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## **COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of a Virtual Council Meeting held at 6.00 pm on Thursday 26 November 2020.**

Under Regulations made under the Coronavirus Act 2020, the meeting was held virtually. Members of the public were able to view the virtual meeting via the District Council's website at [www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk) or via our YouTube channel.

#### **PRESENT**

Councillor Andrew Shirley - In the Chair

Councillors, Jacqueline Allison, Robert Archer, Jason Atkin, Richard Bright, Matthew Buckler, Sue Bull, Martin Burfoot, Sue Burfoot, Neil Buttle, David Chapman, Paul Cruise, Tom Donnelly, Graham Elliott, Richard Fitzherbert, Steve Flitter, Helen Froggatt, Chris Furness, Clare Gamble, Alyson Hill, Susan Hobson, David Hughes, Stuart Lees, Tony Morley, Michele Morley, Peter O'Brien, Joyce Pawley, Garry Purdy, Mike Ratcliffe, Lewis Rose OBE, Mark Salt, Andrew Shirley, Peter Slack, Andrew Statham, Alasdair Sutton, Colin Swindell, Steve Wain and Mark Wakeman.

Paul Wilson (Chief Executive), James McLaughlin (Director of Corporate & Customer Services), Tim Braund (Director of Regulatory Services), Karen Henriksen (Director of Resources), Steve Capes (Director of Regeneration and Policy), Rob Cogings (Director of Housing), Ashley Watts (Director of Community & Environmental Services), Mike Galsworthy (Estates and Facilities Manager), Becky Bryan (Community Development Manager), Samantha Grisman (Clean and Green Manager), Jason Spencer (Electoral and Democratic Services Manager), Angela Gratton (Democratic Services Officer).

Ian Morey and Andy Harris, Freedom Leisure  
Arron Elliot, Altair Ltd

This meeting was recorded and broadcast live on YouTube

#### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Elisa McDonagh and Claire Raw

#### **165/20 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

In accordance with the procedure for public participation:

Mr John Lake (Chairman), Ashbourne Sport and Community Partnership made a statement on Agenda Item 13: Ashbourne Recreation Ground Pavilion request for the release of further capital funding requested at Council meeting 27 August 2020 reference to the changes since the August meeting:

*'The English and Wales Cricket Board (EWCB) has confirmed that it is prepared to invest £250,000 in the project. However there is a major condition which is that all monies need to be committed and spent by 31 January 2021.'*

*The Ashbourne Pavilion project is the only project in Derbyshire being supported by the Derbyshire Cricket Board and EWCB for major capital funding in 2020-2021. If the EWCB funding is not spent then the Pavilion project will lose that investment which cannot be carried forward to another year.*

*Therefore, commencing work on site in January 2021 is critical and the EWCB need confirmation that the Partnership has confirmed funding to let a contract to build the Pavilion by December 2020.'*

Councillor Denise Brown, Ashbourne Town Council made a statement on Item 20 – Review of Council Assets concerning the Black's Head and Gallows in Ashbourne

*"Ashbourne Town Council considered the Blacks Head at the full Council meeting held on 17 November 2020. Members have confirmed that they would like to enter into discussions with a view to becoming custodians of the head and the gallows. We would also like to positively engage with Derbyshire Dales District Council on the following item as, the current condition of the head and gallows and the potential need for restoration work to be carried out before Ashbourne Town Council becomes custodians, the opportunity for Derbyshire Dales District Council to contribute to the restorative measures of the artefact and the longer term liabilities for their protection and conservation taking into account that the Gallows and the Head may well be in separate locations we are keen to ensure that both assets which are both listed monuments are given the protection they require. As well as discussing the artefacts we would also seek to explore with the District Council a suitable final location for the head which takes into regard its significant historical references, the wishes of the Ashbourne people and the options of whom could be garnered through a public consultation whilst balancing the issues that this imagery is from another time and its connotations are from a very, very different time. I am confident that Ashbourne Town Council and Derbyshire Dales district Council can work together to produce a solution which is appropriate for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Ashbourne Town Council would prefer to see Derbyshire Dales District Council to progress with option E."*

