

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

**held THE BEECHES COMMUNITY CENTRE, Birch Court, Tuxford on Thursday
21st March, commencing 7:00pm**

PRESENT: Cllrs E Atkin, E Bett, G Frost, J Moorhouse, I Nicholls, R Patman, M Richards, S Richardson, K Rutherford, and R Walker.

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk (L Donaldson), County Councillor Ogle, District Councillor Griffin and 4 members of the public.

FC110 Inform Members and the Public (if any in attendance) that the meeting is being recorded.

Meetings are recorded for the purpose of accurate minute recording. Recordings are destroyed once the minutes have been approved.

FC111 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs M Harris, S Leslie-Dakers and E Whitley

RESOLVED: Reasons for apologies were given and accepted.

As per the adopted 'Council Meeting Attendance Policy' apologies for absence shall be made directly in advance and not via a third person such as another Member at the meeting.

Councillors were asked to familiarize themselves of the policy.

No apologies were given by Cllr Downing, Cllr Temple

FC112 Declarations of Interest: No declarations declared.

FC113 Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th January 2024 (folio ref 2024/108-113) and **15th February 2024** (folio ref 2024/117-122) and **22nd February 2024** (folio ref 2024/124-125)

- **Minutes of the Meeting, 18th January 2024** (ref 2024/104-113)

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr I Nicholls, seconded by Cllr R Walker that the minutes of the meeting held above, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read, approved, and signed by the chairman as an accurate record.

- **Minutes of the Meeting 15th February 2024** (ref 2024/117-122)

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr R Walker, seconded by Cllr E Atkin that the minutes of the meeting held above, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read, approved, and signed by the chairman as an accurate record.

- **Minutes of the Meeting 22nd February 2024** (ref 2024/124-125)

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr E Atkin, seconded by Cllr I Nicholls that the minutes of the meeting held above, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read, approved, and signed by the chairman as an accurate record.

FC114 Action Update from previous meeting

- a) Planters - ongoing Cllr RP
- b) Newark Road Car Park – Council decision as to whether we want to make a bid. Decision deferred.
- c) Portable Toilets Cllr GF – ongoing - no new owner, nothing changed.
- d) Pollution Meters - Cllr RP. Cllr RW advised he holds one that could be used? Cllr RW has offered for any Cllr to collect and position where was appropriate.
- e) Letter about Lighting and the safety of children due to darkness at Scout Hut - RFO. Patrols set up but no further information, this has been chased.
- f) Sale of the Iseki privately – RFO. Will be done once new one in place RFO.
- g) Full Set of Quotations for the new Mower – RFO. All presented and agreed RFO.
- h) S106 funding for some pathways - Cllr RW. Ongoing
- i) To liaise with the applicant for the Grant Memorial – RFO. Resolved. Grant payment has been issued.

FC115 To receive, accept and resolve to approve any recommendations contained within the Minutes of the following meeting, including to ratify action made by the Clerk.

Planning Committee – 07 March 2024 (folio ref 2024 131-134)

RESOLVED: All members noted the minutes with no further comments.

FC116 District Councillor and County Councillor Reports

Cllr Griffin notes the success with the Village Hall, great for the centre of Tuxford and the Levelling Up Fund rolling out.

Cllr Ogle reminds Cllrs about the Election of a Mayor, there will be some immediate road repairs with £4 Million for roads, the Zebra Crossing finally painted. Cllr Ogle has highlighted the issues at the Scout Hut with the Highways officer, and it should go upwards.

A new crossing is needed at the new Co Op and Cllr Ogle advises a public petition would be the way forward, however the wording is crucial. It would be important to ensure it was noted that there was previously a 'Refuge' and you must not mention the Co Op itself as this is a separate issue. There could be more signage, maybe child cast iron statues, lighting and other practical ways to improve the area.

FC117 Update – Town Plan and Neighbourhood Plan

Overall, we have had to return funding that has been received during 2023.24 circa 7k. There is hope of another round of funding to apply for during 2024.25. The consultant appointed could not complete our report due to other demanding workload. Several meetings have occurred with various themes, Town Masterplan now reviewed and agreed, and Bassetlaw publish the Maps. We have questionnaires for the general population and business. We are able to reduce the impact of building with S106 but Lodge Lane and Ashvale B28 with no expansion.

A request was made to the Cllrs to assist in promotion – as it's imperative to obtain community input otherwise houses/development will be built all over the place. Cllr Moorhouse has spoken with Chilli Peppers to host an event between the hours of 4pm to 7pm, possibly with free tea & coffee, but no date has been agreed yet.

The meeting was adjourned to allow questions from the public.

A member of the public raised a concern about Bassetlaw stating we were a village, and we are a Town and the promotions by Bassetlaw don't mention 'Tuxford'. Cllr Griffin has noted.

Another member of the public spoke about the previous Council Meetings and individual Cllrs not acting in the best interests of the public and stalling decisions unnecessarily.

