

**Minutes of the meeting of the
GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
held on Monday 14th February 2022 at 7:53pm
at the Rochford Day Centre, 33a Back Lane, Rochford**

Councillors present: Chairman R Gardner, Mrs L Dalby, S May & Mrs M Weir.

GP 22/35 Receive apologies for absence:

Apologies were received from Cllr R Patient & Cllr M Strubel.

GP 22/36 Declarations of any:

- a) **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest;**
- b) **Other Pecuniary Interest; or**
- c) **Non-Pecuniary Interest**

on any matter on the agenda for 14th February 2022:

Members made no declarations relating to a), b) or c) or any change in their Register of Members' Interests.

GP 22/37 Public Forum:

No public were present.

GP 22/38 Approve Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th November 2021 and to approve the destruction of the notes in respect of that meeting:

It was **resolved** that the minutes from the meeting held on 8th November 2021 were approved as a correct record and Members agreed to the destruction of the notes in respect of that meeting.

GP 22/39 Action Update List - February 2022:

22/39.1 The Local Highways Panel (LHP) submission for the 'information/warning' sign regarding the pinch point at Thorpe Road/Main Road was still under consideration. ECC Cllr Mrs L Shaw would keep Members updated. It was noted the matter was taking a considerable amount of time. A Member mentioned issues around Hawkwell Park Drive and felt that was a more pressing matter to resolve.

22/39.2 A new lighting column had been installed at Elizabeth Close. The lighting contractor was waiting for UK Power Networks (UKPN) to disconnect the old column and connect the new one before the old column could be removed.

22/39.3 Cllr R Gardner had collected anti-littering items from ECC offices. Some had been distributed and the remainder were in the Magnolia store.

22/39.4 Council's streetlights list had been circulated. Members agreed to close the item. It was **resolved** that Members accepted the Action List update and agreed to the removal of closed items.

GP 22/40 Financial Report – January 2022:

There were no questions. It was **resolved** that Members accepted the Financial Report.

GP 22/41 Confirmation of the renewal of Council's streetlighting energy contract: 4 years with SSE:

The Clerk explained that she had managed to secure a deal with the annual costs on par with the old contract. Lower costs were also due to the changeover to LEDs.

GP 22/42 Queen's Platinum Jubilee Working Group (QPJWG) – Notes of the meeting held on the 31st January 2022:

Members received the notes. Members of the QPJWG discussed the issue that the group had been unable to agree on various matters. It was noted that the election of a Chairman may assist the group when it came to tied voting and the need for a casting vote. A member of the QPJWG felt the group lacked numbers which meant any ideas could not easily be brought to fruition. Members of the QPJWG discussed ideas for events and Chairman R Gardner advised that the group reconvene, set their Terms of Reference (ToR), and set out clear recommendations to bring back to the General Purposes Committee, or if necessary given time constraints, refer to Full Council for approval.

GP 22/43 Receive Notes of Working Group:

a. Community Engagement Working Group (CEWG) meetings held on the 8th November 2021 and 7th February 2022:

Members received the notes. It was noted another defibrillator had been fitted and would need to be registered with the ambulance service. It was noted a high-vis jacket was missing from the new defibrillator and the Community Heartbeat Trust would be contacted accordingly. The Clerk also reported works on the White Hart Garage wall where the other new defibrillator would be fitted would soon commence; it was hoped the defibrillator could then be installed accordingly.

b. Christmas Lights Working Group (CLWG) meeting held on the 7th February 2022:

Members received the notes. The Clerk circulated information on new set pieces for Golden Cross; Members were to let the Clerk know which piece(s) they would like to order.

c. Christmas Parcels Working Group (CPWG) meeting held on the 7th February 2022:

Members received the notes.

GP 22/44 Summary of Decisions:

- QPJWG to meet again and set its ToR and a clear outline of its recommendations.
- Members of the CLWG to decide on set piece(s) for Golden Cross.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:12pm

Chairman