

LEDON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Proceedings of an Extraordinary Meeting of the

Hedon Town Council held via Zoom on

23 July 2020

(Due to the COVID-19 pandemic it was not possible for the Council to meet in person)

Prior to the opening of the meeting, Members held a minute's silence in memory of Cllr Mike Bryan who passed away in April 2020.

Present: Councillor C Billany in the Chair
Councillors: N Black, J Brindley, J Dennis, S Gallant, Mrs B Goldspink,
Miss S Rommell, Miss D Storr, D Thompson and G Thurston
Clerk: Judith Macklin, Town Clerk

1. Absence
Cllr: B Stockdale
Resolved: that apologies were accepted
2. Declaration of Interests
 - 2.1 It was agreed that any declaration of interest be dealt with at the time the relevant item was discussed.
 - 2.2 There were no dispensations to be noted.
3. To approve leave of absence for Members
Resolved: that a leave of absence was granted to any and all Members who were unable to attend Council meetings during the Coronavirus Pandemic up to May 2021 or until physical meetings can be held (whichever is the sooner)
4. To receive the Internal Audit Report for the year ending 31.3.20
The Chairman referred to the Internal Auditor's report and the reply by the Town Clerk which had been previously circulated; it was noted that the Internal Auditor felt that Hedon Town Council's accounts and governance arrangements continued to be maintained to a very high standard.
Resolved: that the Internal Audit report was received and approved
Resolved: that the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk were thanked for their hard work in managing the Council's finances to the standard set out in the Internal Auditor's report
5. To approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 of the AGAR)
Members referred to the Annual Governance Statement – Assertions document provided by ERNLLCA which had been previously circulated.

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Resolved: that the Annual Governance Statement was approved and the Chairman and Town Clerk were authorised to sign the Statement

6. To approve and sign the Accounting Statement (Summary Income & Expenditure Schedule) and Section 2 of the Annual Return

Resolved: that the Summary Income and Expenditure Schedule and Section 2 of the Annual Return were approved and the Chairman and Town Clerk were authorised to sign the documents

7. To agree way forward for future meetings

During a lengthy discussion Councillors discussed the possible ways forward which would enable a return to a normal schedule of meetings.

It was proposed, seconded and voted on that Council hold hybrid meetings (some Members attending physically and others remote accessing in) from September; however, on the Chairman's casting vote, this proposal was rejected.

Resolved: that delegated authority remained with the Proper Officer until resumption of the normal meeting schedule in September (however attendance at that meeting takes place)

Further discussions then took place on how attendance at meetings should happen.

It was proposed, seconded and voted on that when Council resumed its normal meeting schedule in September that Councillors should attend physically and not by remote access; this proposal was rejected.

Resolved: that when Council resume its normal meeting schedule in September that Councillors attend by remote access only, unless guidance from NALC changes and supports meetings by physical attendance

Chairman _____