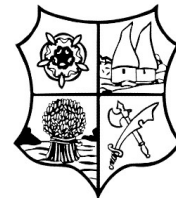


ALTON Town Council



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Town Clerk: Leah Coney

Town Hall
Market Square
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 1HD

20th October 2021

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to a meeting of the **FULL COUNCIL** on **Thursday 28th October 2021 at Alton Maltings at 7.00pm** when the under mentioned business will be transacted.

This will be preceded by Networking Café at 6.30pm which is open to all residents if they wish to come and chat to their ward councillors.

A zoom link is available upon request to anyone who cannot attend in person.

There is ample seating at the Maltings for the public so that those attending may sit socially distanced if they prefer. The venue requests masks be worn in all communal spaces.

Yours faithfully

LConey

Leah Coney
Town Clerk

To: All Town Councillors

Councillor Matthew Bayliss
Councillor Ginny Boxall
Councillor Suzie Burns
Councillor Gideon Cristofoli
Councillor Paul Crossley
Councillor Sharon Cullen
Councillor Amanda Durley
Councillor Graham Hill
Councillor Pam Jones
Councillor Christopher Lawrence
Councillor Richard Platt
Councillor Graham Titterington

ALTON TOWN COUNCIL – THURSDAY 28th OCTOBER 2021
ALTON MALTINGS, GU34 1DT - AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Town Mayor's announcements
- 3 Leader's announcements
- 4 Minutes of the last meeting held on the 18th August 2021
- 5 Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensations - Councillors are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest which they may have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached. Unless dispensation has been granted, you may not participate in any discussion of, or vote on any matter in which you have a pecuniary interest. You must withdraw when the meeting discusses and votes on the matter
- 6 Questions to the Council. Members of the public are invited to make representations
- 7 To welcome Councillor Lewis Jones and appoint to committees
- 8 Alton & District Community Resilience Fund including change to Terms of Reference
- 9 Hybrid Cricket Wickets for Jubilee Fields.
- 10 Changes to Standing Orders for ratification
- 11 Youth Project - updated report by Lisa Hillan
- 12 Statement of Accounts to 30th September 2021
- 13 Conclusion of External Audit
- 14 To receive a report from and ask questions of the District Council and County Council representatives
- 15 To receive the minutes from the following Committees: -
Open Spaces Committee – 25th August
Planning & Transport – 8th September, 6th October
Community Committee – 15th September
Policy and Resources Committee – 13th October

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- 16 Community Facility Brewery Site – update
- 17 Freehold disposal of property.

**ALTON TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL – 28th OCTOBER 2021**

REPORTS BY THE TOWN CLERK

**ITEM 7 TO WELCOME CLLR LEWIS JONES AND APPOINT
TO COMMITTEES**

FOR DECISION

Given that the Council is mid municipal year it is proposed to appoint Councillor Lewis Jones to the seats on committee previously held by Councillor Pam Bradford until the May re-shuffle.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are requested to approve the appointment of Councillor Lewis Jones to Open Spaces Committee and Community Committee.

ITEM 8 ALTON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND

FOR DECISION

The Alton & District Community Resilience Fund Panel has now had 39 applications for supported since the launch of the fund back in July 2020.

Recently the Fund has received 4 applications which fall outside of the scope of the Fund including for support with Council tax, rent and deposits for new homes. The Panel has been able to redirect these applicants to other sources of funding and support including Citizen Advice.

The number of applications has fallen since July but it is believed that the withdrawal of the Furlough Scheme and additional Universal Credit, along with rising fuel costs will push families into poverty this winter.

Donations have continued to be made to the fund and a balance of £13,584 remains in the account to continue to support future applications.

The group recently discussed altering the Terms of Reference slightly (original terms of reference are included for information) to enable applications where the applicant demonstrates “hardship” but does not need to provide a direct causal link to Covid. This was as a result of a suggestion passed to the group by one of the primary funders.

The Panel plan to relaunch the Fund with the extended criteria (if approved by Council) with new marketing materials in November.

The fund remains open for applications for residents of Alton and the surrounding parishes Further details and the application form can be found on the Alton Town Council website

RECOMMENDATION: Members are requested to approve the change in terms of reference to allow for applications as a result of “hardship” as well as for those resulting directly from the impact or effects of Covid-19.