FC118 Finance

All the following paperwork was sent electronically to all members prior to the meeting and paper copies were given to the Chair to authorise in the presence of members and any public present.

a) To approve invoices for payment

Payments on the report attached at Appendix 'e' were approved and signed.

Bank Transfers totalling: £18,814.32.

Direct Debits totalling: £846.15.

Debit Card payments totalling: £839.83.

Cheque payments totalling: £0.00.

Income received totalling: **-£36,887.78.**

Bank Account Balance of £156,029.90 was approved and authorised.

RESOLVED: Cllr GF states she had checked through the above and agreed with the totals. Proposed by Cllr GF seconded by Cllr KR, all in favour.

b) Bank Reconciliation/Budget Variation

Bank Account Balance at 12/03/2024 of £156,029.90 Co-op Current Account, £100,805.09 Co-op Saving Account, £27,965.78 Hampshire Trust Bank £37,161.75 and £100.00 Petty Cash float.

The clerk gave all members an up-to-date report on the expenditure, receipts, variances up to and including 12th March 2024 which was sent in advance of the meeting.

RESOLVED: Cllr GF stated she had checked through the above and agreed with the totals. Proposed by Cllr GF, seconded by Cllr EA, all in favour.

- c) *New Replacement Mower* – Cllrs were advised that after a budget allocation of £17,850 was agreed for a replacement ride on mower at the 15 February 2024 full council meeting, the RFO presented 4 quotations for a replacement Kubota (ranging between £15,900 to £20,045) and 4 quotations for a replacement Iseki (ranging from £15,995 to 19,394.64).

The Toro has been repaired, at a cost of £497.16, and is now operational. The Kubota has been serviced and is operational.

The council heard that the grounds maintenance team would prefer a replacement Iseki, as opposed to another Kubota citing that the Iseki is smaller and can get into areas that the Kubota cannot.

It was proposed to purchase a Iseki SXG324 Ride On Mower for £15,995.00. This is £95 dearer than the cheapest price obtained for another Kubota.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr EA, seconded by Cllr JM, all other in favour, with Cllr MR abstaining from voting.

It was proposed to sell the Iseki SXG19 for £2,600 (as the town council are not VAT registered). This will be offset against the purchase of the Iseki SXG23.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr JM, seconded by Cllr KR all others in favour, with Cllr MR abstaining from voting.

Special thanks were given to the grounds maintenance supervisor, S McCarthy, who had been instrumental in all of the dealings and his assistance was very much appreciated by all of the Cllrs.

d) *Christmas Tuxford*

Feedback received from previous Christmas events has been that there is not enough entertainment provided for the children.

An informal meeting was had with the group organizing Christmas. The Council would like to offer support and fund some of the activities for children.

There is no budget allocated in the 2024.25 precept for it and funds would have to re-allocated if the Council felt it is appropriate.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr JM, seconded by Cllr KR, all in favour of allocating a sum of £1000 towards these activities.

FC119 Woodland Trust – Trees – to decide location of 60 saplings.

The chair advised the saplings to have arrived at the depot and need planting, as soon as possible.

Cllrs were asked where they would like them to go. Several suggestions i.e. back of Gilbert Avenue playing fields, Village Hall (fencing).

ACTION: RFO and Clerk to canvass the Councillors so that they can be planted

FC120 Grant Application See below. Duplication of item FC124.

FC121 Clerk/RFO Report

Having been sent electronically to all members prior to the meeting.

All had read the report and wanted to pass on thanks to RFO citing it is a good way to be kept up to date each month of progress.

FC122 BDC REPORT

All members noted. Nothing further to add as its covered in the item FC117 - Update Town Plan

FC123 Bassetlaw Food Bank – No further action as Cllrs feel adequate support is given in other areas and more directly for the Tuxford Community.

FC124 Grant for Robin's Peace Park

Cllr EA explained the purpose of the park and a financial update with a request for funds from the Council.

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr KR and Seconded by Cllr I Nicholls, all in favour, to approve the grant request for a payment of £300 Grant be paid for the development of the park..

FC125 Allotments – A request has been made by one of the allotment holders to make a permanent connection to the main water at the allotment.

Cllrs discussed the matter and whilst it is grateful for the opportunity of saving water and looking at alternatives there are potential hazards and a lot more consideration needs to be given to this.

There are several regulations to be adhered to and we must be conscious to keep the water bill low. The rents recently increased due to an increase in the water costs, along with the costs of services. This could be down to water consumption and the

unit cost for the water. It was highlighted that there were several issues at the allotments, and these should be resolved first.

ACTION The Clerk (LD) and Cllr M Richards to visit the Allotments and review what is in place for water saving and the issues from various holders.

FC126 To receive items for information and future agenda items.

The chair advised there is to be an Extra Ordinary Meeting on Thursday 28th March and how important it is to attend.

FC127 Private and Confidential - Staffing – No discussion required.

FC1258 Date of next meeting 18TH April 2024

With there being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:40 pm.

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE..... DATE