

## Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

### Town Council meeting

1 September 2021

### Agenda Item 5: Membership of Council Committees

#### 1. Urgency Committee and Advisory Committees

1.1 At the Town Council meeting on 28 April 2021 the Council agreed to delegate its powers to an Urgency Committee in order to respond to the continued serious risk to health of meetings held in person indoors. Town Council Committees will continue to meet online as advisory committees and will discuss business as usual. The recommendations and decisions will be advisory until they are ratified by the Urgency Committee.

1.2 Notwithstanding the existence of the Urgency Committee, the Town Council met in person in June and July 2021 to undertake business which it was deemed could or should only be determined by the Town Council itself. The Town Council is again meeting this evening and on 29 September. The Council will be requested to review its arrangements in relation to meetings at the Council meeting on 29 September.

The position until then remains that the Urgency Committee can resolve matters which were previously resolved by one of the standing committees or the Council itself. However powers may still be exercised by the Town Council as the sovereign body of the organisation in which case the Urgency Committee is not required to consider those matters dealt with by the Town Council.

1.3 The proposed committee membership below follows the agreement of the new committee structure at the Town Council meeting on 28 July 2021.

1.4 The following nominations have been made and it will be **proposed** that the committees are appointed for the period to the next Annual Meeting in May 2022. Please note that the Chairs and Vice Chairs are appointed by and subject to the agreement of the respective committees.

#### 2. Urgency Committee

Cllr Charlie Birks  
Cllr Samantha Bowring  
Cllr Cheryl Briggs  
Cllr Andy Foulsham  
Cllr Pat Lonergan

**3. Community Advisory Committee**

Cllr Andrew Coveney  
Cllr Neil Fawcett  
Cllr Andy Foulsham  
Cllr Alex Greenaway  
Cllr Eric de la Harpe  
Cllr Rawda Jehanli  
Cllr Pat Lonergan

**4. Environment and Amenities Advisory Committee**

Cllr Gabby Barody  
Cllr Charlie Birks  
Cllr Margaret Crick  
Cllr Jim Halliday  
Cllr Rawda Jehanli  
Cllr Lorraine Oates  
Cllr Helen Pighills

**5. Town Infrastructure Advisory Committee**

Cllr Charlie Birks  
Cllr Grace Clifton  
Cllr Neil Fawcett  
Cllr Jim Halliday  
Cllr Eric de la Harpe  
Cllr Rawda Jehanli  
Cllr Andrew Skinner

**6. Planning Panel**

Cllr Jim Halliday  
Cllr Patrick Lonergan  
Cllr Lorraine Oates

**7. Traffic Advisory Committee (Town Council members).**

Cllr Andrew Coveney  
Cllr Andy Foulsham  
Cllr Jim Halliday  
Cllr Eric de la Harpe  
Cllr Patrick Lonergan

*This is a joint committee with other authorities and its Chair and Vice-Chair are appointed at the first meeting of the Committee.*

## 8. Finance, Governance and Asset Management Advisory Committee

Membership comprises Chairs of:

Community Advisory Committee  
Environment and Amenities Advisory Committee  
Town Infrastructure Advisory Committee

Plus:

Cllr Samantha Bowring  
Cllr Neil Fawcett  
Cllr Jim Halliday  
Cllr Ulrike Rowbottom

## 9. Sub-committees

To note that under Council and Committee Terms of Reference shall be appointed by the relevant advisory committees.

### **OTHER GROUPS**

- (a) The Council is requested to appoint a Personnel Appeals Panel of 3 Members for the period to the next Annual Meeting (May 2022). This Panel would need to meet at short notice and therefore requires flexibility in its appointment. It is recommended that appointment of this panel is delegated to the Mayor and the Leader (Chair Finance and General Purposes Advisory Committee).
- (b) The Council should **note** that Standing Committees also have the power to establish Working Groups to assist in the delivery of specific tasks and should be time bound. Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups also have the power to co-opt non-Members.
- (c) Finally it should be **noted** that the Mayor and the Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee (Leader) are ex-officio voting Members of all Council Standing Committees and ex-officio non-voting Members of all other Council bodies.

Nigel Warner  
Town Clerk  
31 August 2021.