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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 2018 AT 6.00 pm

Attendance:

The Mayor (Councillor Mrs Furlong) (in the Chair)

Councillors Ms Ballard, Bateman, Mrs Batty, Beavis, Blackman, Burgess, Carter, Casey, Chegwyn, Mrs Cully, Earle, Farr, Foster-Reed, Herridge, Hicks, Hook, Mrs Hook, Mrs Huggins, Hutchison, Hylands, Jessop, Johnston, Mrs Jones, Miss Kelly, Mrs Morgan, Murphy, Pepper, Philpott, Mrs Prickett, Raffaelli, Scard and Westerby

Also in attendance: Honorary Freeman Wright.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FROM MEMBERS FOR THEIR INABILITY TO ATTEND THE MEETING.

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Hammond and Honorary Alderman Kimber.

TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 24 OCTOBER 2018 (COPY HEREWITH).

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 24 October 2018 be confirmed and signed.

TO CONSIDER ANY MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.

The Mayor advised that she had been busy raising funds for her charities and that in total as a result of her afternoon tea, her fashion show her bike ride and had raised £1772.92 for her charities. She also advised that a legacy had allowed her to donate a sum to Loud and Proud and immediately to allow them to continue with the work they undertook.

She also advised that she would be taking part in the GAFIR's New Year's Day Dip and to raise funds for Loud and Proud and that Councillor Herridge would also be taking part and raising funds for Cancer Research.

TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO 3.4 AND TO ANSWER PUBLIC QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO 3.5, SUCH QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED ORALLY DURING A TIME NOT EXCEEDING 15 MINUTES.

There were none.

QUESTIONS (IF ANY) PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER NO 3.4.

Question standing in the name of Councillor Mrs Westerby on:

The removal of the Gosport's only traffic warden is already impacting on inconsiderate parking throughout the Borough and in particular in Christchurch Ward where we have a traffic calming measure (island) in a small side street - Battenburg Road. This has led to

concerns from residents and they have told me that emergency vehicles are struggling to get past the island at night due to cars being parked on the double yellow lines. Given the Police have said that parking enforcement is a low priority for them, who will be enforcing on-street parking restrictions now this Council has stopped paying for a Traffic Warden

Was answered by the Leader of the Council.

Question standing in the name of Councillor Chegwyn on:

What are the current rent arrears owed to the Council by Gosport Borough Football Club?

Was answered by the Chairman of the Community Board.

PART II MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the following Part II Minutes be received.

- Community Board: 7 November 2018
- Policy and Organisation Board: 21 November 2018

PART II ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD MINUTES 14 NOVEMBER 2018

QUESTION PERSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 3.4

Question standing in the name of Councillor Chegwyn on:

When was the Chairman of the Community Board first made aware of proposals to re-allocate the lease of the Alverbank Hotel to a well-known supporter of the Conservative Party and former Conservative election candidate on a 60 year lease with the 1st year rent free, a decision taken without any proper tender process or any prior approval by any Board of this Council?

Was answered by the Chairman of the Community Board.

COUNCIL RESOLVED: That the following Part II Minutes be received subject to amendments identified.

- Economic Development Board: 14 November 2018

APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT PERSON

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Solicitor to advise members of the recruitment process for an Independent Person under The Localism Act 2011 and to recommend appointments be made by the Council.

That the Council approves the appointment of Miss S Dawson and Mr P Large as the Independent Persons for the purposes of Section 28 of the Localism Act 2011 for the period of 4 years ending on 12 December 2022.

COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNTS, PREMIUMS AND PENALTIES

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Treasurer seeking to align the Council's policy with the discretions that are now available within the Council Tax legislation.

RESOLVED: That;

- 1) The withdrawal of the 100% one month discount for empty and unfurnished properties with effect from 1st April 2019
- 2) The introduction of Council Tax premiums in accordance with The Rating (Property in Common Occupation) and Council Tax (Empty Dwellings) Act 2018; and
- 3) The commencement of the issue of civil penalties in accordance with Schedule 3 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended) be approved.

The Meeting concluded at 8.15 pm

The Mayor.

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