Mrs J Lewis, Local resident made a statement on Item 20 – Review of Council Assets concerning the Black's Head and Gallows in Ashbourne

*"I have asked to speak with you regarding the Blacks Head in Ashbourne. I was there the night it was removed and I objected to its removal on the basis that it was a listed structure. There was a gentleman there in a high vis jacket who was obviously a Councillor. I took him to be a Councillor from Derbyshire Dales District Council because he seemed to be speaking with authority he told me that there had been a threat of arson and that it was being removed for its safe keeping and this was being done with the knowledge and support of Derbyshire Dales District Council. I was very concerned about what would happen to the head once it was removed and I consistently asked for who*

*was taking responsibility for the Head and who was going to be accountable for the safe keeping of the Head and I was told that he was taking responsibility and Derbyshire Dales District Council were accountable as they owned it. We had a conversation about whether it would go back up and who would be involved in that decision and he said it would be the local people. I asked him what he thought the definition of local was as in my own personal view that did not include places like Matlock, Bakewell etc who have no local feelings toward this monument as a lot of the Ashbournian people do. He asked me where I lived and I said I where I lived and he said there were no issues with that and I was a local person and that I would be involved in that decision so I am very eager and interested to know what the strategy and plans will be to make sure that the wishes of the local people are taken into account and are acted upon.”*

## **166/20 – INTERESTS**

Councillors Neil Buttle, Steve Flitter, Gary Purdy, Mike Ratcliffe and Susan Hobson declared pecuniary interests in agenda item 9 recommendations 1 & 2 due to their positions as Group Leaders/Deputy Leader and the special responsibility allowances received as a result of their role.

Councillor Jason Atkin declared an interest in agenda item 14 as his partner was a client of NCHA.

## **167/20 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Councillor Colin Swindell seconded by Councillor Jason Atkin and

**RESOLVED** That the Minutes of the Derbyshire Dales District Council held on 8<sup>th</sup>  
(unanimously) October 2020 and the two Extraordinary meetings held on 9<sup>th</sup>  
November 2020 be approved as a correct record:

## **168/20 - LEADERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Gary Purdy Leader of the Council, made a statement relating to the theft of papers from his home, passed on and circulated without his consent. He informed the Council this was a private matter that had been reported to Derbyshire Police who were looking into the matter.

## **169/20 - CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Helen Froggatt advised the Council that she had recently attended two events, one to lay a Remembrance Day wreath at Hall Leys Park and another at Stoney Middleton School on Armistice Day. Councillor Froggatt thanked the organisers and commended them on their organisation and safety precautions put in place.

## **170/20 – COMMITTEES**

It was moved by Councillor Jason Atkin, seconded by Councillor Colin Swindell and

**RESOLVED** That the non-exempt minutes of the Committees listed in the Minute  
(unanimously) book for the period 07 October to 10 November 2020 be received.

## **171/20 - QUESTIONS (RULE OF PROCEDURE 15)**

### **Question from Councillor Steve Wain to Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:**

*“The Derbyshire Dales District Council has expressed a commitment to the regeneration of its town centres.*

*During the past year Matlock has experienced serious infrastructure issues, resulting in flooding, a gas main fracture and the breakdown of some drainage systems. This has resulted in human waste being deposited into the public highway and traffic being severely impacted. Not only is this a public health issue, but it has affected the trade of nearby businesses and also the shopping experience of the town’s residents and visitors.*

*Whilst appreciating that these are County Council and utility supplier issues, they do have an adverse impact upon the areas the District is trying to enhance.*

- 1. Is this Council aware of these issues and if so what consultation has it had with partner agencies to highlight concerns and hopefully secure a positive outcome for the Town?*
- 2. As the current local infrastructure is already at, or close to capacity, how regularly does the Local Planning Authority consult with partners to ensure that any further development doesn’t exacerbate the current unacceptable situation and further degenerate our town?*
- 3. How are developments already adopted within the Local Plan reassessed against current infrastructure and flooding issues, ensuring they remain viable and environmentally sound?”*

