

The New Town Hall, Commercial Road, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 8NG

01305 239839 - office@weymouthtowncouncil.gov.uk

**Minutes of meeting**

**MEETING:** Full Council

**DATE & TIME**: Wednesday 23rd November 2022 at 7.00 pm

**PLACE:** Council Chamber, The New Town Hall, Commercial Road, Weymouth,

DT4 8NG

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Ann Weaving (C)Tim YoungChristine James

Colin HuckleAlex Fuhrmann Helen Toft

Michael FrostKevin BrookesDavid Northam

Jon OrrellRichard NickinsonPeter Dickenson

David GrayDavid HarrisGraham Lambert

Howard Legg Kate WhellerLuke Wakeling

Ken WhatleyTia Roos (VC)Jan Bergman

**Apologies:** Mark Tewkesbury Tony Ferrari Lucy Hamilton

Oz Kanji Peter Barrow Ryan Hope

Gill Taylor

**Officers:** Jane Biscombe (Town Clerk)

Ian Milne (Deputy Town Clerk)

Charmaine Denny (Assistant Town Clerk)

Freya Stewkesbury (Democratic Officer)

Ben Heath (Development Project Manager)

Tara Williams (Parks and Open Spaces Manager)

Shane Smythe (Property Manager)

**Members of the public and press:** There were no members of the public in attendance.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| C0441 | **Welcome**  Cllr Weaving welcomed those in attendance as well as members of the public following the meeting live on YouTube. |
| C0442 | **Apologies for absence**  **Resolved:**  Proposer: Cllr James Seconder: Cllr Huckle  Members voted 20 in favour, and one no vote, to approve apologies from Mark Tewkesbury, Tony Ferrari, Oz Kanji, Peter Barrow, Lucy Hamilton, Gill Taylor and Ryan Hope. |
| C0443  C0444  C0445  C0446  C0447 | **Declarations of Interest**  There were no declarations of interest.  **Minutes of the last meeting**  **Resolved:**  Proposer: Cllr Wheller Seconder: Cllr Huckle  Members voted unanimously in favour of approving the minutes of the last meeting held on 12th October 2022 as a true and accurate record, and they were duly signed as such.  **Councillor Questions and Statements**  None  **Town Mayor’s Announcements**  The Mayor offered sympathies to the family and friends of the late former Mayoress Mary Winter.  Recently, the Mayor attended Holy Trinity school with Cllr Huckle, and met with a local Brownies group with Cllr Dickenson. They also visited Dorset Youth Association, along with many other engagement events to help support the local community.  **Public Question Time**  There were no public questions. |
| C0448 | **Motion – Committee Layouts**  Cllr Dickenson introduced his motion for a change of committee layout.  **Resolved**  **Proposed:** Cllr James **Seconded:** Cllr Lambert  Members voted with a majority of 13 in favour, with 8 against, that all committees return to formal meeting lay outs. |
| C0449  C0450  C0451  C0452  C0453  C0454 | **Q2 Budget Monitoring**  Ian Milne introduced the report.  **Resolved:**  Proposer: Cllr Harris Seconder: Cllr Wheller  Members voted unanimously to note the Quarter 2 Budget Monitoring report and Reserves Summary as at 30 September 2022.  **Appointment of Internal Auditors for 21/22**  Ian Milne introduced the report.  **Resolved:**  Proposer: Cllr Nickinson Seconder: Cllr Whatley  Members voted unanimously to agree that Lightatouch continue to be the Internal Auditors for Weymouth Town Council to undertake the internal audit services.  **Parks and Open Spaces Strategy**  Tara Williams introduced the report.  **Resolved:**  Proposer: Cllr Brookes Seconder: Cllr James  Members voted with a majority of 18 in favour, with 3 abstentions, to agree to the adoption of the draft Parks & Open Spaces Strategy in Appendix B.  **Request for Release of Reserves for works to The New Town Hall**  Shane Smythe introduced the report.  **Resolved:**  Proposer: Cllr Nickinson Seconder: Cllr Gray  Members voted with a majority of 20 in favour, with one against, to agree the release of £67,000 from the Property Reserve - Commercial Road in order to fund fire safety and maintenance works to The New Town Hall.  **Request for CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) Funding towards Radipole Park Project**  Ben Heath introduced the report. There was discussion surrounding the necessity and viability of the café part of the project. Concerns were raised regarding the Council not asking for expressions of interest first, however, it was commented that the Council would not be able to do this before there are agreed plans of what will be available. The Council will be examining all avenues regarding the refreshment area.  