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Minutes

Meeting of : Full Council
Date : 8 March 2021
Meeting held : via Microsoft Teams
Commencing at : 6:30pm

Present:

Chair: Cllr J Walsh

Vice Chair: Cllr C Corbin

Cllrs: J Baber MBE, S Berry, D Brown OBE, B Dalton, T Corbin, K Daley, M Dean, J Farquhar, A Foster S Hocking, A Hoque, S Jackson, J Lindley, Dr M McClelland, F Moody, J Nettle, M Osment, L Sirman, J Broom, and I Tomes.

Officers: Annie Child, Estelle Sherry, Tom Simpkins and Yaroslav Pustarnakov.

1029. Apologies:

All members were present.

1030. Public Questions/Statement Time:

There were no questions or statements submitted by the public.

1031. Councillor Questions/Statement Time:

There were no questions or statements submitted by Councillors.

1032. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the last meeting of the Full Council held on 18 January 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

1033. Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

1034. Dispensations:

No dispensations were requested.

1035. Referral of Minutes:

Councillors reviewed and noted the minutes as listed below

Planning	25 Jan 2021
Services	8 Feb 2021
Planning	22 Feb 2021

1036. Chairman's Announcements:

The Chairman made the following announcement:

A very quiet period as you would expect. I have stayed at home and only ventured out for shopping, exercise and a couple of time on Councillor business which could not be adequately done from home.

In February Peter Chubb a past mayor of the City in 1993-94 died and I will be attending his funeral this week as your representative. Peter organized the past Mayor's annual dinner for many years after his time as a Councillor and I would like to record our thanks for his contribution to the City.

I am conscious that this is the last time we will meet as a full Council until after the local elections. As your Mayor, I would like to thank all Councillors for your service to the community, in what has been an eventful 4 years. We have had some interesting discussions over the time, and I believe you can all go home happy with your collective contribution. It remains to simply wish those who plan to stand again the very best of luck.

I am conscious that any successes we had were often because of the hard work of our officers behind the scenes. So, it is only fitting to record our grateful thanks to them and particularly to Annie Child for her leadership.

Finally, I would like to give you an informal briefing on Mayor Making. As we all know our Mayor Making is second to none and need a considerable amount of planning which would normally start about now.

A meeting of the Mayor, the Mayor elect, the Deputy Mayor and officers was convened last week to discuss the best way forward given the uncertainty which

will surround the next couple of months. After looking at a couple of options, it was decided to minimize the occasion and to only complete the legal niceties in front of Councillors in mid-May.

Councillors are asked to cancel the 15th May and put 5.30pm 17th May in their diaries. Full details and confirmation of the above will come out in due course.

1037. Leader's Report:

The Leader gave the following report:

To-day we celebrate the Commonwealth Day, and the Commonwealth flag is flying over the Guildhall, sadly we cannot have any formal events because of the current situation. It is also International Women's Day. Women make up 50% of the population but are still underrepresented, in many institutions including this Council where there are only 4 women Councillors. We need to encourage more women generally and women and men from ethnic minorities to stand as councillors in the future.

Time is slipping by and this administration is coming to an end, elections are just around the corner after which a new council will be formed. This Conservative-led council has achieved a great deal over the past 4 years and all the councillors have worked very hard to the benefit of our residents.

Inevitably, there have been some hurdles to get over not least the Novichok incident. Salisbury became the name that was on everybody's lips but for all the wrong reasons in 2018. Sergei & Yulia Skripal were attacked with a nerve agent in the middle of the City on a Sunday afternoon. The Skripals survived this terrible incident and so did Sgt Nick Bailey but sadly his long term health suffered and he had to leave the police force—sadly ending his police career. The two other persons who became contaminated were Dawn Sturgess and Charlie Rowley, the former sadly dying. We all wish her family well. The local community rallied round and we all continued with our lives which was truly remarkable. So many residents offered kindness to the many police officers that were seconded to Salisbury to help protect us. We all pulled together.

Then we had to deal with the arrival of Covid 19 in March of last year. It was a very difficult time for the whole of the country's population. Overnight pubs, restaurants, cafes, and retail shops were closed. Sadly, many have closed permanently. People have died in the pandemic, but many survived thanks to the outstanding health care that has been provided by SDH and GPs. I think I can safely say that we are all looking forward to a brighter future—with the help of the vaccine.

The Council had to adapt quickly to the new situation. The council officers started to work from home and have been extremely efficient in their work

practices. On behalf of all the councillors I want to thank the staff for keeping our services going. Teams meetings' now feel the norm but it will be wonderful to sit around the table in the Guildhall to discuss and debate issues.

