

MINUTES OF THE **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19th JUNE 2024**
AT **6:15 P.M.** AT NEWTON'S PLACE, WOLBOROUGH STREET, NEWTON ABBOT

Present: Councillors A Hall (Mayor) Presiding
C Parker (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors: B Bailey A Gibbs
 J Bradford A Ineson
 P Bullivant M Ryan
 D Corney-Walker L Wood
 L Cooke N Yabsley
 C Davieson

Officers in attendance: Phil Rowe Town Clerk
 Sam Scott Deputy Town Clerk
 Sally Henley Town Development Manager
 Linda McGuirk Principal Administrator

Also present: Father Matthew Cashmore

63. WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Father Matthew Cashmore to open the meeting with prayers.

64. APOLOGIES

Valid reasons for absence were received on behalf of Councillors R Buscombe, G Jennings, T Corney-Walker and M Joyce. Members **agreed** to approve the reasons for absence.

Councillor J Cook did not attend.

65. INTERESTS

None declared.

66. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT 2023 - 24

The RFO reported that the Annual Internal Audit Report 2023/24, which formed page 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) had been received and will be forwarded to members soon. In accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, it was:

RESOLVED that the Annual Internal Audit Report 2023/24, which formed page 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return , be hereby received and noted; and be submitted to PKF Littlejohn.

Chairperson (Mayor) initials.....

67. **APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023 - 24**

Annual Governance and Accountability Return. In accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, it was:

RESOLVED that Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return which formed page 4 of the AGAR for the year ended 31st March 2024, be hereby approved; and signed by the Mayor and be submitted to PKF Littlejohn.

68. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTING STATEMENT 2023 - 24**

Accounting Statement. In accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, it was:

RESOLVED that Section 2 of the Annual Return which formed page 5 of the AGAR, the for the year ended 31st March 2024, be hereby approved; signed by the Mayor and be submitted to PKF Littlejohn.

Members expressed their thanks to the RFO for her work.

69. **UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND**

Further to Minute 24/06(33) the Mayor reminded Councillors this matter had been deferred from the previous meeting while clarification was sought on how the funding could be spent:

Minute number 24/06(33) In principle, Councillors were in support of using the funding for the benefit of the whole town and requested further clarification on spending. Councillor Bullivant agreed to withdraw the proposal and confirmed the Newton Abbot & Kingsteignton Garden Community Board will provide additional clarification on the funding ahead of the Full Council meeting on the 19th June 2024.

The Mayor invited Councillor Bullivant to provide an update. Councillor Bullivant reported that the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) guidelines allow funding for an event in Queen Street, as long as it included a market, but not for marketing materials. Councillors questioned the feasibility of the market given the new street reconfiguration and its limited support for all traders affected by the current town disruptions.

The Town Clerk confirmed the funding became available due to underutilisation by another town in the District, noting the funding comes with several conditions. It was suggested that the District Council, as the Markets Authority, should facilitate the Christmas Market. Arising from the discussions, it was:

RESOLVED that the Town Council hereby declines the proposal from the Newton Abbot & Kingsteignton Garden Community to deliver an event in Queen Street using additional UK Shared Prosperity Funding.

Meeting closed at 18:40 hours.

Chairperson (Mayor) initials.....

Chairperson (Mayor).....Date.....

Chairperson (Mayor) initials.....