



# Rugeley Town Council

Minutes of Rugeley Town Council Full Council held online at  
7.30pm Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**PRESENT:**

Councillors:

Mrs P Ansell (Chair)	Mrs A Cooney
D Gaye	G Grant
C Green	I Gunner
I Hodgson	R Hughes
Ms N Mahon (Vice Chair)	Mrs C Martin
N Stanley	Mrs C Panter-Hood
Mrs G Turner	Ms A Szklarczyk
J Williams	

Also Present:

H Goodreid (Town Clerk)

Min No	Item	Action
<b>91</b> 91.1	<b>Apologies</b> Apologies were received from Cllrs Dipple, Lyons and Tait-Green.	
<b>92</b> 92.1	<b>Declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests</b> None were declared.	
<b>93</b> 93.1	<b>To receive any requests for dispensation</b> None.	
<b>94</b> 94.1	<b>Chair to close the meeting for the public session</b> There were no members of public in attendance at the meeting and no questions had been presented to the Town Clerk.	
<b>95</b> 95.1	<b>Chair to reopen the meeting</b> There being no members of public, the Chair reopened the meeting.	
<b>96</b> 96.1	<b>To consider approving and Signing the following council minutes.</b> <b>Full Council Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020</b> It was proposed that the minutes be approved. <i>Proposed: Cllr Ansell; Seconded: Cllr Grant</i> <b>It was agreed that the minutes be approved.</b>	



<p>99.3</p>	<p>It was proposed that the Town Clerk, Cllr Stanley and Cllr Cooney, write back to CCDC expressing disappointment with response and requesting that additional points are taken on board when the matter goes to Cabinet next week. <i>Proposed: Cllr Hodgson; Seconded: Cllr Ansell</i> <b>It was agreed that a letter be written to CCDC to express the thoughts of Councillors at this meeting.</b></p>	<p>Cllrs Stanley, Cooney and the Town Clerk to send letter.</p>
<p><b>100</b> 100.1  100.2  100.3  100.4  100.5  100.6</p>	<p><b>Precept Discussion</b> Cllr Stanley updated the meeting on the work undertaken in the past financial year to manage the budget in light of reduced income from the theatre and reduced ability to run events. Cllrs were also appraised of where funding had been secured in order to support the theatre and events. The difficulty ahead of the council was understanding when business would get back to normal.  Finance and Management Committee had met in December and had considered the requests from the committees regarding the expenditure identified for 2021/2022. Committees had identified new projects and initiatives that they wanted to see developed.  The meeting considered the Balances / Reserves held by the Town Council and the possible use of this funding to cover possible shortfall in income should the theatre not be able to open well into 2021/2022. Cllrs also considered funding required should CCDC agree to an arrangement re reduced parking fees for shoppers. Cllrs were also mindful of the fact that unemployment had risen locally and there was financial pressure on residents that could make it difficult for individuals to find additional money for increased Council Tax.  Cllrs were asked to note a recent email from Staffordshire Parish Council Association which noted that although town councils were not subject to a precept cap, the average increase last year for Band D was 4% and this was more than the rate of inflation. Cllrs were also asked to note that residents were going through considerable hardship.  Cllrs noted that it was important to keep positive and develop projects and ideas as these could bring in additional financial support and give focus for the community.  It was proposed that should councillors be unable to agree to a budget at the 3<sup>rd</sup> February meeting, an extraordinary meeting would be arranged in order to further discussion and still be within the timescales to get the precept request in to CCDC. <i>Proposed: Cllr Hodgson; Seconded: Cllr Stanley</i> <b>It was agreed that should councillors be unable to reach a decision on the budget on 3.2.21, an extraordinary meeting would be called asap.</b></p>	

Signed:

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

<b>101</b>	<b>Chairs and Clerks Report</b>	
101.1	Cllr Ansell reminded councillors of the Remembrance wreath laying, the Christmas Lights and her filming with Father David re action of the town council to the Coronavirus issue.	
101.2	The Town Clerk advised councillors that building work to the rear toilets in the theatre had started and would continue for approx. 2 weeks. Staff were continuing to come into the theatre in a socially distanced way and work on upkeep of the building. Town Council staff were working from home but would be coming into the office occasionally to print off papers for meetings etc.	
<b>102</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	
102.1	The next meeting of Full Council would be Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2021 at 7.30pm. This would be held via Zoom.	

The meeting finished at 8:50pm.

Signed:

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021