**MOSSLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

**6 April 2022 at 8.00pm**

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|  | **Present**  Councillor Frank Travis (Chair) (In the Chair); Councillors Dean Aylett Jack Homer, Stephen Homer Helen Jamison and Pat Mullin.  Five members of the public were present at the meeting. | | | | | | | |
| **2266** | **Apologies for Absence**  Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors James Hall, Ruth Kerfoot and Idu Miah. | | | | | | | |
| **2267** | **Declarations of Interest**  Councillors and officers were invited to declare any interests they had in any of the items on the agenda for the meeting.  Councillor Pat Mullin declared an interest in any matters relating to the Town Team. | | | | | | | |
| **2268** | **Public Engagement** | | | | | | | |
|  | 1. Luzley Road, Mossley   Mr and Mrs Gavin Hardman attended the meeting to voice their concerns about the re-opening to traffic of Luzley Road, Mossley.  Mr Hardman claimed that the road was now being used as a ‘rat run’ causing problems for local residents. Mr Hardman added that the road was being accessed by undesirable elements and for fly-tipping.  Councillor Stephen Homer pointed out that the road had been re-opened to traffic to alleviate traffic congestion and added that any issues involving crime or anti-social behaviour would be dealt with by the Police if referred to them. Acts of fly-tipping should be referred to Tameside MBC.  Councillor Homer undertook to investigate any specific issues of concern referred to him by Mr Hardman.  PC Martin Dench undertook to arrange for additional Police patrols in the area in the future and over the forthcoming weekend.   1. Mossley Band HQ   Ms Lynn Riley representing Mossley Band drew to the attention of members recent acts of anti-social behaviour by youths congregating outside the Band HQ on practice nights. The youths were causing general nuisance during rehearsals despite being confronted by band members.  PC Martin Dench responded that the Police were aware of recent incidents and that some members of the group in question had been approached and their behaviour referred to parents.  PC Dench advised of action being taken on individual cases.     1. Friends of Egmont St   Ms Lesley Rigby Arnold attended the meeting to update members on recent activities by the Friends of Egmont St.  The recent Police action following a dangerous dogs incident was now progressing through the Courts. The dogs in question had been seized and impounded.  The Police were fully aware of the recent incident involving a vehicle being driven on the playing fields. It was understood that other areas in the Town were also affected. The Police were investigating using social media to obtain evidence where possible.  The Friends of Egmont St were looking forward to working with Works4U in progressing the development and bringing back into community use, the former Egmont St Pavilion.  Arrangements for the Friends of Egmont St Harvest Festival were progressing well and detailed preparations would be made once approval by Tameside MBC had been received to the date.  The event was scheduled to take place on Sunday 25 September 2022.   1. Police Update   PC Martin Dench then delivered a presentation on recent crime and Police activity in the town.  The following points were made:   * Investigations were taking place to close the vehicular access to the Egmont St Playing Fields to prevent further incidence of vehicles being driven over the field; * the Mossley Neighbourhood Policing Team had taken part in Operation Safer Tameside - targeting road safety ‘hot spots’ around Mossley on 25 March 2022 to which members of the Town Council had been invited; * Councillor Stephen Homer undertook to provide PC Dench with details of the ownership of Britannia Mill to assist the Police in attempts to secure boundary fencing; * The Police would hold discussions with the manager of the George Lawton Hall in attempts to resolve youths accessing the roof of the hall; and * PC Dench was advised that the Brass Contest would take place on Friday 12 June 2022.   The Chair expressed gratitude to PC Dench for his attendance at the meeting and his responses to issues raised by members of the community earlier during the meeting. | | | | | | | |
| **2269** | **Egmont St**  The Chair updated members on proposals to bring the former Egmont St Pavilion into community use involving Works4U.  Plans for the development of the site were to be submitted following which a public consultation would be conducted on the proposals.  The forthcoming Harvest Festival event to be organised by the Friends of Egmont St could be used as a satisfactory venue at which to publicise the proposals to the community. | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | That the Chair be thanked for his report. | | | | |
