

# KNOWSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES

A Meeting of the Knowsley Town Council was held on Thursday 17 October 2024, in Room One, Community Pavilion, Pool Hey, Stockbridge Village, commencing at 7.15 p.m.

### *PRESENT*

**Councillors:** J Donnelly (Deputy Mayor of the Town Council), D J Baum, M Burke, B Donnelly, N Joseph, I Smith.

**Officers:** Jane Thomas (Clerk of the Council)

### *APOLOGIES*

**Councillors:** K Gregory , L O’Keeffe , F Wynn.

### *ABSENT*

**Councillors:** V Boateng, B Thompson, L Tomlinson (Mayor of the Town Council).

### **90. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM**

*No questions were received from members of the public.*

### **91. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of Interest were received from the following members:

Cllr D J Baum, Cllr M Burke, Cllr I Smith - Agenda Item 9 - Planning Notifications

### **92. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING**

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 19 September 2024 be agreed as a true and correct record and signed by the Mayor.

### **93. MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEES**

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** (by members of the Committee) that the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Thursday 10 October 2024 be agreed as true record and signed by the Vice-Chair.

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**94. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS**

There were no reports from members.

**95. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR**

There were no announcements from the Deputy Mayor.

**96. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

The Clerk expressed gratitude to all members who participated in the Beating of the Bounds event held on Sunday, 13th October, and reported that the event was a great success.

*(NOTE: That in accordance with the Town Council's Code of Conduct, Cllr D J Baum, Cllr M Burke, Cllr I Smith declared an interest in the next item stayed in the room, did not take part in any discussion and did not vote thereon)*

**97. PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS**

The following planning applications were considered by members:

24/00196/FUL 24/00505/FUL

Following consideration, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that members had no objections to the above planning applications.

**98. EXTERNAL AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Members considered the report of the External Auditor for the Financial Year Ended 31 March 2024. Members noted the External Auditors limited assurance opinions that:

“The AGAR was not accurately completed before submission for review. Section 1, Assertion 1 has been incorrectly completed. It has come to our attention that the council does not have an investment strategy in place and as per the practitioner’s guide “Arrangements need to be in place to ensure that the authority’s funds are managed properly and that any amounts surplus to requirements is invested appropriately, in accordance with an approved strategy which needs to have regard to DLUHC’s statutory Guidance on local government investments. If total investments are to exceed the threshold specified in DLUHC’s statutory guidance at any time during a financial year, the authority needs to produce and approve an annual Investment Strategy in accordance with the DLUHC guidance.”

following thorough consideration, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that:

- a) The External Auditor Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 be approved and accepted by the Town Council.

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- b) Annual Investment Strategy be implemented by the Town Council.

**99. FINANCIAL MATTERS (JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2024)**

Members reviewed the payments, income, and the second quarterly budget report for the period July to September 2024, as presented by the Clerk of the Council. After thorough discussion, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the income, payments, and the quarterly budget report for this period be approved.

**100. INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2024/25**

Members considered the Investment Strategy Policy as presented by the Clerk of the Council. After careful deliberation, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that:

- a) The adoption of the Investment Strategy Policy for the financial year 2024/25 approved and accepted.

**101. TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2024/25**

Members considered the Treasury Management report as presented by the Clerk of the Council. Given the unrestricted interest rates available on a day-to-day basis, it was acknowledged that some flexibility in investment decisions may be required." Following careful deliberation, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that:

- a) Note report.
- b) Approve to invest the unrestricted reserves, with the exact sum to be determined at the time of investment.

**102. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICES**

Members were provided with details of the Remembrance Sunday services scheduled to take place within the Township.

After due consideration, it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that Cllr Bernard Donnelly and Cllr Dennis Baum would, on Sunday 10th November, lay a wreath at the memorial in Stockbridge Village, followed by the wreath laying at the War Memorial in Knowsley Village prior to attending the Remembrance Sunday Service at St. Mary's Church.

**The meeting closed at 7.40 p.m.**

**Dated:** 17 October 2024

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

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