With prudent budgets the Conservative Council has provided excellent services for our residents. The state of the City 4yrs ago was dreadful, there was so much rubbish and litter in the market square and streets. This was the council's first priority to clean up the centre of Salisbury. More bins were installed, the market square was cleaned on a daily basis. It now looks wonderful of which we can all be proud of, it especially looks amazing in the summer months with the trees & flowers in full bloom. In 2019 the City was declared the Cleanest City in GB.

John Maine the sculptor is presenting the City with one of his beautiful sculptures entitled Turning Point, this will soon be in place in the coming months. This will be an added attraction for residents & tourists.

Two water fountains have been installed in the City, one in the market square & one in the High Street. These water fountains will encourage people to re-fill their water bottles and not buy plastic bottles of water which are then thrown away & which cause so many long-term problems.

CCTV is another success, residents can feel safer with cameras installed around the City. This conservative Council has invested resources in order that this project is successful. We also support Pub Watch & City Watch, these initiatives all help to provide security for our residents.

In 2019 Salisbury City welcomed the cycling Tours Series, this was extremely successful with many residents lining the pavements encouraging the participants, the City had a real buzz & we hope that this event will return to Salisbury in the near future.

The City has very close links to the Armed Forces, so it was very exciting when Salisbury was chosen to celebrate Armed Forces Day. In 2019 on a very hot day the City welcomes Princess Anne to Armed Forces Day. The day was a very exciting one for our City and it gave us the chance to thank the Armed Forces who do so much for us.

More mundane things but in the past year the Council has undertaken the refurbishment of the public toilets--- at great expense.

This council has begun Climate Change Initiatives which include the installation of solar panels on the buildings that are owned by the council. Work has commenced on the council's carbon footprint. We are waiting for the arrival of our first electric council vehicle, and we hope there will be many others in the

future. Tree planting is well under way around the City again, this is to be continued.

The Council has supported many grant applications for local charities and good cause to support our residents with a variety of services. The Community Team in collaboration with Wiltshire Community Action (WCA) to set up a voluntary service for vulnerable people in the first lockdown. In an amazingly short time, a team of volunteers were recruited and allocated to mainly elderly residents who needed help with shopping & collecting prescriptions. I am delighted to announce that WCA & the Council are going to be the recipient of a Wiltshire High Sheriff's Award for Services to the Community. Our thanks go to Annie Scadden and Amber Skyring who jointly organised the project.

Just recently the lottery has been launched with 34 good causes signing up to raise funds for charities & good causes, but the council will benefit from this scheme---it is expected that the council will receive approx. £4.000 per annum.

The Community Supermarket will be opening its doors very soon. This will help families who are struggling to cope with buying food for their families, many have been furloughed or been made redundant. This is our council supporting the local community.

I would just like to mention Cllr Charles Rogers who sadly died nearly a year ago. He was a friend and a Councillor who worked hard representing the Conservative Party in his ward. We all wish his widow Gay & the family well for the future.

Finally, I would like to thank all my fellow Councillors who work very hard on behalf of the City. Also thank you to the Clerk Annie Child and all her staff who have supported all of us over the past 4 years.

I am stepping down this year, but I would like to wish all of you who are seeking re-election the very best.

I have lived in Salisbury for many years, and I can honestly say I have never seen it look so good—we are now waiting patiently for the businesses to re-open their doors to our residents and tourists. We all want the city to return to normal with people enjoying this amazingly beautiful city.

1038. Update from Salisbury Area Board:

The Chairman of Salisbury Area Board (SAB), Cllr Hoque referred councillors and members of the public to SAB minutes for more information regarding the Board's activities and a written report will be sent out with the minutes.

1039. Committees and Working Group Report:

- 1039.1. The Chairman of the Communities and Values Working Group, Councillor Berry, informed Councillors that he had no updates to give because the Group has not met recently.
- 1039.2 The Chairman of the Land and Property Working Group, Cllr Berry, gave the following updates: Wiltshire Council has been awarded 69% of the funds they have applied for from the Future High Street Bid and part of this fund will go towards restoration of 47 Blue Boar Row.
- 1039.3 The Bunker is no longer leased to the Liferocks CIC. The property has been secured, and the Council is carrying out minor repair works, whilst considering viable community use options for this property.
- 1039.4 The Council is preparing a detailed property portfolio and management plan and the Council received planning permission for 18 College Street.
- 1039.5 The Chairman of the Environmental Working Group, Councillor Farquhar, provided Councillors with a written report which is attached to these minutes. He noted that the Council is working on a new ground's maintenance contract. A detailed report on this matter will be brought to Services Committee in September 2021.