| **2270** | **Applications for Financial Assistance**  The Clerk reported that there were no applications for grant aid to consider at this meeting. | | | | | | | |
| **2271** | **Minutes** | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 23 February 2022 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair. | | | | |
| **2272** | **Financial Update to 31 March 2022**  The Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) showing the financial position as at 31 March 2022 and including a list of invoices paid between 1 February and 31 March 2022 as follows: | | | | | | | |
|  | TMBC (Xmas Lights etc) | | | | | | | £590.00 |
|  | HMRC PAYE (Jan 2021) | | | | | | | £206.20 |
|  | Zoom and stationery | | | | | | | £17.89 |
|  | M Iveson (Salary and Expenses (Feb 2022) | | | | | | | £432.89 |
|  | Mossley Methodist Church | | | | | | | £30.00 |
|  | Layershift | | | | | | | £27.22 |
|  | Zoom | | | | | | | £14.39 |
|  | HMRC PAYE (Feb 2021) | | | | | | | £6.00 |
|  | M Iveson (Salary and Expenses (Feb 2022) | | | | | | | £516.09 |
|  |  | | | | | | |  |
|  | Total | | | | | | | £1840.68 |
|  |  | | | | | | |  |
|  | The Clerk reported the need to include in the income received , the sum of £3.13 being interest received making the total income in 2021/22 of £32927.36. | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | That the report be noted. | | | | |
| **2273** | **Budget 2022/23**  The Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) presenting the final Budget for 2022/23 through to 2024/25.  The Clerk had also circulated a revised version of the Budget adding the Skateboard Park ‘earmarked reserve’ of £6400 to the 2022/23 year and adding the interest to the income for last year  The revised draft budget which included the items agreed at the last meeting was considered.  The Clerk invited the Council to note the position and approve the final budget.  The Chair referred to potential absence of funding by Tameside MBC to ‘Children’s Theatre’ productions in Mossley and members referred to other events and items of recreational equipment, including outdoor exercise equipment which the Town Council might consider funding in the future.  The Chair suggested that members bring any items together with details of cost to future meetings. | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | | (1) | | That the report be noted. | |
|  |  | | | | (2) | | That the final Budget for 2022/23 to 2024/25 be approved. | |
| **2274** | **Annual Review of Accounts for Year Ending 31 March 2022 – Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2022**  The Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) informing the Town Council about arrangements and the timetable for the Annual Review of Accounts for Year Ending 31 March 2022.  The annual return comprised two sections.  Section 1 of the Annual Return comprised the Annual Governance Statement. The statement must be approved at a meeting of the Town Council as soon as possible after the year end and in any case before Section 2, the Accounting Statements. The Accounting Statements must then be submitted to the external auditor.  The internal audit of the Town Council’s accounts was scheduled to take place on Monday 11 April 2022.  The Annual Governance Statement comprised 8 questions (question 9 was not relevant to the Council) which if answered in the affirmative would assist the Council in confirming that to the best of their knowledge and belief, there exists a sound system of internal control.  The Clerk outlined arrangements in place to support questions 1 to 8 being answered in the affirmative  Members believed all questions relevant to the Town Council could be responded to in the affirmative. | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | (1) | | That the Annual Governance Statement be approved. | | |
|  |  | | | (2) | | That the Clerk be authorised to complete the Annual Governance Statement and to respond to questions 1 to 8 in the affirmative. | | |
|  |  | | | (3) | | That the Clerk and the Chair be authorised to sign off the Annual Governance Statement following completion. | | |
| **2275** | **Review of Town Council Procedural Documents**  The Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) inviting the Town Council to review the following procedural documents:   * Statement on Internal Control * Risk Assessment * Various documents required under the General Data Protection Regulations * Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.   The documents should be reviewed from time to time, and it was the convention that the documents were reviewed on an annual basis prior to formal re-adoption at the Annual Council Meeting.  Members made no amendments to the documents. | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | That the following documents be commended without amendment, for re-adoption at the Annual Meeting of the Town Council:   * Statement on Internal Control * Risk Assessment * Various documents required under the General Data Protection Regulations * Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. | | | | |