### **Response from Councillor Purdy**

*Thank you for your questions.*

*1. The District Council is aware of these incidents, although as Councillor Wain notes these are not matters which are directly related to the District Council’s operations. It is however acknowledged that the provision of infrastructure should meet the needs of the residents of Derbyshire Dales. As such in preparing the Local Plan assessing the capacity of existing, and identifying the future needs for infrastructure are an integral part of the process. This involves engagement with all relevant infrastructure providers including the Utility Providers, the Environment Agency, and Severn Trent to ensure that all future needs can be met.*

*2. Infrastructure is defined in the Planning Acts as relating to a wide range of areas including road, transportation, education, medical facilities, sports facilities and open space. As Councillor Wain will be aware the delivery of many of these are in the main not District Council operational matters. However in order to ensure that there is adequate infrastructure in place to meet the needs of the Community the District Council does regularly engage with the relevant agencies. There are, for example regular Officer Meetings with the Derby and Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Derbyshire County Council Education to ensure that there is two way dialogue about their current and future needs and how that relates to emerging development proposals. Such meetings provide opportunities for the District Council to be made aware of any major funding opportunities that the lead agencies may have secured or be seeking to secure to improve infrastructure provision across the District Council area. These allow for any future issues to be flagged up at the earliest opportunity and then taken into account in the determination of planning applications.*

3. As Councillor Wain will be aware the future infrastructure needs of the District Council for which it is the planning authority were considered as part of the preparation of the Local Plan, and included within the adopted Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Developments contained within the adopted Derbyshire Dales Local Plan require the approval of a planning application before they can proceed. This requires an assessment against policies and proposals in the adopted Derbyshire Dales Local Plan. In regards to infrastructure requirements this necessitates that consideration is given to Policy S10 as well as other site specific infrastructure such as affordable housing, community facilities including healthcare and education. To ensure that the appropriate level of new infrastructure is provided for such proposals the relevant statutory agency is consulted including Derbyshire County Council as Highways Authority, Education Authority and Local Lead Flood Authority and their responses taken into account in the balanced recommendation provided by Officers on the planning applications.

**Question from Councillor Colin Swindell to Councillor Jason Atkin, Chairman of the Planning Committee:**

*“Many members, like me, will have had the below campaign email from their constituents. The email encourages local planning authorities, such as our council, to be more mindful of wildlife, nature and be more open and democratic when considering future planning applications.*

*Can Councillor Atkin please address the points made by my constituents and explain, as Chair of Planning, how he intends to reform our planning system to tackle these matters.*

*With a number of my constituents raising this issue with me, I thought it would be helpful to bring it to a public meeting where the answer can be viewed and recorded for their benefit.*

*Email from my constituents reads as follows...*

*Dear Councillor Swindell,*

*I'm sure you agree that a successful planning system makes a huge difference to our quality of life. I'm hearing news all the time about wildlife decline across the country; we must prepare for the challenges of the 21st century and help tackle the climate, ecological and health crises*

*- our planning system should help. But I support The Wildlife Trusts view that as they stand, current proposals for reform in England (set out in the Planning White Paper) will not lead to a system fit for the future.*

*Instead, these reforms could:*

- increase nature's decline;*
- fail to integrate nature into people's lives; and*
- undermine the democratic process for local decision-making.*

*I have responded to the White Paper consultation. Please will you represent my concerns within the Council, and also to the Westminster Government?*

*Planning is devolved, but any system should be about creating and enhancing areas places where we can all lead happier and healthier lives, and enjoy and benefit from the environment around us. But there's not even a suggestion in the White Paper of including nature or accessible green spaces into the new Growth or Renewal areas! And there would be no change for wildlife in the protected area, leaving things as they are - an approach which we know is already failing wildlife, and us. Lastly, but perhaps most importantly for residents, the*