1040. Update from Outside Representatives:

Councillor Jackson informed Councillors that Salisbury Museum is closed until 17 May. Nonetheless, museum's staff are preparing fundraising activities to fulfil conditions of the indicative fund, and they are looking forward to welcoming visitors during the summer season.

The Chairman brought forth for discussion agenda item 17 and 18 to give applicants an opportunity to make supporting statements earlier on in the meeting.

1041. City Grant Application:

- 1041.1. The Chairman invited Mr Christian Lange, Treasurer of the Salisbury Transition City, to make a statement in support of this application.
- 1041.2. The Council considered City Grant Application from Salisbury Transition City, and it was:

Resolved to:

- 1041.3. Approve a £1,000 grant for Salisbury Transition City.

1042. Cultural Grant Application:

- 1042.1. The Chairman invited Mr Sebastian Warrack, Executive Director of Wiltshire Creative, to make a statement in support of this application.

1042.2. Following some discussion, it was:

Resolved to:

1042.3. Approve a grant of £20,000 to Wiltshire Creative on 1 Apr 2021 and invite Wiltshire Creative to apply for an additional grant of £10,000 in six months' time.

1043. Lower Bemerton Recreation Ground Trust –Authorised Signatories:

The responsible Finance Officer introduce her report concerning signatories for the Lower Bemerton Recreation Ground Trust. It was:

Resolved that :

1043.1. The Council, as Trustees of the Lower Bemerton Recreation Ground Trust, will appoint three Councillors to act as authorised signatories for the Salisbury City Council Bank Account held on behalf of the Lower Bemerton Recreation Ground Trust; and that authorised Signatories in the current mandate be changed in accordance with those approved at this meeting of Full Council, and that the current mandate will continue as amended.

1043.2. Cllrs T Corbin, Hoque and Nettle volunteered to be authorised signatories.

1044. Wiltshire Local Plan Review Response:

The Council considered the recommendations of the Planning Committee held on 22 Feb 2021 and discussed the issues in full. It was:

Resolved to:

1044.1. Approve the final response for Wiltshire Local Plan Review as recommended by the Planning Committee, and as shown in the draft responses circulated in advance of the meeting, but delete part of para SB9 of the Local Plan Review Response which reads as follows "*Salisbury City Council therefore requests that Wiltshire Council considers safeguarding potential route corridors for a bypass or outer relief road to ensure that sites for housing development do not overlap with realistic future routes to resolve Salisbury's congestion problems.*

1045. No Engine Idling Signs:

The Council considered a Notice of Motion from Councillor Hoque as follows:

Consistent with its environmental commitments and objectives Salisbury City Council (SCC) wishes to see Wiltshire Council (WC) install 'no engine idling' signs within the City Centre and adjacent to schools, and requests that an

officer to officer dialogue commences to achieve this objective.

and it was:

Resolved to:

1045.1. Agree Councillor Hoque's Notice of Motion.

1046. Council Meeting Dates 2021-2022:

The Council considered the meeting dates calendar for 2021-2022, and it was:

Resolved to:

1046.1. Change the Planning Committee date from 10 May 2021 to 17 May 2021 at 1830.

1046.2. Cancel the Full Council meeting on Sat 15 May 2021 at 1200 and move this meeting to Mon 17 May at 1730.

1046.3. Agree the Calendar of Meetings for 2021/22 with these changes noted.

1047. Co-Option Process:

The Council considered the draft Co-Option Policy, and it was:

Resolved to:

1047.1. Approve the Co-Option Policy.

1048. Matters, if any, which by reason of special circumstances the Chairman decides should be considered as a matter of urgency.

There were 25 members of the public and 1 member of the press present.

The meeting closed at 9:40pm.

The Council agreed to its extension beyond 3 hours, in accordance with SCC's Standing Orders.

Environmental Working Group Report to Full Council

8 March 2021

Parks & Open Spaces Update

Grounds Team – The Grounds team are currently preparing for the summer season. Supervisory staff are organising for various grounds maintenance equipment and tools to be serviced. Grass cutting will commence around 6 April. The team have also been mulching beds and pruning trees as part of their winter activities.

Trees – 56 replacement trees have been recently planted.

Harnham – The grass area outside Harnham Old Mill has been planted to discourage sunbathing and the associated anti-social behaviour.

Park Officers – Officers have been dealing with arrangements for external summer events, as well as organising the watering plan for our floral displays. They have also been looking to increase wildflowers in the parks and open spaces.

