

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held**  
**By Zoom on Monday 28 September 2020**

There were present: Cllrs. B Beeley - Chairman

P. Byrne - Vice Chairman

Cllrs. N. Allsopp	R. Knotts
J. Battye	L. Lancaster
B. Lord	P. Lord
K.Dawson	L.Dawson
J. Hudson	K.Phillips
M. Woodvine	J. Curley
S. Al-Hamdani	R. Darlington

Members of press and Public:

T. Baxter     R. Outram

**2663. Prayers**

The Council meeting was opened with prayers led by Reverend Natalie Hackett.

**2664. Welcome from the Chairman**

The Chairman welcomed her fellow Councillors and members of the press and public to the meeting.

**2665. To receive Public Questions**

There were no public questions

**2666. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Sheldon, Hulme and Bingley.

**2667. Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**2668. Minutes of the Council Meeting held 27 July 2020.**

The minutes of the Council meeting held Monday 27 July 2020 were **APPROVED**. It was agreed that the Chairman would sign them off the following day.

**2669. Comments of the virtual Planning Committees held Monday 3 August and 7 September 2020**

The comments of the virtual Planning Committees held 3 August and 7 September 2020 were **NOTED**.

**2670. Minutes of the Estates Committee held 10 September 2020.**

The minutes of the Estates Committee held on 10 September 2020 were **NOTED**.

**2671. Minutes of the extra meeting of the Environment Committee held 22 September.**

The minutes of the extra Environment Committee held 22 September were **NOTED**.

**2672. Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee held 27 August 2020.**

The minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee held 27 August 2020 were **NOTED**.

**2673. Councillor Resignations.**

Letters of resignation were received from Cllrs. Allsopp and Belmore.

The Chairman regrettably accepted the resignations and said that the notice of vacancies would be displayed in Ward notice boards. The Clerk confirmed that notices would be displayed. Following a period of 14 days, if there was a call for an election with 10 signatures, it could not take place until May 2021. If no request was received, then members would have the option to co-opt and that traditionally the nominations would come from the party members where the vacancies exist.

Cllrs. Allsopp and Al-Hamdani confirmed that although elections cannot be held until May 2021, the process of notification needed to be followed and that the vacancies would remain vacant until that time should a by-election be required.

Cllr. Beeley gave thanks to Cllrs. Allsopp and Belmore for all that they had done for the people of Saddleworth. Cllr. Hudson also stated his regret.

Cllr. K. Dawson also expressed his regrets.

**2674. Item proposed by Cllr. Knotts- GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) The agenda was altered to show that this item is no longer a motion.**

Cllr. Beeley recognised that the work carried out by the previous clerk had addressed the use of personal emails.

Cllr. Knotts said that he had been carrying out work for an RAF charity which he wanted to share with the councillors. That in August 2019 feedback had been received from local authorities and noted 3 areas of concern:

The use of own devices and the need for a council email address

Data Audit requirements and retention of Parish Council data on personal computers

Data Sharing by the Parish Council.

Cllr. Al-Hamdani said that at a Borough level, councillors were allowed to use own devices, and there would not be any added security by having a Parish Council web-site and GDPR addresses personal data.

Cllr. Allsopp reminded councillors that the previous clerk had said there may be a possibility of Councillors having the requirement to have council emails, however further investigation found that this was not necessary.

Cllr. Hudson proposed that this item be taken to the Communications Committee and to report back to the next Council meeting.

Cllr. Knotts seconded the proposal.

**Proposal agreed**

## **2675. Future Council and Committee Meetings**

Cllr. Beeley informed Councillors that until further notice because of present guidelines any future meetings will be held remotely by Zoom. Agendas will be published on the website and will have instructions on how to access meetings. Press and public can apply to the Clerk for the information necessary to join the meeting. **Agreed**

## **2676. Motion: Pledge to Peace. Proposed by Cllr. Al-Hamdani. Seconded by Cllr. Darlington. No audio to Cllr. Darlington's PC therefore seconded by Cllr. Phillips**

Cllr Al-Hamdani stated that this was not an EU initiative. It was an international initiative which was not affected by the departure of the UK from the EU. (Cllr. Darlington was unable to contribute a seconder as there was no audio). It had been signed by Oldham MBC and Shaw and Crompton Parish Council. Cllr. Byrne said that it was not well presented and did not consider it worth the Parish Council making a declaration. Saddleworth School have their own peace movement and have produced a list of things they will do.

