

## **CLITHEROE TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 23 September 2024  
In the Council Chamber, Clitheroe Town Hall**

**PRESENT:- The Town Council Leader, Cllr Mark French, in the Chair  
Councillors Ian Brown, Gaynor Hibbert, Jonathan Hill, Simon O'Rourke,  
Mary Robinson, Mark Sutcliffe, Town Clerk  
Three representatives of United Utilities  
Borough Cllr Bill Holden  
Ally Holmes (A Level politics student, CRGS)**

**Due to the absence of both the Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor it was necessary to elect a Chair for the meeting from amongst those present. Cllr Mark French was duly proposed and seconded and it was unanimously voted that he should chair the meeting. Cllr French duly assumed the Chair.**

### **25.24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**The Town Mayor Cllr Donna O'Rourke, The Deputy Town Mayor Cllr Michael Graveston, Cllr Ryan Corney**

### **26.24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**United Utilities made a short presentation on the latest situation regarding the HARP project and copies of the presentation were distributed to those present.**

### **27.24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Cllr Robinson declared an interest in**

### **28.24 MINUTES**

**The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 21 May 2024 were signed and approved.**

### **29.24 MAYORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**In the absence of the Town Mayor this item was not considered.**

### **30.24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Consideration was given to planning applications received for weeks ended 10 and 17 May 2024.**

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That no objections be raised to the following applications:-  
3/2024/0640 & 0680**

#### **31.24 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2024**

The Town Clerk gave a verbal update on arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday commemorations in 2024, noting that Revd Dr Judith Clark would be taking the services in church and at the war memorial.

#### **32.24 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The Council Leader and Cllr Simon O'Rourke apologised to the Council for authorising expenditure outside of a Council meeting but explained a quick decision had been necessary in order that the Christmas lights schedule could be adhered to. The expenditure related to the need for anchor point testing for the cross street displays. It was noted that this had been unexpected expenditure and it was suggested and agreed that a sum be put aside on a regular basis relating to Christmas lights.

**RESOLVED:** That a contingency sum of £250 per year be placed in the Decorative Clitheroe Committee account to deal with potential unexpected expenditure.

#### **33.24 TOWN WELLS – UPDATE**

Borough Cllr Bill Holden was allowed to speak on this item and advised that he had offered to become involved with the Wells project and to meet with appropriate RVBC officers and other interested parties. Borough Cllr Holden expressed his concern that RVBC officers were being requested to have involvement with the Wells, in addition to their other duties and that this was proving to be time consuming, so he was willing to be involved to reduce the time commitment of the officers. Cllr Ian Brown advised that there was a meeting on 04 October 2024 regarding the wells and that the position regarding any future developments should be clearer after that meeting. It was accepted that more could be made of the town wells, both from a tourist and civic perspective, but that progress would be difficult until an appropriate authority had accepted legal ownership of the wells and and therefore responsibility for them.

#### **34.24 ACCOUNT BALANCES AND ACCOUNTS PAID – AUGUST 2024**

The account balances as of 31 August 2024 and the accounts paid in August 2024 were noted.

**RESOLVED:** THAT the account balances as of 31 August 2024 and the accounts paid in August 2024 be noted.

**Part II**

## **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** That by virtue of the fact that the following items of business be exempt information under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be now excluded from the meeting

## **35.24 STAFF ABSENCE AND LEAVE REPORT**

**The difficulties caused by the continued absence on sick leave of a member of staff were discussed.**