed to Cllr Newbury	
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Cllr Newbury left the meeting

133	Chair closed the meeting for public session A member of the public asked questions on the following:- - Report on the fraud mentioned in the October minutes - Meeting with PCSO – which had a disappointing turn out - Clear the air meeting of councillors - Requirement for the public to leave meetings - Who puts the agenda together - The three day notice period for meetings	
134 134.1	Chair re-opened the meeting The chair re-opened the council meeting	
135 135.1	To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1st November 2023 <i>Proposed: Cllr Hart; Seconded: Cllr Hodgson</i> Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 st November be signed as a true and correct record	
136	Matter Arising Cllrs were in receipt of update in wording of minute 105 from meeting of 4 th October. Minute 105.1 to remove:- It was proposed to hold an informal meeting of councillors, to discuss all the issues and innuendo surround the fraud, to clear the air, prior to issuing a press release. <i>Proposed: Cllr Kirkham; Seconded: Cllr Cooney</i> This motion was carried Minute 105.1 to add:- A discussion on holding a meeting with PCSO Kevin lee took place <i>Proposed: Cllr Cooney; Seconded: Cllr Hart</i> Agreed that minute 105 be amended as detailed above	
137 137.1 137.2 137.3 137.4	To note the minutes from the following committee meetings:- Rose Committee – 11 th October 2023 Community Engagement Committee – 11 th October 2023 Planning Committee – 18 th October 2023 Finance and Management Committee – 18 th October 2023 The minutes of the above meetings were noted	
138 138.1	Town Centre Listed Buildings Cllr Lyons updated the council on a new appointment at CCDC who she believed would be willing to support a town council working party and provide guidance on S215 of the account It was proposed to invite Lucy Macdonald from CCDC to a full council meeting	

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	<p><i>Proposed: Cllr Lyons; Seconded: Cllr Kirkham</i> Agreed that Lucy MacDonald be invited to a town council meeting</p>	
139	<p>Town Council Emails Councillors were in receipt of a report from the clerk on using town council emails solely going forward. A lengthy discussion on emails between members and meetings of groups of councillors that took place. An email had been sent to the clerk along with an email sent to the clerk to discuss staff costs which was derogatory to staff. <i>Proposed: Cllr Kirkham; Seconded: Cllr Clark:--</i> i. Cllrs Stanley and Cooney make a public and unreserved apology to Cllrs Miller and Kirkham for terms used/implied in their emails No vote was required as Cllr Cooney apologised unreservedly for her choice of words, but would not consider her position and would report herself to the monitoring office. This apology was accepted by Cllr Kirkham. Cllr Stanley apologised for what he said to Cllr Miller acknowledging his choice of words was inappropriate <i>Proposed: Cllr Kirkham; Seconded: Cllr Clark:--</i> ii. In view of the public and blatant breach of the Code of Conduct regarding Civility and Respect then Cllrs Stanley and Cooney consider their positions <i>Proposed: Cllr Kirkham; Seconded: Cllr Clark:-</i> The motion was defeated by a vote of 5 against and 4 in favour iii. The town Clerk should investigate the emails regarding the selective meeting and reports back to the next full council <i>Proposed: Cllr Kirkham; Seconded: Cllr Clark:-</i> The motion was defeated by a vote of 5 against and 4 in favour iv. Councillors are made aware of what monitoring of town council emails will take place in future <i>Proposed: Cllr Kirkham; Seconded: Cllr Clark:-</i> Agreed that councils would receive information on what monitoring of town council emails would take place going forward</p>	<p><i>DC.</i></p>
140	<p>Pedestrianisation and vehicular Access As time was getting quite late, it was suggested that it be deferred to the next meeting <i>Proposed: Cllr Kirkham; Seconded: Cllr Lees</i> Agreed to defer Pedestrianisation and vehicular access to the next meeting</p>	
141	<p>Boardwalk Cllr Lyons provided an update on funding that was available that has been allocated elsewhere, however she had put in a bid for other funding from CCDC and needed agreement in principle from RTC to develop the boardwalk subject to funding being available <i>Proposed: Cllr Ansell; Seconded: Cllr Cooney</i></p>	

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	Agreed that in principle, the council will take the lead to develop the boardwalk, subject to availability of funding	
142	Chair and Vice Chair Reports The chair reported on the Remembrance Parade and Christmas Light switch on	
143 143.1	Items for future meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Smart meters and solar panels - Elmore Toilets - Boardwalk 	
144 144.1	Date of next meeting Agreed that the next be held on Wednesday 10 th January 2024	
145	Exclusion of the Public To move that the public be excluded because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meeting) Act 1960 Section 2 <i>Proposed: Cllr Stanley; Seconded: Cllr Green</i> The motion was agreed	

After the confidential items, the meeting was closed at 9.28pm

Signed 

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