MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.00PM.

Present: Councillor P Belbin, Councillor J Hutsby, Councillor G Isherwood, Councillor M Isherwood, Councillor P Jammeh, Councillor D Longley, Councillor R Taylor, Councillor C Tennant (Deputy Mayor), Councillor M Tennant-King, Councillor S Vickers (Mayor) and Councillor C Woodhead and Councillor J Wright.

NB – This meeting was held online, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Meetings) (England) Regulations 2020.

No Members of the Public were in attendance.

In Attendance: Vicky Symons (Town Clerk)

85/21 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES
No apologies were received.

86/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
The meeting is to be opened for the public to address Members on matters relevant to the business of the committee. However residents cannot take part in the main proceedings of the meeting, this is strictly limited to Councillors.

87/21 POLICE MATTERS TO REPORT
The Town Clerk reported to members that the police had been in touch with regards to the PACT meetings. These are to be held every 6 weeks, so this should now not clash with the Town Council meetings until August.

88/20 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None were received.

89/21 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960
To consider if thought fit, a resolution under the terms of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 that the press and public be excluded from any items which may be of a confidential nature of the business being transacted.

90/21 MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
It was:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Virtual Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th November 2020 (Minute numbers 58/21 to 78/21) be received as a true record and the contents contained therein be approved.

91/21 MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES
It was:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the virtual Grants Sub-Committee MIN 79/21 to 84/21 held on the 28th January 2021 be approved and the contents contained therein.

92/21 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Mayor reported that on numerous days he, Councillor J Hutsby and Councillor G Isherwood had been and filled the grit bins owned by Featherstone Town Council and filled over 30 bags of grit from the left overs bags from last year.

The Mayor also reported that the electrical sockets had now been fitted in the office and that he along with the Town Clerk had been and opened the office up to allow the workers to carry out the installation.

On 23rd January the Mayor and other Councillors assisted in preparing delivering packed lunches for the Holiday Pit Stop.

On 1st February the Mayor, at the request of Wakefield Council, made a video for the new scheme 'Do it for'. This was to promote why everyone should stick to the national restrictions. There were 4 sections to choose from and the Mayor choose 'Do it for your loved ones'. The Mayor would like to see other Town Councillors take part in this and asked the Town Clerk to send the wording out for Members to record themselves and send in.

On 6th February the Mayor attended Purston Park to present the grant cheque to the Five Town Veterans Hub. This was well received.

The Mayor just asked members that if they were to take any grit from the Old Town Hall car park that they replace the tarpaulin cover that it over there at the moment.

The Mayor finished his report by asking the Town Clerk where the Town Council's responsibility is and the suitability for the Community Centre for polling day. As the community centre is a used as a polling station. The Town Clerk will find out what is required from Wakefield Council and report back.

93/21 LEADERS REPORT

Streethouse – There had been problems with the cemetery where flooding had occurred. Councillor G Isherwood had spoken with the Head of Bereavement at Wakefield Council to try and resolve the issue. This is ongoing at the moment and Councillor Isherwood will report back with any findings.

The Leader asked that the Town Clerk keeps on top of Wakefield Council with regards to the 20mph speed limit at Wentworth Road and the 30mph at Snydale Villas.

At this point Councillor M Tennant-King was placed back into the waiting room on Zoom.

Councillor G Isherwood mentioned that there looks to be a planning application being submitted to Wakefield Council for new houses in Streethouse. The planning is to open cast the area and then build. Councillor Isherwood had emailed the head of planning and the Chair of the planning committee. A response is awaited.

Councillor G Isherwood requested a future item Agenda for the Gala.

Councillor G Isherwood had been in touch with Wakefield Council to see if they would be able to add the Miners Memorial Gardens to the current maintenance contract.

War Horse Lights – The lights at the War Horse are currently not working. Wakefield have been and taken a look and the lights are still under warranty so they are awaiting them to come out and repair them.

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Councillor S Vickers asked the Town Clerk if the proposal with regards to the Garden Maintenance could be agreed. The Clerk advised Council that it should be a future agenda item when the official quotation had been given.

MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7.00PM.

94/21 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS ARE INVITED TO MAKE A REPORT
Councillor G Isherwood advised that most of the time at Wakefield Council is being spent on budgets which will be agreed at the next Full Council at Wakefield.

Councillor M Tennant-King advised that she would be running another Holiday Pit Stop on Saturday 13th February at the Community Centre. A risk assessment has been carried out for this.

Councillor M Isherwood reported to members that over 200 laptops had been donated and that there was money to purchase new laptops and dongles for the children in the district. The Public Health Containment fund had also donated money to buy laptops for children in primary schools. This has enabled the purchase of 1000 laptops and these have been distributed across the district.

The Mayor thanked all District Councillors for their report and mentioned that this is why this item is on the Agenda.

