



## UTTOXETER TOWN COUNCIL

### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE ARISING FROM ITS MEETING HELD IN THE ALAN DEAN SUITE, UTTOXETER TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY, 22 MARCH 2022 AT 5.00 PM

#### Chair – Councillor C Sylvester

Councillors: M Crutchley, R Hawkins, Z Krupski  
Officer in attendance: T Jeffery, Town Clerk

#### 1. CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chair provided a brief on the fire procedure in the event of a fire, the provisions of the Recording and Filming of Meetings as in accordance with "The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014", the use of mobile phones during the meeting.

#### 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

(a) The Clerk reported that approved apologies had been received from Councillors H Headech (ex-officio) and P Hudson.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted and approved.

(b) Councillors who were absent and apologies had not tendered – Councillors D Goodfellow and M Lloyd-Ewer.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted.

#### 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with Standing Order 3(e-h), the meeting be adjourned for up to 15 minutes to allow for public participation where members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting which they were entitled to attend in respect of the business on the Agenda. The period of time designated for public participation at a meeting as in accordance with standing order 3(e) shall not exceed (3) minutes unless directed by the Chair of the meeting. It was noted that members of the public may not take part in the Council meeting itself.

It was noted that no members of the public were in attendance.

#### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting, and which was not included in the register of interests. Members were reminded that they were required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they had a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest was entered in the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

Councillor Krupski declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item No. 7(c)

#### 5. 19A HIGH STREET

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter dated 22 February 2022 received from Bowcock & Pursaill advising that Council's instruction had been completed with respect to the Lease for 19A High Street. Committee was informed that a copy of the Completed Lease had been stored at Bowcock & Pursaill, within the 19A High Street file within the Clerk's fireproof cabinet and electronically for future reference.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted.

#### 6. DEFIBRILLATOR FOR UTTOXETER TOWN HALL INCLUDING PLANNING

*As Recommended by Committee at its meeting held on 22 February 2022 that*

(i) *Councillor C Sylvester provide the Clerk with the details of the defibrillator installed at the Heath Community Centre including installation requirements.*

Signed: ..... Date: .....

- (ii) Upon receipt of (i) as above, the Clerk seek costings for the purchase of the suggested defibrillator including installation, cabinet type (heated/non heated), ongoing maintenance requirements, etc.
- (iii) This matter be included for further consideration by Committee at its next meeting.

The Chair reported that he was awaiting a response from the Community Response Manager for the West Midlands Ambulance Trust who may be in a position to provide the Council with a reduced priced for the purchase of the defibrillator for the Town Hall. It was noted that until the information on the type/size of the defibrillator to be installed, the application for Listed Building consent could not be completed.

RECOMMENDED that the Clerk liaise with the Community Response Manager for the West Midlands Ambulance Trust to seek an update and provide Committee with an update at its next meeting.

**7. UPDATE FROM COUNCIL'S ARCHITECT - VARIOUS**

The Clerk reported receipt of an email dated 1 March 2022 received from Council's Architect providing an update on the following:

- (a) Cellar/Basement Works - The works to the cellar/basement would commence from 28 March 2022 for up to six weeks.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted and approved.

- (b) Interior Storm Damage – She reported that Council's Architect was seeking further quotations for the internal repairs.

RECOMMENDED that upon receipt of the quotations, the Clerk liaise with Council's Insurance Provider accordingly to progress the internal repairs being carried out.

Councillor Krupski declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item No. 7(c) and it was noted he left the Chamber prior to the debate/vote.

- (c) 32, 34-36 Carter Street Roof Works – The Clerk reported that the Listed Building Consent Application had been submitted to ESBC and reported that Council's Architect was seeking Tenders from three roofing contractors accordingly.

RECOMMENDED that upon receipt of the quotations, this matter be included for further consideration by Committee at its next meeting.

It was noted that Councillor Krupski returned to the Chamber.

**8. TOWN HALL LIFT – RECOMMENDATION**

The Clerk reported that following the latest list service by Lift & Engineering Services Ltd, Council had been advised that, due to a problem with the circuit board for the alarm, Lift & Engineering Services Ltd were recommending that the Council replace the batteries at a cost of £300 plus vat to supply and fit. Committee instruction was sought.

RECOMMENDED that the quotation received from Lift & Engineering Services Ltd in the sum of £300 plus vat, be accepted and approved, funded by the Town Hall repairs and maintenance budget allocation.

**9. COMMITTEE IN PRIVATE – PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act it was requested that the public and press were not present due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and were asked to withdraw.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted and approved.

**10. HIGH STREET BOLLARD**

- (a) **ACCESS PASSES –** The Clerk reported receipt of, following a number of requests for passes for the High Street bollard, Committee was asked to give consideration to a quotation received in the sum of £1,385 plus vat for the installation of a new pass system for the High Street bollard, compatible with the current passes in place.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

The Clerk provided committee with a detailed update on the former system and contract and issues received since the transfer to First County Monitoring. Committee instruction was sought.

It was noted that Members expressed their concerns with the short periods of time when the High Street bollard was in working order and the cost to the Town Council including staffing provisions. Members considered various potential options for the High Street to enable a safe environment for residents and visitors to the town be provided. It was noted that legalisation changes may enable access into the High Street via ANPR recognition. Following lengthy debate, it was

RECOMMENDED that the Clerk be tasked forthwith, to:

- (i) Request an urgent meeting with County Councillor P Hudson and SCC's Strategic Community Infrastructure Manager together with Councillors M Crutchley, C Sylvester and the Clerk to discuss the future provisions and alternative options for providing residents and visitors to the Town, under health and safety, safe passage within the town centre.
- (ii) No action be taken on a new pass system for the High Street bollard at this time due to (i) as above.
- (iii) Request an urgent meeting with local Chief Inspector, the Mayor and the Clerk to urge a Police presence within the town centre to deter unauthorised access down the High Street at this time.

(b) **CONTRACT FOR INTERNET PROVISIONS - HIGH STREET BOLLARD**

The Clerk reported receipt of a quotation from Dial Direct for Superfast Essential plus value line at £24.50 and £5.80 for the Static IP address, providing Council with a total monthly fee of £30.30 (a monthly saving of £9.90 on current charges). Committee instruction was sought. Following lengthy debate, it was

RECOMMENDED that the Clerk:

- (i) Be tasked with liaising with Dial Direct forthwith to ascertain if the Contract could, due to 10(a) as above, be a temporary contract.
- (ii) Include this matter for further consideration by Committee at its next meeting.

11. **TELEPHONE SYSTEM/BROADBAND PROVISIONS**

The Clerk reported that Dial Direct had confirmed on 14 March 2022 that it would take up to 90 days for all the services for the Council to be transferred from BT to Dial Direct. Committee was informed that Dial Direct were liaising direct on the Council's behalf with BT and that at this stage, the Town Council did not need to do anything.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted.

The meeting closed at 6.05 pm.