



## EXTRAORDINARY PARISH MEETING

14 December 2020 8pm.

### MINUTES

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Cllr. Ashton (Chair), Cllr. Westin, Cllr. Murphy, Cllr. Hall

**Clerk and RFO:** Mr S Baxter

**Members of the public:** None

**Meeting commenced at 8.05pm**

### AGENDA ITEMS

**1. Welcome to all Councillors and any members of the public sitting in observation**

The Chair welcomed all, including the Clerk and checked all Councillors were able to see, hear and be heard as the meeting was held via a digital format.

**2. Members of the public participation** – this will be limited to 10 minutes and each member of the public will have a maximum time of three minutes. This is at the discretion of the Chair.

The Chair asked for any comments from any members of the public – none were forthcoming

**3. Motion to exclude members of press and public from participation (but can observe) for the following agenda point.**

The Chair asked for this motion to be withdrawn as there was no public present.

**4. Discussion and vote on recommendation to consider communication from two residents as vexatious and not conducive to Council business management due to continual repetitious and spurious complaints with no grounds or basis which is consuming Council time**

The Clerk had ensured that the Councillors had copies of all communication from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] provided before the meeting.

The Clerk was asked to open the discussion in regard to his recommendation that the communication from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] should be considered as vexatious due the impact of their communication and the continuous spurious complaints, and despite having had



all the complaints fully investigated, continue to communicate excessively which is both affecting the Councillors and Clerk, but is also in effect costing the Community money through overtime needed.

The Councillors discussed in detail the previous history of the communication from these two individuals and that they had previously been warned that if they continue to bombard the Council with as much communication, the Council would have little choice in considering their communication as vexatious. They discussed the various content and topics of the communication and the fact that all complaints these individuals had raised had been fully investigated but found to be groundless.

The Chair expressed concern about the impact this was having on all Councillors but specifically the Clerk.

The Clerk recommended that any decision by the Councillors should be proportionate to the actions by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]; the Council may consider a time limit of any sanction.

The Councillors agreed that should they consider the communication by the named individuals as vexatious that a time limit should be imposed to allow a period of reflection.

The Chair stated that he would be abstaining from the vote due to historical issues between the named individuals and himself. The Clerk agreed that this decision was appropriate and proper.

The Chair then asked for a vote on the motion to consider communication from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as vexatious and for a time limit of 12 months to be imposed, or at the first Council meeting in December 2021.

- Motion to agree that the communication from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to be considered vexatious and for there to be a time limit of no less than 12 months or until the first meeting in December 2021. The motion would also include the provision the Council of not publicly naming the individuals at this time but would reserve the right to publicise the detail if considered in the Community's interest or if legally directed. The motion was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously by the voting members. Motion carried.*

**ACTION: The Clerk would write to the named individuals to make them aware of the decision of the Council.**

**The Extraordinary Parish Meeting was closed by the Chair at 8.25pm.**