



KIRKHAM

TOWN COUNCIL

The Community Centre
Mill Street
Kirkham
PR4 2AN
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Email: kirkhamcouncil@btconnect.com
www.kirkhamtowncouncil.co.uk

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 14TH JULY, 2020 AT 7.00.P.M.,
BY ZOOM, TO TRANSACT THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS**

Present:- Councillor E. Oades, Mayor, in the Chair, Councillors P. Brearley, Mrs P. Brearley, D. Buckley, J. Cameron, P. Hardy, P. Hodgson, C. Hopkinson, S. Jones and E. Silverwood.

2020/7/1 There were no apologies received.

2020/7/2 To receive any declarations of interest in an Agenda item. Members are reminded that in accordance with Section 94 of the Local Government Act, 1972 and the Council's Standing Orders, any direct or pecuniary or other interest should be declared. Councillor Hodgson declared a personal interest in all Planning matters and all items in 2020/7/4 LAPOS. Councillor Oades declared a personal interest in all Planning matters.

2020/7/3 To accept as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday, 9th June, 2020 and Tuesday, 30th June, 2020. Agreed.

2020/7/4 To receive the Minutes, if any, and determine recommendations made by the LPAOS Committee. There were no minutes as no meetings had taken place.

- (i) To ratify the contract to tarmac and white line WSH car park and Peoples' Park awarded to Imacadam in the sum of £34,010. It was agreed that both areas of the Peoples' Park have tarmac laid with one area being funded by Kirkham in Bloom and the other funded by the Town Council. Agreed.
- (ii) To ratify awarding Altitude Service to install a new cable for Mill Street lighting in the sum of £1,839.35., plus VAT. Agreed.
- (iii) To ratify the Open Spaces Risk Assessment. Agreed.
- (iv) To adopt a Facilities' Key Holders' Policy and Procedure. Agreed.
- (v) To adopt a revised Football Pitch Agreement. Agreed.
- (vi) To confirm charge for 2020/21 for hiring Wm Segar Hodgson pitches and Pavilion and to insist that any Body using the facilities for training purposes must advise the Council of times and dates. Agreed.
- (vii) To confirm that a skip will be hired to clear rubbish from Wm. Segar Hodgson changing rooms at a cost of £180. Agreed.
- (viii) To agree the plants to be used at the Memorial and the Peoples' Park. Agreed.

2020/7/5 To determine recommendations made by the Staffing Committee. Councillor Mrs P. Brearley advised Council that a Staffing meeting had been held on Wednesday, 8th July, 2020, but minutes were not available at the present time, she said that she would distribute the minutes as soon as possible.

- (i) Update on future appointment of Town Council personnel. Councillor Brearley stated that she would provide the Council with suggestions discussed, in writing, she added that a further meeting was soon to be arranged at which Mrs T. Manning and Mr I. Curtis, Fylde Borough Council would attend to offer any help and advice they are able.

2020/7/6 To receive Minutes and determine recommendations made by the Communications Committee.

- (i) To approve that all Councillors be set up with formal Council email addresses using the Office 365 platform at a cost of £3.00. per councillor per month, a total of £30 per month. Agreed.
- (ii) To approve that the main Council email address be set up with a formal email address using Office 365 platform at a cost of £3.00. per month. This account will replace the kirkhamcouncil@btconnect.com email address. Agreed.
- (iii) To install a fixed line at Wm. Segar Hodgson for CCTV connectivity. Not agreed.
- (iv) To move the current website to the Council's own platform/hosting. Agreed, subject to monitoring after the first year.



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- (v) To approve the purchase of a Sum Up card terminal in order that users can use this payment method for room hire. Agreed to purchase in the sum of £169.00.
- (vi) To agree to provide Council staff with mobile phones. Agreed.
- (vii) To agree to appoint an external company to provide an out of hours call out service. Agreed that three tenders to be obtained.

2020/7/7 To receive Reports (for information only).

