

**MINUTES OF TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY (DUE TO CORONAVIRUS CRISIS) ON MONDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Councillors: R. Ransley  
P. Elley  
P. Hearn  
R. Hollinghurst  
A. MacDonald  
P. McDowell  
N. Nutkins  
B. Patterson  
H. Piper  
C. Townsend

**Also Present:** D. Slade, Deputy Town Clerk  
M. Curry, Town Clerk (Existing)  
L. Housden, Town Clerk (Newly Appointed)  
5 Members of the public

**20250. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
Cllr A. Caps given his apologies (prior appointment)

**20251. TO MAKE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
Cllr McDowell explained that he would not take part in item 20256 as a member of Dacorum Borough Council's Development Management Committee. Cllr Hearn expressed an interest in Licensing as a member of Dacorum borough Council Licensing Committee and potentially in matters relating to item 20262.

**20252. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26th OCTOBER 2020**

**RESOLVED:** To accept the Minutes and for the Mayor to sign them.

**20253. MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES**  
The following matters were reported to the meeting:

- The Tring Together Christmas event had now been moved from the weekend of the 5th and 6th December 2020 to the following weekend of the 12th and 13th December
- An update on the Ivinghoe Area Freight Strategy was provided:
  - i. The restoration of Brownlow Bridge is nearing completion and will soon be reopened with a 44t weight limit, so the current restriction of 18t can be removed.
  - ii. In respect of the proposed environmental 7.5 restricted zone for HGV traffic the formal consultation had been delayed due to Covid and is now due February 2021 and subject to the responses received implementation is planned for Spring 2021.

iii. The HGV & bridge signs will be reviewed as part of the proposals.

**20254. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE TOWN MAYOR MAY DESIRE TO LAY BEFORE THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

The Chairman reported the following:

- Michael Demidecki, the secretary of the Justice & Peace Group who has been fundamental in respect of environmental schemes and turning Tring into a Bee friendly town, has sadly had a heart attack & is currently in a coma. The Council sends their best wishes to his wife.
- The Mayor attended a virtual AGM meeting of Hertfordshire Scouts which was very interesting including videos of the worldwide Jamboree.
- The Mayor attended a virtual CDA AGM with a speaker on sustainability. She was part of a building company who specialise in small rural developments and one-off buildings who we could possibly think of using in the future.

**20255. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*Standing Orders were suspended at 7.42pm*

- Mr Wallis, the director of developments at Tring Sports Forum, spoke in respect of planning application 20/03344/FUL. He supported the application because new facilities were vital and asked the Council to support it too, even though he had personal reservations because the application was precipitous in the current situation
- Mr Bailey, the chairman of Tring Tornadoes and applicant of planning application 20/03344/FUL, explained that they have secured a piece of land collectively with the other clubs. The land is currently unused and a modular structure will be placed upon it which can easily be relocated, but full planning permission is required for funding purposes. It will be green in colour to fit in with the environment & light weight so no impact to the ground.
- Mr James, chairman of Tring Sports Forum, also supports planning application 20/03344/FUL. If the Council wanted to have any further details in respect of the Tring Sports Forum to contact him.
- Mr Wallis, spoke again this time in respect of the draft Local Plan. His concern is that the sporting organisations are not being represented and can the Council advise Dacorum Borough Council that Tring Sports Forum are the ones to contact as they require negotiations with them to try & be allocated land for use of sports activities.

*Standing Orders were reinstated at 7.56pm*

**20256. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Council considered planning applications that had been referred by Dacorum Borough Council for observation of this authority. It was decided to request the Local Planning Authority to take the following comments into consideration when determining the under-mentioned applications.

**PLAN REF. NO.**

- 20/02824/FHA Single storey rear extension at Convent of St Francis de Sales Preparatory School Plot 2, Aylesbury Road, Tring HP23 4DL for Mr Gadsden (WE Black Ltd) (Martin Stickley)  
The Council recommended **NO OBJECTION** to this application
- 20/03343/LDP Garage conversion at 12 Brookfield Close, Tring HP234ED for Mr and Mrs Morris (Aneeka Shah)  
The Council recommended **NO OBJECTION** to this application
- 20/03344/FUL Single storey modular clubhouse with kitchen and serving area, WC's and multi use open plan space at Tring Tornadoes Tring Town Football Club, Cow Lane, Tring HP23 5NS for Mr Bailey (Tring Tornadoes) (Andrew Parrish)  
The Council recommended **NO OBJECTION** to this application
- 20/03368/FHA Two storey rear extension (incorporating storm porch) and part single storey/part two storey rear extension at 15 Mortimer Hill, Tring HP23 5JT for Mr and Mrs Smith (Jane Miller)  
The Council recommended **NO OBJECTION** to this application
- 20/03369/FHA Single storey rear extension and internal alterations at 9 Whytingham Road, Tring HP23 5JN for Mr and Mrs Dimes (Sally Robbins)  
The Council recommended **NO OBJECTION** to this application
- 20/03402/TPO Works to tree at 11 Chapel Street, Tring HP23 6BL for Mr Wastling (Natasha Vernal)  
The Council recommended **NO OBJECTION** to this application subject to the comments of the Tree Officer
- 20/03434/FHA Single storey rear extension at 85 Grove Gardens, Tring HP23 5PY for Mr and Mrs Hough (Jane Miller)  
The Council recommended **NO OBJECTION** to this application
- 20/03477/LDP Remove existing conservatory roof and replace with composite tile roof at 12 Nursery gardens, Tring HP23 5HZ for Peter Dobson (Robert Freeman)

