



# Long Stratton Town Council

## MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024 @ 7pm IN THE COMMUNITY PAVILION ROOM

**In attendance: Councillors, Judith Baker, Kelly Lunness, Susan Smith, Louise Mundford (19:02), Diane Woodham, Justin Harris (19.05), Florence Morimont (19.05), Andrew Lansdell and David Willis  
3 Members of the Public**

**Clerk Becky Buck, Town Council Apprentice Molly Hallett**

**1. To receive applications for co-option for those that have previously attended a Council meeting.**

There were 2 applications for co-option to the Council. Both applicants gave an introduction to why they would like to stand as a Councillor. Members asked questions. Both candidates were unanimously approved for co-option.

**2. To sign the declaration of co-opted office in the presence of the proper officer.**

Councillor Justin Harris and Florence Morimont signed their declarations of co-opted office in the presence of the Proper Officer and joined the Council.

**3. To receive apologies for absence**

Councillor Pochin gave apologies for absence due to work commitments which were accepted by the Council.

**4. To receive disclosures of interest and dispensations**

There were no disclosures of interest or dispensations received.

**5. To allow members of the public and district and county councillors to speak - max 20 Minutes**

There were no District Councillors or County Councillors present.

A member of the public advised that there was an intention to put on an Easter market on Easter Saturday. The Council agreed to support the event. The Clerk advised that the Council had already approved purchasing Easter Eggs for the Children of Long Stratton for an Easter trial.

**6. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman as a true record.



# Long Stratton Town Council

## 7. Finance and Governance

### a. To note and authorise income and expenditure through Unity Trust Bank since 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023

The Clerk advised that due to system challenges the payment list was unavailable. The Council agreed that the Clerk could produce the payment list at February's meeting.

### b. To note all credit card payments since 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023

The Clerk advised that due to system challenges the payment list was unavailable. The Council agreed that the Clerk could produce the payment list at February's meeting.

## 8. To discuss and decide on appointment of a youth worker.

Councillor Willis gave an appraisal on the interviews held, following a lengthy discussion it was agreed to offer the contract to MTM services.

## 9. To discuss and decide on the budget for 2024-25

This item was discussed at length, it was agreed that the budget was 95% completed however it was to be taken to the next Finance committee meeting to complete with a recommendation taken to Council at February's meeting.

## 10. To discuss and decide on Precept for 2024-25

Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed to increase the precept by 7.5% which would see the precept increase to £229,988.

## 11. To discuss and decide on investigating purchasing the methodist church for youth facilities.

It was agreed for the Clerk to pursue whether the Methodist Church was available and what it would entail to remove the Covenant attached to the sale.

## 12. To discuss and decide on St Marys Churchyard

This item was postponed to February's meeting.

## 13. AOB (not for discussion)

It was noted that there was a sponsored 10k run to take place on the playing fields. The Clerk advised that this would be ok with no liability on the Council. It was noted that the Council as a corporate body would be unable to sponsor the individual however Councillors acting independently could do so.

The Council was advised that the High School were prepared to write letters in support of South Norfolk House not being demolished.

***With there being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 19:53***