



ASKERN TOWN COUNCIL

Alexander House, High Street, Askern,
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MINUTES of the Full Council Meeting of ASKERN TOWN COUNCIL which was held at Alexander House, High Street, Askern, Doncaster DN6 0AB on Tuesday 22nd February 2022 at 6.30pm.

Present were councillors Cllr Cheri Bennett, Cllr George Gracey, Cllr Francis Jackson. Cllr Jake Keeble and Cllr Kevin Wood.

Ward Councillor I Beech, eight members of the public and L Waude (Town Clerk).

Mayor Cllr C Bennett welcomed all present to the meeting.

There were no agenda items to which the public or press were excluded.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr T Noon and Cllr L Hudson and their reasons given for absence were approved.
2. Cllr K Wood declared an interest in item 11.10.
3. The minutes of the Budget and Precept Meeting held on 25th January 2022 were approved as a true and accurate record.
4. The minutes of the last Full Council Meeting held on 25th January 2022 were approved as a true and accurate record
5. Matters arising from the minutes of the last Full Council Meeting held on 25th January 2022 (for discussion only):
Councillors considered whether to keep or remove the four signs on the events field relating to the overhead cables which have now been removed, photographs of where they are situated will be shared with councillors.
The police have been informed that the Council will allow them to use an office upstairs at Alexander House.
The new Council website will be launched later this week.
Training for the Lake Wardens has been booked, as approved at the last full council meeting on 25th January 2022.
6. Planning matters or applications 22/00237/COU and 22/00236/COUM were considered and no comments were received.
7. No police report received.
8. Ward Councillor Cllr I Beech welcomed questions:

Cllr F Jackson asked about the flood defences following the recent storms and Cllr I Beech reported that DMBC had been in meetings and that a lot of planning to combat the issues in place and that a lot of debris had been cleared quickly.

9. No matters requested by members of public.

10. Reports and recommendations from committees/outside bodies:

10.1. Cllr J Keeble reported that the Communication and Engagement Committee had met and created a Communication and Engagement Plan and that it had created some news flashes condensing important information from meetings. The next Communication and Engagement meeting will welcome members of the public to take part and voice their thoughts.

10.2. Cllr J Keeble reported that the Environmental and Sustainability Committee had created a litter picking plan of action for the Great British Clean and have also been working to reduce paper usage by encouraging the use of electronics.

11. Matters of business

11.1. Askern Town Council's Committee Structure and members were approved.

11.2. A discussion regarding Askern Railway Station took place where a majority of the Councillors showed their support. Howard Connell agreed to attend the next full council meeting to provide an update of any developments.

11.3. It was agreed that Askern Town Council's 5 Year Business Plan will be used by Committees in an effort to achieve the goals set.

11.4. Cllr Cheri Bennett offered to help other members with any technology issues.

11.5. At present there are two casual vacancies on Askern Town Council (one of which can be filled by co-option) if no election is called for the second vacancy then both vacancies will be filled by co-option at the next full council meeting on 22nd March 2022.

11.6. Cllr F Jackson was elected as Deputy Chairperson for Askern Town Council.

11.7. Councillors confirmed who would like a hard copy of agendas and who would like electronic copies only.

11.8. Civility and Respect Project Newsletter – noted.

11.9. The Council created a Working Party to drive the Alfred Road Play Park Project, members include Cllr F Jackson, Cllr J Keeble and Cllr K Wood.

11.10. Cllr K Wood declared an interest and left the room. It was agreed Askern Neighbourhood Watch Association should return the remaining money unspent from the grant and are welcome to apply for another grant from Askern Town Council in the future.

Cllr K Wood returned.

12. Financial matters

12.1. Statement of accounts: payments from 19/01/2022 – 23/02/2022 – approved.

12.2. Statement of accounts: receipts from to 11/01/2022 – 14/02/2022 – approved.

12.3. BACS payments – approved.

13. Matters requested by councillors

13.1. Cllr T Noon – to consider changing the day on which the market is held and fees to stand – to defer to the next meeting in case Cllr T Noon has further comments.

Councillors agreed to waive the rent for the market/car boot for four weeks until after the next full council meeting on 22nd March 2022.

It was agreed that items 13.2. and 13.3. should be dealt with at the events meeting.

13.4. Cllr F Jackson confirmed that he had requested eight litter pickers from DMBC for the Great British Spring Clean. Dave Wilson offered to donate twenty litter pickers and twenty pairs of gloves, the Council accepted and thanked Dave. Cllr F Jackson will liaise with Cllr C Bennett in an effort to involve the local school children in the event.

Mayor Cllr C Bennett thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 7.55pm.

Members of the Council

**Cllr Cheri Bennett, Cllr George Gracey,
Cllr Lindsay Hudson, Cllr Francis Jackson,
Cllr Jake Keeble, Cllr Thomas Noon and Cllr Kevin Wood**