



Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council held remotely on Monday 5 October 2020 at 7.00pm

Location: held virtually by zoom technology.

Councillors present: Councillors Todd (in the Chair), Altieri-Douglas, Bailey, Feeney, Howe, Hoyle, Nayee, Nolan, Sargent.

Staff : Philip Compton (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public present: 0

Cllrs were reminded all the rules about code of conduct at meetings applied to virtual meetings, and the Clerk confirmed the meeting would be recorded.

FC83/20 Apologies: There were no apologies for absence.

FC84/20 Declarations of interest: There were no declarations of interest.

FC85/20 Public participation: There were no members of the public present at the beginning of the meeting. The Clerk notified Councillors there was a 'participant waiting' to enter the meeting, but that he had had no enquiries from members of the public for the login details.

Postmeeting note: it was confirmed the waiting person was a member of the public who had written to the Clerk requesting access to the meeting, but at 6:36pm that evening, and the Clerk had not seen the email.

FC86/20 Minutes: It was resolved the minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2020 were approved as an accurate record, subject to:

- The amendment that Cllrs Howe and Sargent were in favour of playgrounds, and refurbishing the Ashpole Furlong playground, but not in the way that was proposed (page 4, item FC73/20).
- And subject to the understanding that the exact wording of the request for the recorded vote at FC73/20, and the reasoning provided for the recorded vote, was not included in the minutes as it was part of a Standards Complaint with MKC, and that the minutes were a record of the meeting as a whole and not a verbatim record.

FC87/20 Ashpole Furlong play area reversal of previous resolution: On the agenda was a motion under the standing order 7(a) to reverse the previous Full Council's resolution (FC73/20) not to proceed with the Ashpole Furlong Play Area project in Loughton and associated cost (£7,391).

Upon request by Councillors, and since publication of the agenda, the Clerk had sought advice from the SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks), and BucksALC (Buckinghamshire

Association of Local Clerks), as to requirements for having on the agenda reversal of a previous resolution, as it was a general principle that no resolution should be discussed for six months afterwards, because there was an assumption that the previous resolution was made upon consideration of the relevant facts. Both advisory groups had provided advice to the effect that if no further information had come to light the motions on the current agenda (FC87/20 and FC88/20) were ultra vires and should not be discussed.

The Chair used standing order 1Q – to decide upon a point of order on debate at meetings, and the meeting proceeded, motions were discussed and voted upon.

A query was raised as to the timing of the request to have the previous Full Council decision reversed, and the Chair confirmed the timing was accurate, following the Standing Orders.

Discussion was held along the lines that were minuted in the previous Full Council meeting (items FC72/20 and FC73/20 refer).

The Chair considered new information had come to light, in that firstly Cllr Dyer was not present at the last (September) Full Council meeting, and secondly that the playground equipment had already been purchased by MKC. It was noted the Parish's relationship with MKC would be negatively impacted by the last resolution at the last meeting, as it would likely mean a cost incurred by MKC.

Councillors considered this information should have been shared prior to the meeting, rather than during the meeting as it did not provide time for consideration and deliberation.

Councillors queried why only half the previous resolution was presented for reversal at this meeting (see item FC73/20 and FC88/20 below), where previously retrospective approval of the Chair as signatory to the application had been sought.

A query was raised as to whether there was any conflict of interest regarding voting on the matter as the Chair was (alongside MKC) signatory to the grant application for the project, and approval for the project was being sought by the Chair.

Action: A vote was held:

Those in favour: 4

Those against: 5

Abstain: 1

The motion failed and the Strategic Landscape and Countryside Manager at MKC would be informed accordingly.

FC88/20 Ashpole Furlong Play Area: As the previous motion had failed, the agenda item to consider approval of the Ashpole Furlong Play Area project in Loughton and associated cost (£7,391), was redundant.

Date and time of Next Meeting: Monday 19 October 2020 at 7.30pm

The Meeting was declared closed at 07:30pm.