Members were reminded that the café represents a small part of the overall project, which is a revamp of the entire area and includes a sensory garden, play areas and other public spaces. The café element, however, is vital to achieve the outcomes set out by the National Lottery, without which £1m worth of funding would be withdrawn, and the rest of the project would not be able to take place.  It was commented that there has been diverse community involvement in this project so far, including the Friends Group. The project aims to improve the wellbeing of people in one of the more deprived areas of Weymouth, and to offer a diverse area for people to visit.  **Resolved:**  Proposer: Cllr Roos Seconder: Cllr Fuhrmann  Members voted with a majority of 20 in favour, with 1 abstention, to release up to £150,000 of Weymouth Town Council CIL funding towards the Radipole Park & Gardens project.  **Information Items**  **Community Governance Review (CGR)**  Dorset Council is currently consulting on a CGR for the WTC boundaries. Members of the public are urged to respond on the Dorset Council website. The deadline for responses is 28th December 2022. Weymouth Town Council will be hosting a public meeting to discuss options at 5pm on Tuesday 13th December 2022 in The New Town Hall. We are extremely lucky that Cllr Spencer Flower, Dorset Council leader and Chair of the CGR working group, will be attending. Weymouth Town Council will be agreeing the Council’s response to the survey at a special meeting at 6pm on Wednesday 21st December, prior to the Finance and Governance Committee meeting at 7pm.  **Neighbourhood Plan Update**  Cllr Northam updated the Council. The next engagement activity will be in January 2023. This will be a sense check ahead of developing the Draft Neighbourhood Plan in March 2023 with a short questionnaire addressing key questions around land use. All are asked to help promote this survey.  The results of the 2nd survey have been published on both the Dorset Coast Forum Have Your Say website and the Town Council website along with the Key Messages & Findings derived from this.  Meetings have taken place with Dorset Council, to avoid unnecessary differences between the emerging NP and the development strategy expressed in the Levelling Up Fund bids and the Enterprise Investment Zone response. These have been useful and a dialogue is ongoing with the Planning Policy and Assets team to achieve this.  Thanks to all the councillors and members of the public who took part in the virtual torus of Weymouth, some very site-specific data has been collected which will help shape the Design Code for parts of the Central Area of Weymouth. A progress review has took place with the Department of Levelling Up, Housing, and Communities on 2nd November where they commended the team on the Pathfinder project is progressing.  We requested and now have in place additional support form Locality, through AECOM, our consultants, to bring together the complex elements relating to site assessment.  If any councillors or member of the public would like to contribute to the development of the Neighbourhood Plan and support the upcoming public engagement events please make contact via either the WTC [office@weymouthtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@weymouthtowncouncil.gov.uk) or [Neighbourhood@weymouthtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:Neighbourhood@weymouthtowncouncil.gov.uk) .  The Council received two grants to support the Neighbourhood Plan, worth collectively 20k, some of which was returned due to underspend at the time. Additional technical support has since been granted, in place of grant money.  **Actions from previous meetings**  Members of the Governance Working Group were urged to let the chair know if they no longer wish to be part of the group, so that work can move forward.  **WTC Forward Plan**  The next Services Committee will now be on the 14th December 2022.  **Resolved**  Members noted the information items. |
|  | The meeting concluded at 19:59  N.B. The livestream of this meeting can be found on the Weymouth Town Council [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OInjNT7lZJA) page. |