Road Plainings – Road plainings have been used to fill potholes on the Fisherton Track. The next focus will be the tracks at New Bridge Road and to Harnham Social Club.

Network Rail – Network Rail have approached SCC seeking permission to cross our land at Western Way (mid-March to mid-June), in order to undertake works they have planned to improve Wilton Junction. We are currently in discussion with Network Rail to see if they would make a contribution in kind eg additional trees in exchange of this access.

Harnham Hill (or Slope) – Paths need to be widened behind Harnham school and the Social Club so they can be used by horse riders. The plan is to widen the path, cut the vegetation back and increase signage permitting use by horse riders.

Catering Concessions – A number of applications have been received for catering concessions in the parks. The tender was issued in February. Responses have been evaluated and final discussions are currently underway with the applicants.

Art Centre – The Art Centre has requested permission to cater from the green space outside the building. Discussions are currently taking place.

Churchill Garden Paths – The worst areas have been addressed and we are currently seeking an additional £5k to fix other paths, which would benefit from similar works. It is noted that we will soon have to address the paving slabs around the toilet block, which will be kept in a safe condition, whilst we prepare a longer term solution.

Bishopdown Road Sign – It was agreed to take down the old Salisbury District Council sign, because of change in the road layout and deterioration of the sign.

Covid – There are currently no Covid cases within the Grounds team.

Facilities Update

The Electric Point - The power point on the toilet block for concession vehicles at Churchill Gardens has now been completed.

Public Toilets - Investigations are currently taking place concerning failure of one of the soakaways in the Market Square toilets. All other public toilets are open.

Lush House Car Park – All works have been completed, except work on the lighting, which will be completed later this month.

18 College Street – Planning permission has now been granted for a new building on the site. We will recycle any equipment that will be of use, such as signage and fire alarms.

Crematorium – We are currently in the process of finalising our arrangements to connect the heat exchanger on 13 March.

Blue Boar Row - Remedial electrical works have been carried out. Simpson Hilder have surveyed the roof and their report will be published this week.

Bunker – Facilities are working with the grounds team to clear ground on top of the bunker to locate a leak in the roof.

Victoria Park Kiosk – Facilities are working with parks to get this ready for concessions. The property was cleaned on the 4 March and the electrical team will start work shortly.

Crematorium

Crematorium - has been operating at full capacity for the last couple of months. There were 170 cremations last month (February) with 160 services booked for March. To manage this additional demand, the team have been operating Saturday services and extra cremations in the evening. Services in the day have been reduced from 60 minutes to 45 minutes to increase capacity. Currently 22 mourners can attend, and the visual tribute screen has now been installed and running well. Staff are still working in two bubbles.

The Manager is attending monthly meetings with Wiltshire Council and cremation managers in the area. Last month, Salisbury was the busiest crematorium in Wiltshire.

Cemeteries – Cemeteries are being well used, with 5 services booked at the Avenue cemetery. The Team is regularly checking for non-permissible items left on the graves at the Avenue cemetery.

CCTV Update

Operations – CCTV/radios are operating well. Due to Covid restrictions there is only one operator in the control room at any time. Two operatives will be used, when it is safe to do so (which will help with training our new recruits). SCC have received 40 requests from the police over the past two months for assistance with investigations.

Maintenance – During March, Open View are undertaking their annual planned maintenance of the system.

Friary – Wiltshire Council housing have reported an increase in fly tipping on the Friary Estate and have asked for cameras to be sited there.

Mobile Cameras – Funding to be sought for a mobile camera to be sited at the top end of St Ann's street. The City Clerk has written to the PCC to request funding. A mobile camera company has offered a camera on loan for demonstration purposes, which will be accepted.

Street Scene

Covid – Three cases of Covid were reported in the Idverde team; two have returned to work and the third is recovering at home.

East Hants – East Hants Enforcement Officers will be back patrolling the streets on 3 May 2021.

Market Place Parking – Currently, enforcement of parking in the Market Place is being determined by the legal department of Wiltshire Council.

Exeter St/Brown St Cycle Lane – Removal of the cycle lanes was undertaken between 1 and 2 of March.

Blue Boar Row – Resurfacing and drainage works were completed at the beginning of March.

Shrub Maintenance – Winter shrub maintenance will be completed in two weeks.

Venture Statistics – 256 incidents were reported in February 2021, with begging overtaking street drinking for the first time.

Parish Stewards – A new team of Parish Stewards has recently started. At the moment, they are working in Castle St, Milford St and Endless St. The black top infill outside Sprinkles has now been completed.

