



ASKERN TOWN COUNCIL

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0921

MINUTES of the Full Council Meeting of ASKERN TOWN COUNCIL which was held at Alexander House, High Street, Askern, Doncaster DN6 0AB on Tuesday 28th September 2021 at 6.30pm.

Present - Councillors: Cllr C Bennett, Cllr D Collins, Cllr G Gracey, Cllr L Hudson, Cllr F Jackson and Cllr K Wood.

In attendance: Five members of the public including District Councillor I Beech, Neighbourhood PC Jack Shackleton, PCSO Toni Bratby and Laura Waude (Town Clerk).

Welcoming by Mayor - Mayor Councillor Cheri Bennett welcomed all Councillors and members of the public to the meeting.

It was resolved that the press and members of the public be excluded from item 14 by virtue of s1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 because it was deemed that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr T Noon and Cllr M Faulkner and their reasons for absence were approved.

2. No declarations of interests under the Council's Code of Conduct or Members Register of Interests were received.

3. South Yorkshire Police were in attendance and Neighbourhood PC Jack Shackleton introduced himself and informed the meeting that he is hoping to establish a base in Askern. It was agreed that the police can have a key and access to Alexander House to use the facilities here. Neighbourhood PC Jack Shackleton addressed anti-social behaviour as primary concern in the area.

4. The minutes of the last Full Council Meeting held on 27th July 2021 were approved as a true and accurate record.

5. No matters raised from the minutes of the last Full Council Meeting held on 27th July 2021.

6. No planning applications were received.

7. District Councillor Iris Beech reported that DMBC has now approved the new Local Plan with little changed to Askern. Cllr C Bennett reported the traffic lights which haven't been

working for over four days due to the batteries being stolen. Cllr D Collins reported that a traffic light on the A19 is loose and turns in the wind.

8. No matters requested by members of public.

9. None received.

10. The following correspondence was considered:

10.1. No updates received regarding the Family Fit sessions and the application for a grant from Well Doncaster.

10.2. The YLCA Webinar Training Programme was circulated and councillors were encouraged to attend.

10.3. Questions from the North Localities Team in regards to the development of the locality plan for Askern were answered and will be returned to DMBC.

What is good about your community?

- 1) It's strong community spirit and links to its historical past.
- 2) It's geographical location and access to road networks.
- 3) It's access to green spaces with a lake at the heart of the community.

What would you like to improve?

- 1) Transportation links.
- 2) Unused and derelict spaces.
- 3) The lack of funding for infrastructure, particularly roads and footpaths.

11. Matters of business

11.1. New signage 'CCTV in operation' has now been displayed around Askern lake.

The council approved the cost of up to £1600 to purchase two directional arrow posts, subject to prior permission from DMBC. The signs are to be purchased from The Sign Maker -one with three arms to be situated outside the cafe reading 'Boat house - Toilets - Park, gym, events field' and one to be situated near the shelter at the southern end of the lake with four directional arrows reading 'Boat house - Toilets - Park, gym, events field, cafe'. The signs are to be black and gold in keeping with the lakes' Victorian theme.

11.2. To receive an update regarding the wildscapes pond creation fund - **deferred.**

11.3. To decide how to maintain the FOAL garden bed at Askern Lakeside - **deferred.**

11.4. Quotations were considered and the Council approved the purchase of two new computers from Currys - HP All-in-One PC at a cost of up to £2000 and one colour LaserJet Printer from Greener Printing Solutions at a cost of up to £300.

11.5. To review and decide boat hire charges - **deferred.**

11.6. To consider quotations and approve costs to purchase a new council website and mail boxes - **deferred.**

11.7. To consider and approve associated costs for staff to complete PA1 and PA6A/AW qualifications - **deferred.**

11.8. Cloudy IT - to consider broadcasting council meetings - **deferred.**

11.9. To review and approve Askern Town Council's 5 Year Business Plan - **deferred.**

11.10. To discuss the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan and focus points - **deferred.**

12. Financial matters

12.1. Statement of accounts: payments from 22/07/2021 - 14/09/2021 were approved as a true and accurate record.

The Clerk was asked to contact the Community Payback Team to look at the possibility of them helping to repaint Alfred Road play park.

12.2. Statement of accounts: receipts from to 15/06/2021 - 21/09/2021 were approved as a true and accurate record.

12.3. Statement of accounts: petty cash 02/08/2021 - 21/09/2021 were approved as a true and accurate record.

12.4. The following payments to be made by BACS:

Cllr G Gracey - reimburse £200 for the work to supply a digger and extract and removal soil for the ramp to be created to access the events field – approved.

12.5. The completed external audit was received.

13. Matters requested by councillors

13.1. Cllr G Gracey - to raise concerns regarding parking on Station Road - **deferred.**

13.2. Cllr G Gracey - a request for more high-vis tape to help partially sighted - **deferred.**

13.3. Cllr G Gracey - to raise concerns about vermin around Askern Lake - **deferred.**

13.4. Cllr G Gracey - to discuss boat hire - **deferred.**

14. It was confirmed that the hours of employment in an employee's contract is 15 hours.

Mayor Cllr C Bennett thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20.47pm.

Members of the Council

**Cllr Cheri Bennett, Cllr Derek Collins, Cllr Mark Faulkner,
Cllr George Gracey, Cllr Lindsay Hudson,
Cllr Francis Jackson, Cllr Thomas Noon,
Cllr Kevin Wood and Cllr Malcolm Woodrow**