| **2276** | **Salary of the Clerk**  The Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) advising the Council about the pay settlement for Local Government staff and the settlement so far as the salary of the Clerk to the Council is concerned. | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | (1) | | That the report be noted. | | |
|  |  | | | (2) | | That the action taken by the Clerk to pay backdated pay in the March 2022 salary, be endorsed. | | |
| **2277** | **Dates of Meetings in 2022 - 2023**  The Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) inviting the Town Council to consider dates for meetings in the 2022 – 2023 Municipal Year. | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | That the following dates for meetings in 2022/23 be commended for approval by the Annual Meeting of the Town Council:   * Annual Parish Meeting at Mossley Methodist Church on Wednesday 11 May 2022 commencing at 8.15pm * ‘Ordinary’ meetings of the Town Council on the following dates at Mossley Methodist Church (commencing at 8.00pm:   Wednesday 8 June 2022  Wednesday 13 July 2022  Wednesday 7 September 2022  Wednesday 19 October 2022  Wednesday 7 December 2022  Wednesday 18 January 2023  Wednesday 22 February 2023  Wednesday 5 April 2023   * Annual Meeting of the Town Council in 2023 on Wednesday 18 May 2023 at 8.00pm. | | | | |
| **2278** | **Tree Planting Initiative**  Councillor Dean Aylett and Clerk reported on progress made with the Town Council’s tree planting initiative.  The Clerk advised members that following an approach made to primary schools in the Town, interest in participating in the initiative had been received from the following 3 schools:   * Milton St John’s * St Joseph’s RC * Livingstone Primary   Councillor Dean Aylett undertook to carry out investigations to establish a suitable supplier of the trees and the Clerk was requested to contact the 3 schools expressing interest to establish an approximate number of trees required. | | | | | | | |
| **2279** | **Mossley Walking and Cycling Strategy – Update**  Councillor Pat Mullin updated members on progress made with the proposed Mossley Walking and Cycling Strategy**.**  Councillor Pat Mullin reported that a successful bid had been made to the Transport for Greater Manchester Cycle & Stride for Active Lives initiative aimed at promoting the uptake of walking and cycling in Mossley.  The as yet unconstituted group had been awarded £6000.  Members considered the prospect of the Town Council administering the bid money awarded and the Clerk undertook to take advice on the suggestion. | | | | | | | |
| **2280** | **Creative Mossley**  The Chair and Councillor Pat Mullin reported on progress made on the wide range of national, regional and local initiatives relating to the arts in Mossley and the need for increased funding and facilities for local events.  The Chair updated members on progress made at meetings to consider the wide range of national, regional and local initiatives relating to the arts in Mossley and the need for increased funding and facilities for local events.  The Chair suggested that the Town Council might consider setting aside the sum of £500 to assist with the cost of accommodation for events and/or meetings by artists/craft organisations/community groups in Mossley, in an attempt to encourage the potential development of such groups in the town.  The Chair added that the Chief Executive of Global Grooves/The Vale, (Leon Patel) had proposed to ‘live stream’ a concert showcasing Mossley artists as part of the forthcoming Town Twinning event on Friday 23 September 2022.  Global Grooves estimated that the cost of this event (based on the venue being made available at no cost with technical support being provided at half cost but excluding artist fees) would amount to approximately £1000. Such an event would showcase Mossley artists and would be a fitting event to mark the beginning of the ‘Twinning’ weekend. The Chair suggested that the Town Council might consider funding the event. | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | (1) | | That approval be given to:   * expenditure in the sum of £500 to assist with meeting the cost of accommodation for events and/or meetings by artists/craft organisation(s)/community groups in Mossley, in an attempt to assist and/or encourage the potential development of such groups in the town; * expenditure in the sum of £1000 to meet the cost (as outlined above) of ‘live streaming’ a concert on Friday 23 September 2022, showcasing Mossley artists as part of the forthcoming Town Twinning event. | | |
|  |  | | | (2) | | That the expenditure (£1500) to be incurred under resolution 1 above be met from the unallocated reserve. | | |
