



## **ABINGDON-ON-THAMES TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Special meeting of the Town Council**

**Monday 23 May 2022**

### **Minutes**

#### **Present**

Cllr Andy Foulsham      Mayor (Chair)  
Cllr Charlie Birks  
Cllr Samantha Bowring    Leader  
Cllr Cheryl Briggs  
Cllr Margaret Crick  
Cllr Eric de la Harpe  
Cllr Jim Halliday  
Cllr Rawda Jehanli  
Cllr Andrew Skinner

#### **In attendance**

Nigel Warner              Town Clerk  
Andy Crick                Community Services & Events Officer  
Paula Lopez                Committee Clerk (Locum)

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T9/22.        **Apologies**

Apologies were received from, Cllr Barody, Cllr Clifton, Cllr Coveney, Cllr Fawcett, Cllr Greenaway, Cllr Lonergan, Cllr Maddison, Cllr Oates, Cllr Pighills and Cllr Rowbottom.

T10/22.       **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

T11/22.       **Motions under Standing Order 8**

A motion was **proposed** by the Mayor, Cllr Andy Foulsham, and **seconded** by Cllr Cheryl Briggs and it was **AGREED** to congratulate HM the Queen on her Platinum Jubilee as follows:

*‘This council notes that 2022 marks the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, and that no monarch has ever reigned for 70 years before.*

*We therefore send our most heartfelt congratulations and gratitude for her years of service and devotion to duty to Her Majesty the Queen and resolve to mark the occasion in the traditional manner for Abingdon-on-Thames with a Bun Throwing from the County Hall Museum at 5pm on the 5<sup>th</sup> June’.*

T12/22.       **Matters referred**

Platinum Jubilee Working Group 17 May 2022

The Town Clerk stated that the Standing Orders should be suspended in relation to the financial matters. This was **AGREED**.

It was proposed by Cllr Rawda Jehanli, seconded by Cllr Samantha Bowring, and **recommended to Full Council** that:

- (i) The council recognises the current financial pressures faced by the residents of Abingdon and the Platinum Jubilee Festival event is offered as a free event to all residents (subject to limitations on number of attendees) from Wednesday 1 June 2022 – Saturday 4 June 2022. This includes all evening events which were initially planned as chargeable events.
- (ii) The event be extended to non-residents of Abingdon at such time if there are surplus wristbands still available.
- (iii) The shortfall of income due to (i) be recognised by way of a supplementary budget estimate, up to a maximum amount of £70,000.
- (iv) The supplementary estimate in (iii) be funded by use of the council’s general reserve.

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A discussion took place around this with various observations being raised,

- It being difficult to ensure residents of Abingdon only attended but it was thought that this would mostly be the case.
- There would be two entrances manned by ‘clickers’ both those going in and going out, the numbers expected to be 4,500.
- It was requested for clarification that the £70,000 was on top of the original £52,000. This was confirmed by the Community Services & Events Officer, who also advised that this is expected to change, the amount will reduce with some income being received from stalls and bars.
- Those who have already paid for tickets to be refunded in full which will include the booking fee, however the Town Council will need to refund the booking fee as the booking site will not do this.
- The Town Council website was now updated and ads on Jack FM to start.
- Detailed answers to questions from Cllr Birks can be found here.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Birks, **seconded** by Cllr de la Harpe and **AGREED that**, (i) of the recommendation be reworded to read, ‘the event is offered as a free event to all ABINGDON residents’.

Before a vote was taken on the proposal Cllr Charlie Birks asked it to be minuted that he was uncomfortable with the decision on the proposal but as there was no other credible solution that he would vote for it.

The Mayor asked that councillors voted on the recommendation and it was **AGREED** unanimously **that**, the Platinum Jubilee Festival event be offered as a free event, **that**, the event be extended to non-residents of Abingdon at such time if there are surplus wristbands still available, **that**, the shortfall of income due to (i) be recognised by way of a supplementary budget estimate, up to a maximum amount of £70,000, and **that**, the supplementary estimate in (iii) be funded by use of the council’s general reserve.

The meeting closed at 7.26 pm

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