

KNOWSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

A Meeting of the Knowsley Town Council was held on Thursday 16 July 2020 via Zoom, commencing at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillors:- J Donnelly (Mayor of the Town Council), L Tomlinson (Deputy Mayor of the Town Council), D J Baum, V Boateng (Co-opted Member), B Donnelly, N Joseph, L O’Keeffe, C Milne, M Seed, I Smith, B Thompson,

Officers: Jane Thomas (Assistant Clerk of the Council)

Apologies: Cllr K Gregory

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Mayor requested a minutes silence in memory of all that have lost their lives to Corona –19 .

1 PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

No questions were received from members of the public.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interests relating to Agenda Item 13 - Town Council Members’ Allowances were received from:

Councillors: D J Baum, B Donnelly, J Donnelly, N Joseph, C Milne, L O’Keeffe, M Seed, I Smith, B Thompson, L Tomlinson,

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 19 March 2020 be agreed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

4. MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEES

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Emergency Committee Meeting held on Monday 23 March 2020 be agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Noted:

Cllr D J Baum commented on item No:181 that this was done in error and has since been rectified.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

The Assistant Clerk of the Council made the following announcements:
Due to the Clerk of the Council being on long term sick a meeting has been arranged for the Assistant Clerk the Mayor and the leader of the council to meet with the Clerk of Whiston to discuss any future support that the Town Council might require.

6. PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS

The following planning applications were considered by members:

20/00088/FUL , 20/00099/FUL , 20/00136/TCA , 20/00162/FUL , 20/00241/FUL ,
20/00265/TEL, 20/00115/FUL, 20/00271/FUL , 20/00267/FUL ,20/00084/FUL ,
20/00291/FUL , 20/00335/TCA , 20/00305/FUL

Following consideration, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that members had no objections to the above planning applications however clarification was requested relating to two applications 20/00265/TEL to confirm exact location, 20/00335/TCA to query other options available to application.

7. FINANCIAL MATTERS (JANUARY TO MARCH 2020) (APRIL TO JUNE 2020)

The Assistant Clerk of the Council provided members with detailed information relating to the financial matters for the period January to March 2020 and April to June .

Following discussion, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that:

- a. Payments made during the period January to March 2020 be approved.
- b. Income received during the period January to March 2020 be approved.
- c. Payments made during the period April to June 2020 be approved.
- b. Income received during the period April to June 2020 be approved.

8. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

The Statement of Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2020 was presented to members by the Assistant Clerk of the Council.

Following consideration, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Statement of Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2020 be approved.

9. INTERNAL AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Members considered the contents of the Internal Auditor's Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2020.

Following consideration, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that:

- a. The contents of the Internal Auditor's Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2020 be noted and approved.

Members thanked the Assistant Clerk of the Council for the work that had been carried out in preparation of the internal Audit.

**10. REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL ON TOWN/
PARISH COUNCIL ALLOWANCES 2020**

The report containing the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for 2020/21 was received by the Town Council on 26 March 2020.

The Panel's recommendation was *"that no parish basic allowance be payable during the financial year 2020/21". "Reasonable out of pocket expenses for travel and subsistence be reimbursed in respect of duties and meetings covered by the relevant regulations"*.

Councils within the Borough of Knowsley are invited each year to submit their views and information on their remuneration schemes.

Following consideration of the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for 2020/21, it was **RESOLVED** that:

- a. The Town Council noted the Independent Remuneration Panel's Report.
- b. The recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel would be advertised in accordance with the Regulations.

(NOTE: That in accordance with Section 8.6(d) of the Town Council's Code of Conduct, all members present declared an interest in the next item, took part in the discussion and voted thereon).

11. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES (2020/21)

The Assistant Clerk of the Council presented a report to members which contained information regarding the payment of members' allowances and the role of the Independent Remuneration Panel. The Independent Remuneration Panel was the body that met on an annual basis to discuss the payment of allowances to all parish and town councillors and make recommendations.

Under Standing Orders 1.4.3 and 1.4.4, Councillor C Milne, called for a recorded vote.

The result of the record vote was as follows:

FOR

Cllr D J Baum
Cllr V Boatang
Cllr B Donnelly
Cllr J Donnelly
Cllr N Joseph
Cllr L O'Keeffe
Cllr B Thompson
Cllr L Tomlinson

AGAINST

Cllr C Milne
Cllr M Seed
Cllr I Smith

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that:

- a. members of the Town Council would receive a basic members' allowance of £846 for the year 2020/21.
- c. the Mayor of the Town Council would receive an allowance of £1,000 for the year 2020/21.
- d. the above allowance covered all travelling and subsistence expenses incurred for activities within the boundaries of Knowsley.

13. ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020- SECTION 1 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Accounts and Audit Regulations changed in 2015. Section 1 of the Annual Return is now the Annual Governance Statement and Section 2 is the Accounting Statement.

The Annual Governance Statement must be approved by the Town Council as soon as possible after the year end and before the Accounts Statement.

Following consideration, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Annual Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2020 be approved by the Town Council and signed by the Chairman.

14. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

Cllr N Joseph and Cllr B Donnelly stated that the Mayor should be complimented for his tremendous leadership and support over the last few months of this pandemic.

Cllr M Seed thanked Knowsley Village residents and the Big Help Project for all the donations that they received over the past few week also the volunteers for all their help and support in delivering the food parcels to the vulnerable within the village. A special thanks to Clive and Charles Rushton and Wendy Hayes for the organising and delivers of all the food.

All members agreed that everyone within the Council and all volunteers did a fantastic job over the last eight weeks.

15. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

The Mayor thanked all members, staff and local volunteers for their outstanding support during the Covid -19 Pandemic and said how the over all response from the community was outstanding.

**The meeting closed
at 8.20 p.m.**

Dated: 16 July 2020

Signed
**Cllr J Donnelly
Mayor of the Town Council**