

MINUTES of the meeting of **ROYSTON TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Heritage Hall, Town Hall, Royston at 7.30pm on Monday 11th November 2024.

PRESENT: Councillor Rees (Mayor) in the Chair
Councillors Adams, Antony, Beardwell, Freeman, Harrison, Haugh, Jani and Langdon

In attendance: Town Clerk
County Councillor Hill
1 member of the public

Revd Steven Sivyer from the Royston Parish Church led the meeting in prayer. The Chair welcomed everybody to the meeting and informed those present that the meeting was being recorded.

The Chair reminded Members to be mindful of the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency declared by Royston Town Council when making decisions on behalf of the Council.

202/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

There was none.

203/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies were received from Councillor Birch – work commitments, Councillor Compton – work commitments, Councillor Inwood – illness, Councillor Lockett – holiday and Councillors Brown and Squire-Smith – no reasons given.

Members **RESOLVED** to accept the apologies from Councillors Birch, Compton, Inwood and Lockett for the reasons given.

Members noted the apologies from Councillors Brown and Squire-Smith.

204/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS:

Members were advised to declare any interests at the commencement of the relevant item on the agenda. No requests for dispensations were received.

205/25 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Mayor detailed the engagements and events that he had attended since he gave his last update at the Full Council meeting on 23rd September 2024:

- Royston Arts Society's Art Exhibition in the Town Hall
- Creative Royston's Gala in the Gardens event in Priory Memorial Gardens
- Art gallery at Curwens Solicitors
- Cash Access UK drop-in session at No.41
- Charity collections for Homestart and for Royston Rotary Club
- Royston Golf Club's 400th Anniversary event
- Kitchen refurbishment unveiling at Royston Methodist Church
- The Town Council's Silver Sunday event in the Town Hall
- Royston Town Mayor's Charity Quiz Night
- Menopause Café at the Old Bull Inn
- Black History celebration as part of Black History Month at Hertford County Hall
- Royston Town Women's football fixture against Newport Pagnell
- Meet up events for the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce and Melbourn Business Association
- Propellor Memorial Service for the 91st Bomber Group at Bassingbourn Barracks
- Royston's Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day Parade and Services

206/25 MINUTES:

Members **RESOLVED** to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 23rd September 2024 (minutes 125/25 to 144/25).
The minutes were signed by the Chair.

207/25 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES:

It was **RESOLVED** that the following minutes, which have already been adopted as a correct record, were adopted into the workings of the Council:

- a) The meeting of the Finance Committee held on:
 - 30th September 2024 (minutes 145/25 to 159/25)
- b) The meeting of the Planning Committee held on:
 - 7th October 2024 (minutes 160/25 to 167/25)

208/25 MINUTES OF COMMITTEES:

It was **RESOLVED** that the following minutes, which have not already been adopted as a correct record, be adopted into the workings of the Council:

- a) The meeting of the General Purposes and Highways Committee held on:
 - 14th October 2024 (minutes 168/25 to 181/25)
- b) The meeting of the Finance Committee held on:
 - 28th October 2024 (minutes 182/25 to 195/25)

209/25 SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY AND RISK ASSESSMENT:

Members **RESOLVED** to adopt the Sexual Harassment Policy and Risk Assessment on Sexual Harassment into the workings of the council.

210/25 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS ON TOWN COUNCIL ACTIVITIES AND AS REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS:

Councillor Freeman gave a report on her visits last week to Icknield Walk and King James Academy schools. She detailed that there had been some engaging discussions with the children and she had invited some of the students from King James Academy to attend the Town Council's future committee meetings.

211/25 CLERK'S REPORT:

The Town Clerk informed members that the portrait of King Charles III and the Town Council's portrait had been put on display in the Town Hall. She reported that there had been a few applications for the Town Crier vacancy but that it would be good to get more and encouraged members to spread the word.

Date of next meeting: 20th January 2024.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.51pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Date _____