*reforms are aiming to make it easier for people to get involved in planning, so we can be part of shaping the places where we live and work. Yet there will be little regard to balancing the needs and interests of residents, or opportunity for local opinion in the future without changes to the current proposals.*

*Please represent my concerns within the Council, and also to the Westminster Government.”*

### **Response from Councillor Atkin**

As Councillor Swindell will be aware the District Council’s representations on the Planning the Future White Paper were submitted to MHCLG prior to the deadline of 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020. The response submitted to the Government covered all aspects of the suggested changes to the planning system set out in the White Paper. This included concerns raised about the impact upon wildlife and also the extent to which the proposed changes would have an impact upon the community’s ability to engage in the future. However as Councillor Swindell will be aware the District Council has taken opportunities such as those related to the development of Cawdor Quarry to promote partnerships between developers and DWT to safeguard and develop ecology where DWT is to take on the management of the SSSI, a countryside park within the project and create a wetland habitat alongside the Derwent. These measures will cumulatively enhance ecology and ensure long term management in the public interest.

At this time the White Paper only sets out suggested changes, and as is set out in its contents will require legislative changes to enable them to become a reality. In taking forward changes the Government has indicated that it will be mindful of the responses it received during the public consultation. At the current time there is no requirement to make any operational or procedural changes.

Any future changes to the planning system that are introduced directly or indirectly as a result of the Planning White Paper will, as always, be reflected in the advice given to Members both in relation the Local Plan and in respect of planning applications.

### **Supplementary Question from Councillor Colin Swindell to Councillor Jason Atkin, Chairman of the Planning Committee:**

Cllr Swindell expressed his concern with regards to the White Paper Planning process becoming less democratic.

### **Response:**

Cllr Atkin informed him he would give a written response.

### **Question from Councillor Clare Gamble to Councillor Garry Purdy, Leader of the Council:**

*“1. On 26th November 2020, members will be asked to vote through a committee proposal that requires a unanimous vote, because it is not now possible to draw up a committee proposal based on a strictly proportionate basis since Cllr Bright left the Conservative group to become a Non-Aligned Independent. For the council, this would result in future committee decisions being safe from legal challenge. The likelihood is that the Conservative minority will continue to win most, if not all votes, with the Chair’s casting vote and any Independent votes*

*or abstentions. They also continue to appoint all the Chairs, Deputy Chairs and positions on outside bodies, when the council has moved to a position of No Overall Control.*

*My question is what incentive does the council think members of the opposition parties have to vote in favour of this arrangement?*

*2. Having moved to a position of No Overall Control, can the council give the constitutional justification for Cllr's Purdy and Hobson to continue to fill the role of Leader and Deputy Leader. If they continue, what level of consultation can the leaders of other groups expect to receive, and what level of input into decision making, usually reserved for the Leader, can they expect?*

*3. In an email recently sent to all councillors it was stated that two police officers went to the home of a resident on 15th November 2020, after receiving an allegation about stolen papers from a venue in Cromford. Can the Council tell me if any council officers were consulted about, or were any council resources used, to help Cllr Purdy to make, what appears from the email, to be an unsubstantiated allegation to the Police?"*

### **Response from Councillor Purdy**

1. It is not an issue of incentivising for opposition groups – there are no opposition groups on the Council, as there is no ruling group. The Council has a statutory duty to make decisions lawfully and in the interests of the residents of the Derbyshire Dales. Whilst the political balance of the Council has changed, as reported by the Monitoring Officer on tonight's agenda, it is imperative that all four political groups, as well as non-aligned Councillors, work with the officers charged with delivering services to our residents during this pandemic and beyond.
2. Thank you for your question. As you will have noticed before the most recent change in the political balance of the Council, the Chief Executive and the Corporate Leadership Team work to the agreed Corporate Plan of the Council which we have all collectively agreed by Councillors. The priorities for this district and this Council were clearly set out and officers continue to work towards delivering those priorities. Furthermore, the Chief Executive and Corporate Leadership Team are working hard to engage Political Group Leaders and the broader body of Members by consulting on proposals before they are published, as well as an opportunity to inform the content of those proposals. This is welcome and will need to continue if the Council is to continue to improve its governance processes.
3. This is a private matter that does not concern the Council. As such, no Council Officer or Council resource has been involved in pursuing this matter. The issue of theft of private papers from private property was rightly reported to Derbyshire Police for investigation.