Cllr. Knotts asked how the Peace Champion would be elected and raised concerns regarding the practicalities.

Cllr. Allsopp said that Cllr. Al-Hamdani was not correct. Documentation on the internet carries the EU flag and mentions the EU many times, refers to citizens and member states. He said that no other borough council had signed up for it and knew of no other parish council had adopted. He said that the motion was the right direction of travel but the wrong vehicle and referred to a paper distributed to councillors. Cllr. Allsopp said that he had approached the Reverend Barbara Christopher who then took the idea to the churches in Saddleworth meeting and at the next meeting they formulated their ideas which were written in the paper distributed to Councillors. Cllr. Allsopp said it was more practical to work with the churches in Saddleworth, it was local and would be more beneficial. Cllr. Lancaster said he believed Cllr. Allsopp presented a real and credible alternative.

Cllr. Curley thanked Cllr. Al-Hamdani for his efforts and said having listened to both Cllr. Allsopp and Al-Hamdani he had to agree with Cllr. Allsopp as it was a local initiative.

Cllr. Hudson said that the proposal was rejected previously when brought forward by a former Mayor for reasons brought forward by Cllr. Allsopp. He asked what the cost implications were.

Cllr. Al-Hamdani said he was not aware of any cost implications and that we could engage on whatever we wanted to.

Cllr. Byrne said that she had sat and listened to 3 presentations on the Peace initiative and believed it should be given a great deal of thought before being entered into. Saddleworth School have produced their own list with 25 items.

Cllr. Hudson said that if we were to have a peace champion then the chairman should be the peace champion.

Cllr. Al-Hamdani said that the Pledge to Peace was endorsed by the EU but not an initiative of the EU.

Cllr. Al-Hamdani said he saw no reason why both initiatives could not be adopted, one local and one on an international level. There does need to be a representative from the parish council to take this forward.

Cllr. Allsopp asked for a recorded vote.

**Results: For 9, Against 6, Abstention 1. Motion Carried**

## **2677. Proposed changes to Planning Law**

Cllr. Beeley proposed that comments on changes be sent to the Clerk and responses collated at an extra meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee.

Cllr. Al-Hamdani asked if there were disagreements how it would be handled by the Strategic Planning Committee.

Cllr. Beeley agreed it would be difficult.

Cllr Allsopp proposed that a Extraordinary Council meeting be scheduled as it concerned all councillors and the people of Saddleworth.

Cllr. Hudson seconded the proposal.

### **Council agreed to hold an Extraordinary meeting**

Cllr. Beeley to set a date to discuss the new planning law.

## **2678. Accounts for payment July and August 2020.**

The accounts for payment for July - £14,966.84 and August 2020- £16,848.20. Approve Cllr. Hudson, seconded by Cllr. B. Lord. **Agreed**

## **2679. Chairman's Urgent Business**

Cllr. Allsopp wished Cllr. Belmore well in his new venture. He wished all well.

Cllr. Beeley is in receipt of a thank you card from Pam Bailey, the previous clerk and it would be left in the office for councillors to read.

Cllr. Beeley asked that, if any councillor has any concerns regarding any meeting, please contact the Clerk or her.

## **2680. Dates of next Ordinary Meetings**

**Monday 26 October 2020**

**Monday 23 November 2020**

**Monday 14 December 2020**

**Monday 25 January 2021**

**Monday 22 February 2021**

**Monday 22 February 2021**

**Monday 22 March 2021**

**Monday 26 April 2021**

**Monday 24 May 2021**

The meeting closed at 20.45pm