|  |  | | | (3) | | That the Clerk in consultation with the Chair, be authorised to approve the cost of accommodation met by the Council for events and/or meetings by artists/craft organisation(s)/community groups in Mossley, referred to in resolution 1 above, subject to details of expenditure approved being reported to subsequent Town Council meetings. | | |
|  |  | | | (4) | | That the measures introduced in resolution 1 above to assist with accommodation costs be reviewed at the end of the financial year. | | |
| **2281** | **Planning Issues**  The Council considered the following planning applications: | | | | | | | |
|  | (i) | Single storey rear porch extension (retrospective) at Bank Terrace, 24 Huddersfield Road Mossley (22/00188/FUL) | | | | | | |
|  | (ii) | Front and rear dormer extensions and other external alterations including new window to side elevation at 3 Greenway Drive Mossley (21/01148/FUL) | | | | | | |
|  | (iii) | Proposed single storey rear extension including alterations to rear patio and formation of new external steps to side elevation at 47 Quickedge Road Mossley (22/00310/FUL) | | | | | | |
|  | (iv) | Two storey side extension at 41 Moorlands Crescent Mossley (22/00286/FUL) | | | | | | |
|  | (v) | Loft conversion with rear dormer at 4 Hopkins Buildings Manchester Road Mossley (22/00279/FUL) | | | | | | |
|  | (vi) | T1 Lombardy Poplar - Crown reduce height (maximum 30%) at 1 Old Church House Church Lane Mossley (22/00026/TPO) | | | | | | |
|  | (vii) | Loft Conversion with front dormer and rear first floor extension including raising of ridge height at 16 Richmond Crescent Mossley (22/00257/FUL) | | | | | | |
|  | (viii) | Single storey rear extension. The length of the extension from the rear of the original house 4.00m. Maximum height of the extension 4.00m. Maximum height of eaves 3.00m at 9A Andrew Street Mossley (22/00230/HHPD) | | | | | | |
|  | (ix) | Following application 22/00114/CPUD for the lawful development of a full width rear dormer, this application is for the walls of the dormer to be constructed in standing seam cladding at 18 Shires View Mossley (22/00226/FUL) | | | | | | |
|  | (x) | Proposed single storey rear extension including garage conversion at 25 Quick View Mossley (22/00323/FUL) | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | That the applications be noted. | | | | |
| **2282** | **Chair’s Report**  The Chair suggested that members may wish to consider awarding a voucher in the sum of £25 to each of the Town Team Stewards as a gesture of appreciation of their entirely voluntary service to the Town at events including the Mossley Service of Remembrance and the Christmas seasonal festivities. | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | (1) | | That the principle of awarding a voucher in the sum of £25 to each of the Town Team Stewards as a gesture of appreciation of their entirely voluntary service to the Town be approved subject to the Chair reporting further on the numbers and final costs involved. | | |
|  |  | | | (2) | | That the cost of the vouchers be met from the unallocated reserve. | | |
| **2283** | **Correspondence and Updates and reports from Town Team and Other Agencies**  Insurance Policy  The Clerk reported that the Town Council’s Insurance Policy was due for renewal on 1 June 2022 and the premium for the next year would be £778.08.  The Town Council’s insurer, Zurich, had invited the Council you to take out a Long-Term Agreement (LTA) with them. The LTA was an agreement whereby a discounted premium was offered in return for a commitment to maintain the Council’s insurance with them, for either 3 or 5 years as follows: A 5-year LTA premium of £725.46  A 3-year LTA premium of £751.79 | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | That the offer of a 5-year Long-Term Agreement with Zurich insurance at a cost of £725.46 in 2022/23 be accepted and that the Clerk be authorised to make the payment to Zurich Insurance. | | | | | |
|  | Town Team Grant  The Clerk reminded members that at the meeting on 23 February 2022 (Minute 2265(i)), the Town Council had considered a ‘small’ grant application by Friends of Mossley Park to enable the purchase of a re-chargeable electric strimmer and leaf-blower plus battery pack at a cost of £244.  The Town Council had invited the Friends of Mossley Park to procure more professional and robust appliances which will not only be more efficient in use but which will also last much longer.  The Clerk had been authorised to approve in consultation with the Chair the cost of the suitably upgraded appliances.  The Town Team had now provided estimates for desired equipment as follows:  BGA 57 cordless leaf blower - £329  FSA 57 cordless grass trimmer - £149  Total £478 | | | | | | | |
|  | RESOLVED: | | | That the cost of the more robust appliances in the sum of £478 be approved. | | | | |

The meeting concluded at 10.16pm

Chair