### **172/20 – POLITICAL BALANCE POLITICAL GROUPS AND ENTITLEMENT TO SEATS ON COMMITTEES (Deferred Item 16 from 08/10/2020)**

The Council considered a report providing an update on the membership of political groups on the Council and reporting change to the political balance of the authority and the

entitlement of political groups to seats on committees.

It was noted that on 5 August 2020, Councillor Raw joined the Green and Independent Group, which increased the size of this Group to 5 Members and reduced the size of the Labour Group to 5 Members.

On 2 November 2020, Councillor Bright left the Conservative Group and decided to sit as a non-aligned Member. The effect of Councillor Bright leaving the Conservative Group has been to reduce the size of that group to 19 Members.

These changes resulted in no political group having overall control of the Authority and the political balance of the Council becoming:

<u>Name of Group</u>	<u>Designated Leader</u>	<u>Number of Members</u>
Conservative	Councillor Purdy	19
Green and Independent	Councillor Buttle	5
Labour	Councillor Ratcliffe	5
Liberal Democrat	Councillor Flitter	7

As Councillors Bright, Elliott and Swindell did not belong to a political group and were therefore designated as non-aligned Members. So while they were grouped for the purposes of seat entitlement calculations, they were not recognised as a political group and were not given the opportunity to substitute for one another on various committees.

The change in group membership also had an impact on the allowances paid to the Leader from £11,331 to £11,562, and consequently the allowance to the Deputy Leader from £5,781 to £5,666.

It was noted that the Proper Officer had met with the four political group leaders in September and November 2020 to discuss the options available to the Council in determining the allocation of seats. As there was no scenario where the political make-up of the Council could be reflected when principles (a) and (b), set out in paragraph 1.5 of the report, were applied, it was necessary for the Council to agree to suspend the rules of political balance in order to approve a seat entitlement which would best fit the new political make-up of the authority.

As a result of cross party discussions the following option seemed most likely to secure support where there were 81 seats available in total on committees. This would result in committees having the following size of membership:

Governance and Resources	16 (was 17)
Community and Environment	16 (was 17)
Planning	15 (was 13)
Licensing and Appeals	15 (was 12)
Joint Consultative	6 (no change)
Joint ICT	3 (no change)
Local Plan Advisory Group	10 (no change)

For the 81 seats available in applying principle (a) in paragraph 1.5 of the report, this option gave the following entitlement:

<u>Political Group</u>	<u>Seat Entitlement</u>
Conservative	39
Green and Independent	10
Labour	10



Liberal Democrats	15
Non-Aligned	6

There was also a vacancy for the Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee, previously held by Councillor Bright. His appointment to this role had ceased at this meeting after no longer holding a seat on the Planning Committee on behalf of the Conservative Group. The Council therefore considered nominations for the role of Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee.

Recommendations 1 and 2 were moved by Councillor Jason Atkin, seconded by Councillor Chris Furness and

**RESOLVED  
(Unanimously)**

1. That the operation of four political groups on the Council and the detail of their designated Leaders be noted:
  - Conservative Group – Councillor Garry Purdy (Leader of the Council)
  - Green and Independent Group – Councillor Neil Buttle
  - Labour Group – Councillor Mike Ratcliffe
  - Liberal Democrat Group – Councillor Steve Flitter
  
2. That the following special responsibility allowances be paid:
  - Councillor Purdy - £11,331 (effective from 2 November 2020)
  - Councillor Flitter - £1,617
  - Councillor Buttle - £1,115 (effective from 5 August 2020)
  - Councillor Ratcliffe - £1,115 (effective from 5 August 2020)
  - Councillor Hobson - £5,666 (effective from 2 November 2020)

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED. As Councillors Neil Buttle, Steve Flitter, Susan Hobson, Garry Purdy and Mike Ratcliffe had previously declared interests in this item they did not participate in the vote.