95/21 PROPOSED COMPENSATION FOR DECLINE IN THE 20/21 TAX BASE
Attached to the Agenda was a letter from Wakefield Council in relation to a grant the Town Council will receive in lieu on the tax base declining by 67 properties. Members noted this information.

96/21 FINANCE REPORTS

A) To receive and approve the list of invoices paid since 13th January 2021 under delegated authority totalling £3,136.85.

B) To consider and approve the list of invoices due for payment in February 2021 totalling £955.66

C) Invoices received prior to the meeting to be advised and approved. No further invoices had been received.

It was:

RESOLVED: That members approved the payments in A & B above.

97/21 GRIT BINS POLICY
Attached to the Agenda was the policy for the grit bins that are the responsibility of Featherstone Town Council.

Councillor Taylor asked if a Grit Bin could be placed on Dixon Street. Councillor Vickers, responded advising that the answer was in the grit bin policy. Councillor Hutsby will look into this request.

RESOLVED: That Members approve the policy and this will be reviewed on an annual basis.

98/21 GALA DATES 2021
Due to the current lockdown and pandemic it may not be possible to hold the Gala in July this year. Member's views are requested on setting a provisional date in September.

Councillor Tennant asked if Normanton Town Council had set a date for their Gala. A date had been set for Normanton's subject to national restrictions.

Councillor G Isherwood would like a discussion at the next events meeting, even if this would be just what can we do if can't hold a Gala.

Councillor Woodhead asked that the meeting date is sent out in good time for to place in their diary.

99/21 FIGHTING FROM HOME UPDATE
Members were informed that planning permission for the new project had been approved. Notification of this had only just been received before the meeting.

100/21 PLANNING AND LICENCING MATTERS
- WMDC Planning Applications and Decisions

Application No.	Address	Proposal	Decision
21/00152/FUL	2 Westwinds, Ackworth	Two storey side extension	
20/02642/FUL	12 Lynwood Close	Single storey side extension	
19/02677/S7301	Unit C Warren Road, Featherstone	Variation of condition no.2 (plans list) of permission 19/02677/FUL to enlarge and reposition storage unit.	
20/02045/FUL	72 Whinney Lane	Conversion of existing garage outbuilding into ancillary living accommodation.	Approved
20/02333/ADV	110 Pontefract Road	Replacement of a 48 sheet billboard with 1.no digital display billboard.	Refused
21/00044/FUL	99 Lister Close	Two storey extension to the side.	
20/02841/ADV	Roc Power Common Side Lane	Four identical, non-illuminated signs measuring 1200mm wide x 500mm high, fixed into the ground using steel posts with distance between the ground and the bottom of the sign being approximately 350mm. Posts will be fixed into the ground.	
20/02788/FUL	Phoenix 66 is located within Green Lane Industrial Estate	External alterations to the existing building to create new openings including installation of doors, windows and luvres. Internal alterations to existing building to provide windows within internal walls, reception area, waiting area, offices and storage.	

b) Any other planning matters received after the date of this Agenda - None
c) Licensing matters (if any). - None

101/21 SLCC VIRTUAL CONFERENCE (Society of Local Council Clerks)
The SLCC are holding a Virtual Practitioners' conference from 23rd - 25th February 2021. This event will be a blend of alternative workshops which give direct practical advice to Town and Parish Councils. Attached to the Agenda is the schedule for the event. The Clerk is seeking permission to attend this virtual event at a cost of £75.00 + VAT. It was:

RESOLVED: That the Council approves the cost of £75.00 for the Clerk to attend the Virtual Conference.

102/21 WEBSITE TRAINING

New website accessibility regulations came into force in September 2020. The Town Council's website is compliant however it has become apparent that training is required to ensure that any new content will fall in line with these regulations. The Town Clerk is requesting training for the Administration Assistant and the Town Clerk. This will be provided online by the Town Council's website host, OnScreen at a cost of £300.00 for 2 x 2.5hour sessions. It was:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approves the cost of the training at £300.00.

103/21 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Date	**FROM**	**COMMENTS**
January	Census, Councillor Handbook	Previously circulated by email.
January	Live Well Wakefield – New Beginnings for Mental Health	Online Course Available
January	Wakefield Council – COVID Related Scams information	
January	Public Health Wakefield – Information on vaccine supplies	
January	Energy and Homeowner Support Team – January Newsletter	
Any other correspondence received		

104/21 Urgent matters for information only no decisions can be made.

To organise an events committee meeting as soon as possible.

105/21 Items for future Agenda's to be advised to the Clerk.

Miners Garden maintenance

Councillor Steve Vickers wished to end the meeting by wishing Councillor J Hutsby a speedy recovery

Closure. The meeting closed at 8.07pm.