

MINUTES OF THE REMOTE MEETING OF THE SOUTH MOLTON TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON 27TH APRIL 2021 AT 7.00PM

Present: In the Chair: Town Mayor Cllr P. J. Henderson
 Cllr M. Bushell Cllr M. Cornelius
 Cllr Ms. J. Footman Cllr R. Herniman
 Cllr M. Hulland Cllr Ms. T. King
 Cllr M. J. Kingdon Cllr Mrs. C. E. Lock
 Cllr S. W. Lock Cllr M. F. Way
 Cllr D. Worden

In Attendance: Mr. A. C. Coates – Town Clerk

1. **PRAYERS**

The meeting was opened in prayer by the Mayor's Chaplain.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Way – Prejudicial – Item 9 – Owns haulage company in South Molton

Cllr Worden – Personal – Item 7 – Attends meetings of ADSM

Cllr Bushell – Personal – Item 7 – Trustee & Chairman of ADSM

Cllr Cornelius – Personal – Item 7 – Trustee of ADSM

4. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Town Council

23rd March 2021

It was RESOLVED that these minutes be approved. Cllr Way abstained as he was not present at the previous meeting.

6. **DCC TO REPORT TO MEMBERS**

Cllr Yabsley (DCC) informed Councillors that the Traffic Officers were reviewing the responses of the Town Council to the on-street parking survey.

Cllr Bushell wanted reassurance from Cllr Yabsley that the works in Parsonage Lane would still go ahead in the light of proposed cut backs. Cllr Yabsley replied that the works in Parsonage Lane would still proceed.

7. **ARTS DESTINATION SOUTH MOLTON (ADSM)**

Alison Verney gave a brief presentation to the Council on the Deep Roots Festival to be held in 2021.

8. **SKATE PARK**

There was a brief discussion with Verity Hanson and two other users of the Skate Park. It was reported that a Facebook page had been created for the Skate Park and that a group of volunteers would be pressure washing and cleaning the Skate Park. The users expressed some areas of concern with regard to the ramps and condition of the Skate Park to which the Town Clerk replied that repairs were to be carried out within the next two weeks which would address most of the problem areas.

Councillors agreed that Agenda Item 10 be discussed next so that Councillor Way could leave the meeting due to his prejudicial interest.

9. **FUTURE ZOOM MEETINGS**

After detailed discussion the following was RESOLVED:

- i. That full Council Meetings would initially be held remotely by Zoom.
- ii. The decisions made at the Zoom meeting would subsequently be ratified by a Council Meeting held with at least four Councillors present in the Town Hall or Pannier Market .Against: Cllrs Hulland and Kingdon.

10. **LORRIES USING WEST STREET**

Cllr Way left the meeting.

After a brief presentation by Barney Andrews regarding the problems of HGV's in West Street it was unanimously RESOLVED:

- i. That the Town Clerk writes to DCC requesting that there is a weight limit sign at Kingsland Barton together with a further sign further along the UMBERLEIGH ROAD on the approach to South Molton.
- ii. That the Town Clerk writes to local haulage companies requesting that the weight limit is respected.
- iii. That the Local Community notify the Police of Lorries that contravene the weight limit.
- iv. That the Town Clerk investigates the options of ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) with the Police.

11. **REPRESENTATIVES TO REPORT ON MEETINGS ATTENDED**

- i. Cllr Worden informed Councillors that he had a meeting with Ricky Hayes from 1610 regarding the phased opening of the swimming pool after Lockdown. It was suggested and agreed that a meeting should be arranged for Councillors and Ricky Hayes only to discuss the future prospects of the Swimming Pool in South Molton.
- ii. Cllr Worden stated that there was an extra venue at the Methodist Church Hall on Polling Day in order to observe the Covid-19 restrictions.
- iii. Cllr Henderson stated that rapid Covid testing would be on the Square Mondays and Fridays.

12. **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT TO MEMBERS**

- The Town Clerk reported that he had made some enquires as to the progress of South Molton Town Councils Neighbourhood Plan and explained that some Councils have put the Neighbourhood Plan on hold due to the Planning White Paper. He asked that at the Annual Meeting of the Town Council the new Committee might take the Neighbourhood Plan forward.

At the end of the meeting the Cllr Henderson advised that it was his final meeting as Mayor and it had been a pleasure being Chairman for the last two years.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.54pm

Chairman.....

Date.....