

Knutsford Town Council

Town Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green

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Minutes of the Assets and Operations Committee meeting held 16th December 2019 In the Lower Council Chamber of the Town Council Offices

A19/060 Present

Cllrs Coan, Forbes, Gray, Hamilton Coan, Malloy and McCulloch.

In attendance: A Keppel-Green (*Town Clerk*) and Cllr Beswick.

A19/061 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Nicholson and Gardiner (personal business) and Fletcher (parliamentary business).

A19/062 To note declarations of members' interests

Cllrs Forbes and Hamilton Coan declared a personal interest in A19/068 on the grounds of being disabled.

A19/063 Public Participation

No members of the public wished to address the committee.

A19/064 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 21st October

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes, subject to a correction to A19/056 to specify that it was Cllr Fletcher who voted against the resolution.

A19/065 To consider the committee budget and spending to date

The committee budget and spending to date was noted.

A19/066 To receive an update in respect of the transfer of the Council Offices

The Town Clerk reported that the target date for the transfer had moved to the end of the financial year due to delays at Cheshire East Council's Assets Department but that this meant the projected expenditure 2019/20 would be lower than forecast.

A19/067 To consider matters related to the transfer of the cemetery

It was noted that whilst the freehold has always been owned by the town council, the responsibility for managing the cemetery would revert back to the town council on 1st January 2020.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the procurement of bins, bin stores/watering can station, signage, software and equipment as detailed in A1919.

A proposal to recommend to Council that a Cemetery Improvements budget of £2,000 be

reinstated in the 2020/21 budget was proposed and seconded but failed.

It was **RESOLVED**¹ to recommend to Council that a Cemetery Improvements budget of £2,300 be reinstated in the 2020/21 budget, noting it would be covered by the reduced forecast expenditure for the Council Offices in the current financial year.

A19/068² To consider a report on the public toilets

It was **RESOLVED** to request approval from Council to open discussions with Danfo to renegotiate the lease for the public toilets.

It was **RESOLVED** to request approval from Council that in the event of renegotiation being successful, it be authorised to progress the creation of commercially lettable spaces with the buildings as per option F in report A1918

A19/069 To receive an update in respect of 60 King Street

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press due to the commercially sensitive nature of discussions.

The Town Clerk reported that two bids had been submitted from potential tenants and that a closing date of 31st January had been agreed with the council's agent.

It was **RESOLVED** to readmit the public and press.

A19/070 Member questions to the Town Clerk

The Town Clerk was requested to ascertain whether Marshall House had sold.

A19/071 To consider the committee's Actions Log

The log was noted and it was agreed that action A19/037 have a rolling three month target, whilst awaiting clarity from Cheshire East Council.

A19/072 To note the date of the next meeting

The date was noted.

¹ Cllr Forbes voted against the resolution.

² Cllr Malloy during the discussion of this item.