



Tuesday 22nd June 2021

The Trinity Centre

7pm

Present

Cllrs Mosson, D Allan, Cairns, Cooper, Cummins, Griffin, Horrocks, Jolley, Parmar, Pears, Pocock, Puri, K Ward, S Ward and Wood.

In Attendance

Olive O'Sullivan –Chief Executive Officer, Mark Dixon - Senior Programme Delivery Manager and Mary Watkins-Finance Manager.

There were ten members of the public present.

The Mayor extended a warm welcome to Daniel Hill, who is observing the meeting as part of his rotary award.

Three questions had been submitted in advance of the meeting. Members of the public were invited to ask their questions.

John Heywood stated that his question in relation to attending a meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership to discuss air quality and the impact on health had been answered before the meeting.

Cllr Cairns commented that it was very useful to have ECO Sutton's data on local air quality and to see where the Health and Wellbeing Partnership can link in. Cllr Horrocks commented that the Town Council had commissioned Urban Movement to look at a cycle and walking plan and that the Town Council remains positive and committed to its environmental ambitions.

Liz Parry asked if the Town Council were taking steps to join the Sutton Park Advisory Committee and if not, why.

Cllr S Ward responded that there is an open invitation for the Town Council to attend the Advisory Committee but stressed it is an advisory body and isn't responsible for the strategic management of the park. Cllr S Ward referred to the LUC report commissioned by the Town Council on an appraisal of Sutton Park and it was clear the findings of that report should be adopted. Cllr Ward added that the Park is too big for any one Local Authority to manage and needs independent governance. The Town Council would continue to try and work with Birmingham City Council to safeguard the future of the park.

Frances Heywood thanked the Mayor for attending a stall with Sutton Sisters at almost no notice, following his election in May 2021. She asked if the Town Council would be entering into negotiations with all parties involved in Sutton Park, with an offer of reasonably substantial funding that could be used to pump prime and address the serious and urgent threats caused by water pollution.

Cllr S Ward stated that the Town Council would love to enter negotiations as Sutton Park remains a pressing and important issue for residents. As public funds need to be spent wisely, responsibly, and



effectively it will be important to have an appropriate governance structure and plan. Investment into the park would be a decision for Full Council to consider.

The Mayor reported that he was honoured to attend a stall with Sutton Sisters to raise awareness of the plight of children in Yemen. The Mayor also reported meeting with students from BMet College who presented their artwork ideas and suggestions as part of a work placement programme between the Town Council and the College.

16 Apologies for Absence

The CEO reported apologies from Cllrs Allen, Ashley-Higgins, Briggs, Ellis, Hodgins, Mackey, Raut, Scott and Simper.

Resolved to accept the apologies.

17 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Pears and Cairns asked Council to note that they had declared an interest at Amenities, Leisure and Community Services Committee in a Community Grant application submitted from Sutton Coldfield Community Town Hall Trust. The CEO confirmed that as the decision was made at Committee, the Councillors would not be required to leave the room this evening during discussion of item 23.

18 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved to exclude members of the public and press during discussion of item 27 under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s3.

19 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held Tuesday 18th May 2021 be signed as a true record.

20 Matters Arising

None reported.

21 Questions from Members

Cllr Pocock asked when the environmental workshops, proposed 18 months ago and placed on hold during the pandemic, would likely start up. Cllr Horrocks confirmed that planning for the workshops was taking place and that the sessions would hopefully start in the autumn, depending on Government restrictions of gatherings.

22 Minutes of Annual Town Meeting

Resolved to note the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting, held on 18th May 2021.

23 Minutes of Committees

a) **Planning and Highways** held on 1st June 2021.



Cllr Horrocks thanked Cllr Jolley for her well researched grounds for objections to a telecom mast. Cllr Pocock agreed with the objection and reported that Birmingham City Council (BCC) had now rejected the application. In response to a comment from Cllr Allan, that BCC is not always consistent in their approach to rejections, Cllr Pocock stated that powers for rejecting mast applications are limited and any inconsistencies should be evidenced and reported to the Council.

Resolved to note the minutes from the Planning and Highways Committee, held on 1st June 2021.

b) Amenities, Leisure and Community Services held on 10th June 2021.

Cllr Pears reported that he was pleased that the Committee had started to see applications from groups that were starting back up after the pandemic and that he hoped to see applications from groups planning events for the Queen's platinum jubilee next year. Cllr Cairns also spoke in support of helping charities that provide services to support people with additional needs after a difficult 18 months.

Resolved to approve a Community Grant of £20,000 to Four Oaks Saints Cricket Club from the Sports Engagement Budget.

Resolved to approve a Community Grant of £19,950 to FOLIO from the Community Grants budget.

Resolved to approve a Community Grant of £14,987.61 to North Birmingham Community Gymnastics from the Sports Engagement budget.

c) Strategy and Resources held on 15th June 2021.

Resolved to note the minutes from the Strategy and Resources Committee, held on 15th June 2021.

24 Use of Chief Executive Officer's Delegated Powers

The CEO reported that an emergency grant of £3,000 had been awarded to Hope Food North Birmingham and the balance of the application considered by the Amenities, Leisure and Community Services Committee.

Delegated Powers had also been used to approve additional street furniture on the Parade and Walmley War Memorial Square. The cost of these additional benches and bins is £5,707.

25 Accounts for Payment

Resolved to note the delegated payments, approve the accounts for payments and appoint Cllrs Allan and S Ward to complete authorisation.

26 Date of the Next Scheduled Meeting

20th July 2021 at the Trinity Centre

The public section of the meeting ended at 7:38pm and a small comfort break was taken.

The meeting resumed at 7:45pm.

27 Exclusion of the Press and Public



a) Walmley War Memorial Square Tender Evaluation

Resolved that Collins Building Partnership Limited be appointed to undertake the improvement works at the land surrounding Walmley War Memorial for a sum not exceeding £153,000 with an on-site start date of Monday 2 August 2021.

The meeting ended at 7:50pm.

DRAFT