ITEM 9 HYBRID CRICKET WICKET JUBILEE FIELDS

FOR DECISION

Members are advised of the award to Alton Town Council and Alton Cricket Club on the 15th October winning the Southern Premier League Pitch of the Year with Richard Myers (ACC) and Martin Whapshott (ATC) named joint Groundsmen of the Year. Richard will be joining Members for Networking Café and will bring the trophy with him. He will also be available to answer any questions councillors may have on the hybrid wicket proposal.

The proposal is to purchase 4 hybrid wickets to install on Pitch 1 at Jubilee. The brochure detailing the concept is included in Members bundles. The advantages of hybrid wickets, which are being widely rolled

out across the country, is to create more durable facilities to enable more games to be played. In practical terms, a hybrid wicket will not make a poor wicket better, but for good wickets such as those at Alton, it enables the ability to extend invitations to pay more games on pitch 1 including both Colts and Ladies games (which is closest to the club house and facilities). It also provides the ability for the council to charge more to those teams as it is a better-quality cricket square and will therefore help payback the cost of the facility. It will also attract more prestigious games at Jubilee. We have already been approached by Hampshire wanting to book the facility if installed.

The Senior Groundsman (Martin) is supportive of the proposal. We have been advised that it may need more watering initially because of the tiny holes created with “sewing” the plastic strands but this is offset by the lower cost of maintenance overall on these wickets.

The hybrid wicket proposal is costed at £17,500. Cricket Club have secured a discount bringing the cost to £15,750. They will contribute £6,000 up front and a further contribution of £2,000 over two years through an increased levy on their rental. Therefore, they are seeking £7,750 from Alton Town Council. Financials have been reviewed and the Town Clerk can confirm that the estimated payback period for the investment in the wickets is around 5 years with the life of the hybrid wickets likely to be around 10 years, so it will create additional revenue for ATC over its lifetime. Funding for the wicket would be from either the EMR Capital Reserve (current balance £64,427) or CIL (current balance £23,663).

RECOMMENDATION: Members are asked to approve an expenditure from the capital improvements reserve of £7,750 to part fund the installation of hybrid wickets on pitch 1 at Jubilee Fields with a further contribution of £2,000 from working capital to be paid, recovered from the cricket club over the next 2 years. All remaining costs to be met by Alton Cricket Club.

ITEM 10 CHANGES TO STANDING ORDERS

FOR RATIFICATION

Members confirmed at Policy and Resources on the 13th October that following the Standing Orders workshop session (5th October) there were no proposed changes to the current committee structure or meeting schedule.

Members also noted that a cable to connect the projector to the laptop to enable the Chamber to see those streaming into the meeting has now been purchased and will be trialled. Full Council will continue to be held at the Maltings due to the limited numbers able to be accommodated at the Town Hall. Committee meetings will still be in the Council chamber due to the smaller number of councillors in attendance. Pricing will be obtained for longer term meeting streaming options in the Town Hall as part of the budget setting process.

The proposed changes to Standing Orders were discussed (enclosed in Members bundles, highlighted in red). An additional Standing Order was created in section 29 to state that as permitted by virtue of S85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 and the “6-month rule”, discretion may be applied in genuine cases where there is a realistic expectation of a known return date and a “reason” which Members consider to be valid (e.g. such as armed forces deployment).

With there being no other changes to the draft document, the revised Standing Orders were approved.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are therefore requested to ratify the approval of revised Standing Orders as tabled.

ITEM 11 YOUTH REPORT

FOR INFORMATION

This report by Lisa Hillan will be tabled for information and circulated to Members once received.

ITEM 12 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO 30th SEPTEMBER 2021**FOR RATIFICATION**

Members are requested to ratify the accounts as presented (and included within bundles) for the Policy and Resources Meeting on the 13th October which are unaltered from that meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: Members are requested to ratify:

- 1) The Income and Expenditure account to 30th September 2021
- 2) The balance sheet dated 30th September 2021
- 3) The bank reconciliations for the Unity Account and the CCLA Deposit Account
- 4) The Payments over £500 covering 1st July to 30th September 2021

ITEM 13 CONCLUSION OF EXTERNAL AUDIT**FOR APPROVAL**

Members are requested to approve the conclusion of audit (contained within Supplementary Papers) following the receipt of the external audit report from PKF Littlejohn which was returned with nil comment.

ITEM 14 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**FOR INFORMATION**

The report for this meeting will be tabled by Councillor Graham Hill and will be circulated in advance of the meeting to Members once received.