

ASSET & SERVICES COMMITTEE
SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ASSETS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING held remotely via the online platform “Zoom” and in accordance with the Coronavirus Act, C 7, Part 1 Local Authority Meetings, Section 78. This Act allows members to be present and attend a meeting without being present in the Council Chamber or together in the same place.

Date of meeting: **Monday 25th January 2021** at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Asker, Coote, Freeman (Chair), Frost, Gadd, Light, McLellan and Roberts

Officers: Lisa Courtney, Town Clerk and Terry Frostick, Operations Manager
 Mr Bob Goldsmith, Information and Communications Officer at Uttlesford District Council (UDC)

Also Present: Louise Dunderdale, The Reporter

A & S 001-21	Apologies for absence All Members present
A & S 002-21	Declarations of Interest Cllrs Asker, Coote, Freeman and Light declared generic non-pecuniary interests as members of Uttlesford District Council.
A & S 003-21	Minutes of the last meeting of the Assets & Services Committee The minutes of the Assets & Services Committee meeting held on 23 rd November 2020 were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.
A & S 004-21	Public Speaking Time There were no questions or matters arising from the public
A & S 005-21	Update from UDC’s Information and Communications Officer, Covid Action Team Mr Bob Goldsmith was present and spoke further to the Committee, providing details of his role and remit at UDC. He noted that it is a temporary position, originally planned to terminate March 2021 but it is likely (and subject to funding) that the post will continue for some considerable time. Following his presentation, Mr Goldsmith addressed a range of queries arising from Members. He was thanked for his attendance and sharing of useful information and left the meeting.

A & S 006-21	<p>Town Centre Pedestrianisation</p> <p>The Town Clerk provided a brief resume of work and considerations taken to date, noting the need for, and benefit of, working with a range of partners in delivering the best outcomes for the consultation and any longer term pedestrianisation of the town. The Clerk advised that further details would come forward to a future meeting and it was anticipated that the public consultation would include issues and options for people to comment upon.</p>
A & S 007-21	<p>Bloor Homes / Mortimer Gate</p> <p>Committee noted the summary as provided on the agenda, namely that the transfer of the land from the developer is still awaited and the following must be resolved prior to any transfer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Query on the actual definition of land for transfer (b) Query regarding access issues over public open space (c) Queries around the installation and provision of street furniture (d) Queries regarding the installation and compliance of the play area (e) Queries around S106 payments (f) Noted this was not an exhaustive list
A & S 008-21	<p>Lime Avenue Football Pitches</p> <p>Cllr Gadd provided an update following the recent meeting with Persimmon Homes at which positive progression was made and anticipated that a resolution to outstanding queries may be forthcoming</p>
A & S 009-21	<p>Urgent Information Items</p> <p>Cllr Gadd reported on the tree planting to take place at the top end of the Golden Mile and Elisabeth Way</p>
A & S 010-21	<p>Date and time of Next Meeting</p> <p>Noted and agreed as being Monday 22nd February 2021 at 7.30pm (via Zoom).</p>
A & S 011-21	<p>Confidential Item</p> <p>It was resolved that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972</p>
A & S 012-21	<p>Nat West Bank</p> <p>The Operations Manager provided an update on discussions held with the leasing agent and advised the bank would be arranging separation works (separating the Town Council owned element of the building from the main structure) in due course. It was noted that</p>

	<p>discussions continued around opportunities for the refurbishment of the Town Council owned part of the building. It was</p> <p>Resolved:</p> <p>That Officers continue with discussions with the leasing agent, to reach an amicable conclusion to the lease agreement.</p>
<p>A & S 013-21</p>	<p>Bridge End Gardens – Legacy Grant</p> <p>The Operations Manager spoke further to the report as provided. Committee approved the principles as outlined within the report</p>
<p>A & S 014-21</p>	<p>Street Services</p> <p>Committee noted and received the report and thanked the Town Clerk and Operations Manager for their pragmatic approach towards resolving a long-standing query. It was</p> <p>Resolved:</p> <p>To support the recommendation as contained within the report, noting that any agreement must be underpinned with a Service Level Agreement (SLA) and supported with appropriate funds. This matter to revert to Committee once a draft SLA is agreed amongst all parties and for final determination.</p>

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm