

Kidderminster Town Council
MINUTES of the meeting held on Wednesday 26th May 2021 at 6.00pm in the
Corn Exchange, Town Hall, Kidderminster

Present: The Mayor (Councillor J. Smith)
Councillors J. Aston, R. Bishop, D. Chambers, G. Connolly, K. Gale, N. Gale, D. Hine,
B. Hopkins, S. Miah, T. Muir, F. Oborski MBE, M. Rayner, S. Rook, D. Ross, and
E. Stokes

C.611 Election of the Town Mayor 2020/21

It was proposed by Councillor D. Ross and seconded by Councillor R. Bishop that Councillor Juliet Smith be appointed the Town Mayor of Kidderminster for 2021/22

On being put to the vote it was unanimously

RESOLVED: - that Councillor Juliet Smith be appointed Town Mayor for Kidderminster for the 2021/22 Civic Year

C.612 Apologies

Councillors H. Dyke and J. Phillips.

C.613 Minutes of the meeting held on 17th March 2021

RESOLVED: - that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th March 2021 be agreed as a correct record.

C.614 Declarations of Interests by Members

None.

C.615 Public participation

None.

C.616 Election of the Deputy Town Mayor 2020/21

It was proposed by Councillor D. Ross. and seconded by Councillor R. Bishop that Councillor Kevin Gale be appointed the Deputy Town Mayor of Kidderminster for the 2021/22 Civic Year

On being put to the vote it was unanimously

RESOLVED: - that Councillor Kevin Gale be appointed Deputy Town Mayor for Kidderminster for the 2021/22 Civic Year

C.617 Motions

There were two motions relating to the appointment of Honorary Freemen of Kidderminster

i. Honorary Freemen Mr Mike Kelly

It was proposed by Councillor F. Oborski MBE and seconded by Councillor S. Rook "That in recognition of his service to Kidderminster spanning: Kidderminster Borough Council, Wyre Forest District Council, Kidderminster Charter Trustees and Kidderminster Town Council, this Council resolves to confer the status of Honorary Freeman on former Councillor Mike Kelly."

On being put to the vote it was unanimously

RESOLVED: - that former Town Councillor Mike Kelly be appointed Honorary Freeman of Kidderminster

ii. Honorary Freeman Mr Jeff Baker

It was proposed by Councillor J. Smith and seconded by Councillor D Ross
 “That in recognition of over 16 years’ service to Kidderminster this Council resolves to confer the status of Honorary Freeman on former Town Councillor Jeff Baker”

On being put to the vote it was unanimously

RESOLVED: - that former Town Councillor Jeff Baker be appointed Honorary Freeman of Kidderminster

C.618 Town Mayor Succession Planning

Councillors considered the report on the Mayoral Succession Plan. It was

RESOLVED: - that the Town Council agree the order of succession as detailed in the related report.

C.619 Committee Representation & Appointments

RESOLVED: - that

- i. the Committee structure detailed below, the nominations for chairmanships, vice-chairmanships and the other memberships be agreed
- ii. substitute appointments be allowed
- iii. Councillor D. Ross be appointed Leader of the Town Council

	Committee	Membership
a.	Finance & Overview (5 members)	D. Ross (Chairman); K. Gale (Vice Chairman); D. Chambers; D. Hine; and F. Oborski MBE
b.	Events & Services (7 members)	N. Gale (Chairman); R. Bishop (Vice-Chairman); G. Connolly; D. Hine, S. Miah M. Rayner and E. Stokes.
c.	Town Hall (5 members)	D. Ross (Chairman); K. Gale (Vice Chairman); H. Dyke; B. Hopkins and F. Oborski MBE
d.	Kidderminster Education Foundation	To be included within the brief of the Town Hall Committee
e.	Staffing (5 members)	J. Smith (Chairman); R. Bishop (Vice Chairman); H. Dyke, J Phillips and S. Rook
f.	Planning (6 members - 1 per ward) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggborough & Spennells • Blakebrook & Habberley South • Broadwaters • Foley Park & Hoobrook • Franche & Habberley • Offmore & Comberton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Hine • E. Stokes • T. Muir (Vice-Chairman) • K. Gale (Chairman) • G. Connolly • S. Miah

C.620 Committee Delegations

RESOLVED: - that the scheme of delegations as laid out in the related report be agreed.

