

CLIFFORD CHAMBERS & MILCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting, August 9 2024, 6pm, Jubilee Hall Clifford Chambers

Members Present

Chair, Cllr J. Tribe
Cllr J. Batchelor
Cllr C. Chaggar
Cllr C. Evans
Cllr W. Harrison
Cllr J. Morris

Clerk D. Woodliffe

Meeting opened at 18.30

Although not on the agenda, and in the absence of an agreed Recording Policy, the Chair suggested recording the meeting on his personal equipment in order to ensure minutes were recorded accurately. Council agreed to recording and resolved to agree/adopt Recording policy at the next meeting.

1. Apologies

None

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Internal Audit

3.1 Members to debate the key points and policies raised by the internal auditor and Clerk/RFO's challenge being submitted to the auditor on points raised.

Council had already accepted the internal audit, in full, at a previous meeting, and had not resolved to challenge the findings. The Clerk expanded on her challenge again and stated that her paper had been sent to Moore, external auditor, the day before, making any further discussion unnecessary and immaterial.

3.2 Members to agree and adopt the following policies

- 3.2.1 Privacy policy
- 3.2.2 Risk Management Policy
- 3.2.3 Reserves Policy
- 3.2.4 Model Financial Regulations

The NALC Model policies had been presented at the July meeting but needed amending by the Clerk for local needs, so it had been agreed that they would be reconsidered at the next scheduled meeting on September 18. Policies had not been amended/recirculated for this extraordinary meeting so no discussion possible. Agreed that the Clerk would amend and recirculate in time for Cllrs to study them before the meeting on September 18.

4. Code of Conduct

Members to debate Code of Conduct and, with this in mind, whether members feel mediation is valid, and, if so, to discuss the costs and impact on the budget.

Cllr Evans asked why the PC would want to debate the CoC as it had been agreed and adopted for several years. Cllr Harrison emphasised that mediation had been unanimously agreed in May, as advised by WALC, so the reason for this discussion was unclear. Cllr Tribe had been exploring the topic with WALC and the Monitoring Officer, including the question of funding. The Clerk had previously approached SDC for assistance with funding, without success. Council recognised that mediation would impact on the budget, and various sources of support were discussed. Cllr Tribe had not contacted Clifford Chambers Charities, as requested by Council in May, because he didn't feel comfortable doing so. Resolved that the Clerk would now approach CC Charities to request support with funding (total £1500).

5. Public Open Session

A member of the public expressed concern as to whether mediation would work. Another offered to pay for it herself, to general applause. A visitor from Long Marston spoke in support of the clerk

Meeting closed at 19.35

DONM September 18 2024

Cllr Jon Tribe (Chair)