The Council recommended **NO OBJECTION** to this application

**LIST OF DECISIONS BY DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL IN RESPECT OF RECENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Council noted the decisions by Dacorum Borough Council which were circulated to members on a weekly basis.

**RESOLVED:** To note the planning decisions received

**20257. TEMPORARY TRAFFIC REGULATIONS ORDERS**

None received

**20258. PREMISES LICENCES**

None received

**20259. STANDING COMMITTEES**

(i) Planning Committee meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020

(ii) Finance & Policy Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020

**RESOLVED:** To receive and adopt the minutes listed above. The minutes of the Planning Committee will be amended to substitute 'nine received' with 'none received' at 20236 & 20237.

**20260. OUTSIDE BODIES**

Members gave reports of meetings attended when representing the Council:

- Councillor Nutkins has been told that begonia bulbs planted by Dacorum Borough Council at the memorial gardens have virtually no nectar - can the Council rectify this next year.
- Councillor Patterson attended a zoom meeting of Dacorum Borough Council's Environmental forum & discussed the Local Transport Plan. Also discussed the Local Plan & when people could comment on the same. He proposed an extra meeting in January which was agreed to.
- Councillor Elley attended the AGM of Old Church House and reported that it was open prior to the current lock down, to existing clients only, & hopefully will be opened again soon.

**20261. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

The Clerk briefed the Council on the following matters as a report had been circulated prior to the meeting:

(i) The financial position was very similar to the previous year.

(ii) The Schedule of Payments was presented for approval

**RESOLVED:** (i) To accept the Clerk's Financial Report  
(ii) To approve the Schedule of Payments

**20262. DACORUM LOCAL PLAN (2020 - 2038) EMERGING STRATEGY FOR GROWTH**

.\_Councillor Hearn was able to stay despite previous declaration as the discussion relates to housing.

A report from the planning consultant had been circulated prior to the meeting which made preliminary investigations into the draft local plan and highlighted certain areas that could potentially be contested.

- RESOLVED:**
- (i) Consultants report noted and approved
  - (ii) To be discussed further at the next Planning Committee on 7th December so that the Committee can offer a recommendation to the council as to how to proceed.
  - (iii) To appoint Planning Consultants, Michael Fearn and Barrister Trevor Standen to prepare a response to the consultation within a budget of £3,500.

Methods to publicise the consultation were discussed and suggestions including using social media eg. Everything Tring facebook page and community groups asking their members to reply individually for instance Grove Fields Residents Association, Tring Sports Forum and Tring Together.

Given Dacorum Borough Council were posting the Dacorum Digest door to door the Council would not do anything similar unless not enough replies had been received by January.

**RESOLVED:** The communication methods were noted

**20263. PLANNING MATTERS**

.\_The Clerk summarised the meeting with Dacorum Borough Council to the Council as a copy of their presentation slides had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Dacorum Borough Council was looking at options to increase speed & reduce costs so they were able to concentrate on major applications. They had proposed removing the automatic referral to the Development Management Committee and for the planning officer to make the final decision instead.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk to report to Dacorum Borough Council that the Council were opposed to the proposal.

**20264. COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION**

.\_The Clerk explained the application process to the Council and queried what method of selection they would like to choose and when they would prefer the selection to take place.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk to check if selection has to be at an ordinary council

meeting or if it can also occur at an extraordinary meeting. The method of selection will depend on the number of applicants.

**20265. BUDGET 2021/22**

The recommended budget allocations were considered and further proposals given of extra cycle racks and contributing towards a sustainable transport plan.

**RESOLVED:** That the current recommendations with the additional items above be taken forward to the next round of the budgeting process.

**20266. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

A resolution was considered that under section I of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded during the following items of the agenda for this meeting, because it is likely that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

**RESOLVED:** To exclude members of the press and public.

**20267. QUOTATIONS FOR SURVEY WORK AT NORA GRACE HALL AND POND CLOSE**

A further quotation had been received.

**RESOLVED:** Councillor McDowell to continue with negotiations to achieve best value and appointment with the intention of a start date in January 2021.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm

Chairman