C.621 Schedule of Meetings 2021/22

RESOLVED: - that the schedule of meetings for the Civic Year 2021/22 be noted.

C.622 Appointments to Outside Bodies

RESOLVED: - that

- i. the appointments to outside bodies as detailed below be agreed

	Organisation	Councillor Appointment	Duration
a.	Carpet Museum Trustees (1)	B. Hopkins	Full term
b.	CALC (1)	G. Connolly	Full term
c.	Friends of St Mary's Church Committee (1)	K. Gale	Full term
d.	Historical Societies Group (1)	N. Gale	Full term
e.	Community Transport in Wyre Forest	D. Chambers	Full Term
f.	Fairtrade	R. Bishop	Full term
g.	Wyre Forest Local Children's Trust	S. Rook	Full term
h.	Local Plans Review Panel	To be confirmed	Full Term

- ii. Councillor R. Bishop be appointed as the Town Council's Dementia Action Champion to lead the Kidderminster Dementia Action Alliance (KDAA)

C.623 Water Feature on the Great Wall, Kidderminster

The Council considered the update report on the Water Feature. After discussion it was

RESOLVED: - that the

- i. report be noted
 ii. ongoing management and monitoring of the Water Feature be referred to the Services & Events Committee

C.624 Town Hall Development

Council considered the report on the future development of the Town Hall and

RESOLVED: - that

- i. a bid of £8.7M for the 'Levelling Up Fund' being submitted in June 2021
 ii. a letter of support being included with the bid confirming the Town Council will cover the 10% match funding
 iii. £100,000 for 'Town Hall Development Project' be transferred from reserves to the Town Hall Committee budget to show the Town Council's intent to deliver the project
 iv. the Town Hall Manager, in consultation with the Chairman of the Town Hall Committee, be authorised to manage the funds to ensure the contractors are identified for delivery of the building of the project
 v. the Town Hall Committee take oversight and responsibility for managing the bid and its outcomes
 vi. the Town Hall Manager and the Town Hall Project Consultant, organise a presentation to be given to all Town Councillors on the proposed details of the 'Levelling Up Fund' bid

C.625 Parks Transfer

Council considered the update report on the parks transfer. Councillors expressed their desire to get the parks transferred to the management of the Town Council subject to completing the formal negotiations. After discussion it was

RESOLVED: - that

- i. the Leader of the Council, in consultation with the Town Clerk, set up a Member Group to complete the negotiations with WFDC on the transfer of the parks
- ii. delegated authority be given to that Member Group to complete the negotiations within the finances previously agreed by Council
- iii. the Member Group report back to the Town Council meeting in July 2021

At 7.25pm Councillor T Muir left the meeting.

C.626 Finance Report

a) Budget spend to date

b) Accounts paid and income received to date

The Town Clerk gave an overview of the budget spend. He stated that balances as at 18th May 2021 were £607,723.04. There was also a £100,000 investment with Wyre Forest District Council.

A question on the local grants budget and the allocation of funds to individual councillors was raised.

The Town Clerk reported that a review of the Town Council's grants policies would be considered at the next Finance & Overview Committee and would be reported back to Council in due course.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED: - that Council

- i. notes the expenditure to date
- ii. approves the accounts paid to date
- iii. notes the income received to date
- iv. notes the current balances

C.627 Mayor Making 23rd June 2021

The Town Clerk reported the Town Council meeting programmed for 23rd June 2021 would be going ahead (subject to COVID restrictions) but the focus of the meeting would be the induction of four new freemen for the Town. Invitations and the agenda for the 'Town Council Freemen Investiture Meeting' would be sent out in due course. Council noted the update from the Town Clerk.

The meeting ended at 7.30pm

Mayor

Date