Bench Refurbishments – Bench refurbishments continue, with the High St, St Thomas's Square, the Cheese Market and Fish Row now completed. Next on the list: St John's St, Queens St, the Riverwalk from Crane Bridge to Bridge St and a couple at the town end of Fisherton St.

Litter – Currently, have issues with litter from street drinkers on the riverbank behind the library. This area was cleaned three times last week and all partners are aware.

A338 – The A338 will be cleaned in the evenings during March.

Piggy Lane – A 7 day litter pick was completed on the Laverstock and Ford side and WC are currently looking for a second set of dragon's teeth to create a chicane to make vehicular access very difficult.

A-Boards – After conversations with partners and the BID, it has been agreed to relax A-board enforcement during the present time to support the reopening of businesses. SCC supports this approach as long as it is not an obstruction to pedestrian traffic.

Encircles – Due to issues around the Encircles gathering at Library Walk, it has been agreed the food distribution point should move to the coach station later this week.

Street Scene Officer – Jacqui Neale (our new Street Scene Officer) commenced work on 1 March.

General

Ground Maintenance Contract Evaluation

The group set up to evaluate the options for the new contract are meeting on a regular basis and progressing well. A timetable has been produced covering the two year period of Oct 2020 – 2022. Currently, the cost element is being evaluated and is 85% complete. The evaluation of the other three options will be undertaken as per the timetable with a paper going to the Services Committee via ENWG in September 2021.

Environmental Project Updates – Of the 40 actions in the Environmental Project Action Plan (EPAP), 6 projects are complete, 31 in progress and 3 have not yet commenced.

We have completed:

- An audit of the Council's environmental impact.
- Water efficient design, which is incorporated in all new projects.
- Cycle to work scheme.
- Carbon baseline assessment, informing us of our carbon footprint.
- The grey water harvest tank at the depot.
- Caravan site heat pump.
- Order for new hybrid vehicle (was due to arrive on Jan 21, now May).

Website

It has been noted that the SCC website and especially the web pages listing our environmental, Street Scene and Climate Change activities need refreshing and more information.

The following have been noted:

- More pictures of our completed projects and details of our achievements.
- Information on our Carbon Baseline Assessment.
- Sub-menu for projects.
- Timely updated list of committee minutes and papers.
- Links to environmental groups locally and internationally.
- Current Climate Change projects.
- Information about SCC water usage.
- Recycling and waste disposal information.
- An interactive page.

Salisbury Area Board Report

Over the last 4 years Salisbury Area Board has given out over £400k in funding to 217 projects

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Total
Community Grant	£65,111.57	£58,776.00	£73,150.67	£67,078.00	£264,116.24
Youth Grant	£24,060.41	£23,113.04	£32,145.00	£22,542.00	£101,860.00
Health & Wellbeing Grant	£7,326.87	£7600.98	£14,407.00	£7,700.00	£37,034.85
Total	£96,498.85	£89,490.02	£119,702.67	£97,320.00	£403,011.09

Spotlight on Salisbury Area Board funded projects:

Salisbury Repair Café - <https://www.salisburyrepaircafe.org/> - Awarded £1000.00

This project set up a monthly Salisbury community repair cafe where volunteers with repair skills joined together with people who have broken or unwanted items to teach them how to repair and repurpose their own items. This project raises awareness of the need to live sustainably and promote ways of doing so to prevent items being thrown away unnecessarily as well as providing a social meeting point for the community.

Since its formation in November 2019 up to the start of the pandemic, Salisbury Repair Café has calculated these impressive numbers:



Silver Salisbury 2020 - <https://www.silversalisbury.co.uk/> - Awarded £1000.00

175 older people in Salisbury had a visit from a volunteer delivering afternoon tea on Silver Sunday October 4th, the first Sunday following International Older People's Day. This initiative by Irene Kohler Salisbury Area Boards Older people's Champion, celebrated Silver Sunday by taking afternoon tea to older people unable to get out and about or still isolating or shielding. The volunteers who delivered the teas said it was wonderful to see the pleasure on people's faces when they answered the door finding someone on their doorstep with a delivery that was a treat, rather than essential shopping or prescription delivery.



Rise 61 – Bike Hub - <https://www.rise61.org/> - Awarded £5000.00

The Bike Hub project opened in October 2017, with volunteers teaching young people to fix and maintain bikes, which improves both practical skills and confidence. Rise 61 work with any young person but are particularly interested in working with young people who are struggling in mainstream education or who are currently unemployed and not at college. Their long term vision of the project is to offer apprenticeships and further accredited qualifications.

