

Minutes of an Extraordinary meeting of the Strategy & Resources Committee held remotely on Tuesday 2 March 2021 at 8:00 pm

Present: *Councillors K. Baker (Chairman); J. Anderson; S. Brindley; A. Chadwick; K. Gilder; T. McCann; M. Nagra; B. Rowland; P. Wicks*

Officers present: *D. Mander, Town Clerk; K. Murray, Deputy Town Clerk; M. Filmore, Committee Officer*

Also present: *1 member of the public*

67. **APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for absence.

68. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made by Members.

69. **TOWN ELECTORS TASK AND FINISH WORKING PARTY**

At the Full Council meeting held on 9 February 2021 it resolved to set up a small, cross-party, non-political working party to devise a new format for the Town Electors' meeting, with the aim of holding a Town Electors' meeting before 1 June 2021 (minute number 66).

Councillor Baker proposed, seconded by Councillor Wicks, and following a vote it was:

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To suspend Standing Order 4f.

Voting: For: 8 Against: 0 Abstention: 0

- ◆ To appoint members to the Town Electors' Working Party as follows:

2 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat, 1 Labour.

Voting: For: 8 Against: 0 Abstention: 0

Councillor Nagra declined a Labour group place on the cross party, non-political working group. Therefore the working party will be made up of 3 Councillors.

Councillor Nagra requested that the Chairman not seek to suspend Standing Order 4f in future in order to suspend proportionality rules. Councillor Baker confirmed he would not seek to suspend Standing Order 4f in future to allow Labour to form part of a cross-party, non-political working party.

70. Councillor Baker presented a proposal for the objectives of the Town Electors' Working Party, suggesting the aims should be:

1. To review the historical structure of the meeting
2. To explore alternative structures for any future meeting
3. To make a recommendation to its parent committee, the Strategy & Resources Committee

4. To complete the work in a timely fashion for the formal democratic process to be followed, i.e. for the Strategy & Resources Committee to make a recommendation to Full Council and then for Full Council to agree and the Town Clerk to implement

It was suggested the views of members of the public and local businesses should be sought, possibly by placing a request for comments on the Town Council website. In future, it was suggested opinion could be sought using the Residents' survey. The Chair recommended these points be taken forward for consideration by the working party.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To accept the four objectives presented by Councillor Baker, along with the addition of seeking views from members of the public, as the terms of reference for the Town Elector's Working Party.

Voting: For: 9 Against: 0 Abstention: 0

- ◆ To appoint Councillors Anderson, Brindley, and Skegg to the Town Electors' Working Party.

71. **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

RESOLVED:

- ◆ That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted in relation to legal matters, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press were temporarily excluded and asked to withdraw for the following two agenda items.

Voting: For: 7 Against: 2 Abstention: 0

72. **WOODFORD PARK LEISURE CENTRE ROOF**

The Deputy Town Clerk presented Report No. SR 9/21.

RESOLVED:

- ◆ To note Report No. SR 9/21.
- ◆ To accept the Part 36 Offer as full and final settlement of the matter.

Voting: For: 8 Against: 0 Abstention: 0

The meeting closed at 8:53 pm
