



**Tidworth Town Council  
Leadership  
July 2019**



Minutes of the Leadership Committee on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019 in the Community Centre at 7pm

<b>Attended</b> Councillors S Fell (SF) in the Chair, A Connolly (AC), M Connolly (MC), B Pratt (BP) S Slater (SS)		<p><b>1. 19/025L Apologies:</b> <b>Cllr S Anderton (SA) - Transport problems</b> Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record to be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Town Clerk as it is usual for the grounds upon which apologies are tendered also to be recorded. Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are accepted. <b>BP proposed that the apologies were accepted, seconded by BP, carried.</b></p>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action by</b>
19/026L	<b>2. Declaration of interest – NONE</b> (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/1464) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).	
19/027L	<b>3. Minutes of May 2019 meeting</b> Approved at July 2019 Full Town Council meeting, no matters arising.	
19/028L	<b>4. Civic Centre</b> AC advised that there had been a conference call on 2 <sup>nd</sup> July, progress with design, cost analysis and engagement of TTC's professional team had been discussed. Next meeting agreed for 13 <sup>th</sup> August 2019. Greg Aston requested historic Geotech reports to be forwarded to support a SOCA (Site Opportunities and Constraints Appraisal).	AC
19/029L	<b>5. Home Farm – including proposal to engage new Solicitor</b> There was no update available regarding the sale of Home Farm. Due to disappointing service issues, AC proposed that the Council consider engaging new solicitors to undertake the general work of the Council. New solicitors have been engaged to advise and support the Civic Centre project. <b>AC proposed that these solicitors, DAC Beechcroft from Bristol be approached to undertake the everyday legal requirements of the Council and our association with Star Legal be discontinued.</b>	CL/AC
19/030L	<b>6. HR</b> SF reported that work with Connor HR was continuing supporting the Clerk with a PDP (personal Development Plan) and generally advising the Council on staffing matters. This project had almost been	SF/BP

	<p>concluded as all the project hours have now been used. The Council and Staff have found significant benefit from their support and guidance.</p> <p>SF explained that Connor had proposed an extension to the current contract to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Coaching &amp; Mentoring for the Clerk</li> <li>b) Blue Sky Thinking Event: <i>preparation, facilitation, post-event, data collection &amp; report writing.</i></li> <li>c) Senior Leadership Team Support (Leadership Committee)</li> <li>d) An Engagement Strategy Project.</li> </ul> <p>Total project hours = 65.5 hrs @ £140 per hour  Total project cost = £9170.00  Report to be circulated to all Councillors</p> <p>MC proposed, seconded SS that the Council accept Connor HR's quotation for the contract extension for £9,170.00</p>	
19/031L	<p><b>7. Festival</b></p> <p>SF gave an update to the Festival and it was agreed that the feedback from the community had been fantastic, especially on social media and the event experienced the highest attendance of all the Festivals held by the Town Council.</p>	
19/032L	<p><b>8. Reports</b></p> <p><b>Community Services</b>  <b>Community Engagement</b>  <b>Town Clerk</b></p> <p><b>No reports were currently available</b></p>	
19/033L	<p><b>Correspondence/AOB</b></p> <p>The Clerk has received a letter of complaint regarding the conduct of some named Councillors at the Town Festival which included negative comments about the Council's internal management of the event during the day. BP read aloud the complaint to the meeting.</p> <p>The complainant stated that they were disappointed that some Councillors were left 'to do' all the hard work, whilst others didn't help at all and that 'some of our representatives' have let the town down this year. It is further alleged that charitable collection buckets were offered to festival attendees and encouraged to donate using inappropriate language.</p> <p>The complainant further stated that Councillors attending the event were in the role of Councillor and should not be partaking of any alcohol consumption during the event.</p>	

	<p>MC stated that although [REDACTED] were named in the complaint, it was wrong to expect that Councillors' as community volunteers cannot attend the Festival and enjoy themselves without being watched by 'Big Brother'. [REDACTED] does not recall using bad language to entice donations whilst collection money for Cllr Steve Anderton's forthcoming charitable skydive.</p> <p>SS thought that it was unreasonable to expect Councillors not to drink alcohol or to enjoy the event like a member of the public.</p> <p>AC stated that the Council is a strategic body and should organise paid staff to undertake critical functions at events rather than rely on Councillor volunteers.</p> <p>It has been confirmed that the complaint is genuine and not from anyone closely associated with the Council despite the meticulousness and accuracy of details of the alleged events contained in the complaint.</p> <p>The complainant has asked that their identity remain confidential and accordingly the Clerk has not made the original communication available to the Mayor or Councillors. The Clerk is seeking further advice on the matter.</p> <p>BP stated that all communications should be made available to him as the Chairman of the Council, has requested to view the original complaint and be made aware of the complainant. The request has been denied by the Clerk. The Mayor is seeking further advice and referring to the Council's Standing Orders.</p> <p>The matters as contained in the complaint to be referred to AJ (event organiser) at a de-brief meeting is to be held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 10.30am at the Community Centre and the Community Engagement Committee to be briefed accordingly to consider for future events.</p>	
19/034L	<p><b>9. Date of next meeting</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TBC</b></p>	<p>Agenda items to be submitted to the Clerk 7 days before meeting</p>

**There being no further business  
to discuss the meeting closed at 8.25pm.**