Recommendation 3 was moved by Councillor Jason Atkin, seconded by Councillor Chris Furness:

“That the requirement for the principles of political balance under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 be suspended in order to ensure the representation of all groups reflects the overall political balance of the Council.”

The motion was put to the vote and the votes cast were as follows:

For	34
Against	3
Abstain	0

As the vote was not unanimous the Director of Corporate and Customer Services and Monitoring Officer advised the Council that he could no longer endorse the actions set out in recommendations 4, 5 and 6 and the seat allocations would therefore remain as agreed at the 2020 Annual Meeting but with Councillor Raw and Councillor Bright no longer holding the seats on committees allocated to them at that meeting. It was noted that as Cllr Bright was no longer a member of Planning Committee he could not continue in the role of Vice-Chair of

the Committee so the Council would need to appoint a member of the Committee to replace him.

It was therefore moved by Councillor Jason Atkin, seconded by Councillor Chris Furness that Cllr Tony Morley be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Committee and moved by Cllr Steve Flitter and seconded by Cllr Mike Ratcliffe that Cllr Sue Burfoot be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Committee. The Council voted on both candidates. Councillor Morley Received 21 Votes and Councillor Burfoot received 15 votes with one Member abstaining. It was therefore

**RESOLVED** To appoint Councillor Tony Morley as Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee and the payment of the special responsibility allowance for this role be effective immediately.

### **173/20 – PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION – EXTRAORDINARY MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL**

The Council considered a proposal to amend the provisions of the Council Procedure Rules in respect of items of business at Extraordinary Meetings of the Council. It was anticipated that this amendment would reduce the number of Extraordinary and Special Meetings required to complete Council business.

It was confirmed that if an Extraordinary Council Meeting had been called by a signed requisition from five Councillors the business set out in that request would be considered before any other additional items.

It was moved by Councillor Susan Bull, seconded by Councillor Helen Froggatt and

**RESOLVED** That Council Procedure Rule 7, in respect of Extraordinary Meetings ( Unanimously ) of the Council, be amended to read:

In addition to Ordinary Meetings of the Council, those listed below may request the Director of Corporate and Customer Services to call a meeting of the Council:-

- (a) The Council by resolution
- (b) The Chairman of the Council
- (c) The Monitoring Officer
- (d) Any five councillors if they have signed a requisition. The requisition must specify the reasons for calling a meeting

The summons to the Extraordinary Meeting shall set out the business to be considered and no business other than set out in the summons shall be considered at that meeting, other than Question Time on any item on that agenda

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

Following consideration of this item the meeting was adjourned from 7.30pm to 7.40pm

### **174/20 – MOTION TO CONTINUE**

It was moved by Councillor Jason Atkin, seconded by Councillor Tony Morley and

**RESOLVED** (unanimously) That in accordance with Procedure Rule 13, the meeting continue beyond 2½ hours to enable the business on items 12 and 13 the agenda to be concluded and the remaining items deferred to a future meeting.

**175/20 – REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO FREEDOM LEISURE IN LIGHT OF COVID-19 IMPACTS**

The Council considered the extra funding requirements requested by Freedom Leisure in order to continue to operate the Leisure Centres, following the disruption of services since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. In introducing the report the Director of Community and Environmental Services advised that, following discussions with Freedom Leisure, the amount proposed in recommendation 2 had been reduced to £66,613.

Ian Morley and Andy Harris from Freedom Leisure were present at the meeting to provide clarification and answer questions.