- (i) **Police Report.** The Report was noted. Members discussed the large volume of complaints received by the Council, and individual Councillors, from residents about anti-social behaviour in the town and its open spaces and the apparent lack of police activity in response to complaints. Members also discussed the tragic road traffic accident which had occurred on Station Road. The Mayor advised the Council that she had contacted the Lancashire Road Safety Group to ask them to investigate, when necessary information is available to it, whether any safety issues need to be put in place. She also advised that she had asked the group to look at Ribby Road and the Dowbridge in relation to the excessive speed of certain vehicles, which appear to have exacerbated during lock down. It was agreed that the Mayor write to the Chief Constable, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the geographical Inspector for Fylde, to complain about the inadequate police response to very real concerns expressed by so many Councillors and residents in recent months.
- (ii) **Mayor's Announcements.**
 - (a) The Mayor advised the meeting that the temporary Clerk, Mrs Hodgson, had spoken to Santander and discussed the very best terms available to the Council for its Two Year Investment Account, which needed to be re-invested as it had matured. It had been found that the best interest rate available was if we were to reinvest into a One Year Account at the present time. Noted.
 - (b) The Mayor informed Council that the Internal Auditor had advised that he is unable to undertake our audit this year, she said that it had been necessary to ask the External Auditor to carry out the internal audit this year, due to the deadline for AGAR, and that the audit will be carried out in week beginning 20.7.20. Councillors asked for further information and the Mayor suspended debate until the end of the meeting and moved "into Committee".
 - (c) The Mayor advised Council about the latest developments in relation to the Town Centre Bid. She outlined changes to the bid which the Council accepted "in principle".

2020/7/8 Finances.

- (i) To ratify the monthly accounts for May. Agreed.
- (ii) To agree monthly accounts for June. Agreed
- (iii) To agree payment of invoices. Agreed.

Finance sheets and invoice list are appended to the minutes.

2020/7/9 To ratify the decision to approve Application No. 20/0467, 25 Springfield Avenue, Kirkham, conversion and extension of existing detached garage into summer house with gazebo. Agreed.

2020/7/10 Council discussed an email received from Mr A. Bleasdale re: mole holes at Wm. Segar Hodgson Playing Fields. Agreed to write to Mr Bleasdale to advise him that the Council's grounds maintenance contractor has inspected the field and is satisfied that there is not a serious problem in relation to the moles, the contractor has also advised that the holes have been filled in.

2020/7/11 Council noted a Report received from Ms M. Cox, Council's representative, outlining latest information in relation to the Preston New Road Community Liaison Group, and agreed that Ms. Cox be thanked for updating the Council.



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2020/7/12 Council discussed an email received from Mr G. Speight re: grass cutting on Station Road. It was agreed to write to Mr Speight to inform him that the Council will continue to cut grass on amenity areas but to advise him that we have areas in the town where we do not cut grass, have planted wild flowers and generally encouraged bio diversity, and advise him where they are.

2020/7/13 Council discussed an email from Les Martin regarding the copse on St George's Park, Kirkham. It was agreed to write to Mr Martin to advise him that we have asked the Council's arboricultural contractor to inspect the woodland.

2020/7/14 Council discussed various planning issues in relation to The Spinnings Development at the A583. The delay in installing a pelican crossing on the A585, the Mayor advised Council that she had been closely monitoring the installation of this crossing, she informed Council that the hold up had been caused by one of the developers not signing the necessary legal agreements which have to be put in place before the crossing can be put in place, she advised that the County Council's solicitor is pursuing this.

Speed limits in the vicinity of the development, the Mayor advised Council that this is to be reviewed in the near future.

Bus stops and bus services. The Mayor advised that both the stops and the services were part of the planning approval; she informed Council that this is presently being pursued with the developers.

2020/7/15 Parking on streets close to the train station. The Council discussed the problem of parking around the Train Station, it was noted that the car park opposite the Station belongs to a private individual and is not owned by the rail authorities, it was also noted that as there are no parking restrictions in place on several of the affected streets, it is impossible to stop commuters and others parking in those areas, to place double yellow lines and other restrictions in these areas would disadvantage residents and would just move the problem further out and into other areas, so the problem would still exist. The Mayor informed the Council that the County Council will no longer install Resident Parking areas so this option is not a viable alternative.

2020/7/16 Kirkham Juniors use of William Segar Hodgson Pavilion and Playing Fields. The Council discussed an email received from KJFC and it was resolved that a meeting be arranged between both the Junior and Senior teams and LPAOS to discuss further.

2020/7/17 Council was advised that a local tree supplier has asked that he be allowed to plant a red maple tree on the Station Road site to replace a tree knocked down during the recent tragic accident. Agreed.

Time and Date of the next Town Council meeting, 11th August, 2020.

The Mayor moved exclusion of the press and public on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

2020/7/7 (ii) The Mayor advised Council that the Internal Auditor had declined to carry out the audit at the present time. Noted

The meeting closed at 9.15.p.m.

Signed

**Liz Oades
Town Mayor**