During discussion further information was provided on the action taken Freedom Leisure to engage users who were unable to visit Leisure facilities and it was confirmed that the Active Community Manager was due to return to work at the end of the current lockdown. It was also confirmed that Bakewell Pool would be reopening at the end of the lockdown but some changes had been made to evening swimming sessions to reflect a fall in demand at these times.

Councillors suggested that, in light of the impact on Covid-19 on income and expenditure, there was a need for a workshop on finance towards the end of the current financial year.

It was moved by Councillor Gary Purdy, seconded by Councillor Susan Hobson and

- RESOLVED**
1. To note the support given to date and the information provided by Freedom Leisure on reopening the four leisure facilities and fulfilling what Freedom Leisure set out to do.
  2. To support Freedom Leisure for the remaining 2 months of 2020/21 financial year to the sum of £66,613.
  3. To note the financial support request from Freedom Leisure throughout 2021/22 financial year with an additional £290,000 management fee and to consider this at a future committee if and when required

<b>Voting</b>	In favour	31
	Against	0
	Abstain	5

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED.

Councillors Bright, Chapman and Sutton left the meeting at 8.55pm following consideration of this item.

## 176/20 – ASHBOURNE RECREATION GROUND PAVILION

Following previous approval of the grant of a lease of land and associated sports pitches to Ashbourne Recreation Ground Sport & Community Partnership (“ASCP”) and the provision of capital contributions to the scheme comprising a new sports pavilion building and a programme of sports pitch improvements, the Council considered a proposal to release further capital funding in line with the decision made by the Council at its meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020 where it was agreed that if additional funding was required it would be brought back to Council for a decision.

The report advised the Council that:

- ASCP had been informed by the England & Wales Cricket Board (EWCB) that they were prepared to increase their investment in the project to £250,000 provided that all the spend could be made by 31 January 2021. It was noted that the loss of this funding would have a detrimental impact on the Ashbourne pavilion project resulting in the existing pavilion remaining with the District Council and therefore ongoing revenue costs for the Council.
- There were several other grant applications currently being considered by other funders totalling over £250,000. If all of these applications were successful ASCP would have a total of £865,000 towards the pavilion project. This would enable a contract to be let to the preferred contractor with work commencing in late December and would achieve the required EWCB spend by the end of January 2021.
- If one or more of these applications was unsuccessful then there would be a need to draw down, as required over the length of the construction contract, the reserve funding of £175,000 in recommendation 2 of the report.
- The full £175,000 may not be required and would only be drawn down on an ‘as required’ basis if other external funding applications made by ASCP were successful. In addition the Garfield Weston Foundation fund required that 50% of the capital funding for the project was secured before the application could be considered. If the Council agreed to allocate the funding requested, this would allow the Garfield Weston Application for £50,000 to be considered.

It was moved by Councillor Susan Bull, seconded by Councillor Tom Donnelly and

**RESOLVED**  
(Unanimously)

1. That the outcome of the Public Open Space Consultation and progress on the granting of an Agreement for Lease and, subject to appropriate terms being met, a 50 year lease of land at Ashbourne Recreation Ground with Ashbourne Recreation Ground Sport and Community Partnership (Charity No 1178134) (ASCP) be noted.
2. That the request for additional capital funding recently received from ASCP included as Appendix 1 of this report noted and approved and appropriate provision up to £175,000 made in the Capital Programme

The Chairman declared the motion CARRIED

As the meeting had exceeded the timescales set out in procedure rule 13 the following items were deferred:

Item 14 - Review of the Clean And Green Service

Item 15 - Selection of a Contractor for The Council Housing Programme

Item 16 - Corporate Plan 2020-2024 – Performance 2020/21 and Priorities 2021/22

Item 17 - Housing Capital Item Grant Applications

Item 18 – Capital Programme 2020/21 onwards

Item 19 – Test and Trace Support Payments

Item 20 – Review of Council Assets

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**MEETING CLOSED 9:30PM**

**CHAIRMAN**