

## TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

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## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TODMORDEN TOWN COUNCIL

Held remotely on

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7:30pm

- Councillors present:** - R Coleman – Taylor (Mayor), The Revd. G Kent (Deputy Mayor), S Martin, A Hollis, T Roberts, L Needham, J Williams, C Potter, L Levick, P Taylor, M Holmstedt, M Taylor, D Skelton, A Greenwood, M Doyle, P Ripley, M Carrigan
- Councillors absent:** - *Cllr K White*
- Officers:** *Colin Hill – Town Clerk (Minute Taker)*
- Members of the Public:** Citizenship Awardees and nominators were present for Item 1.

### Mayors Opening Remarks

“I am delighted to open this evening's Council Meeting by making a number of Citizenship Awards to people and organisations that have made a significant contribution to life in Todmorden. I would remind people that we normally make these awards at the Mayor-Making Day in May at the beginning of the Council year, but in this year 2020 we were in lockdown by then and we could not open up the Town Hall for any kind of celebrations. As of today, we are still locked out of the Town Hall and it could be many months before we can hold any of our normal events there. So we are not going to wait, we are going to make these awards tonight!

On behalf of the Council, I welcome the recipients of the Awards and their supporters to join us in our virtual meeting.”

2020(TC)039

### ITEM 1 Citizenship Awards

For the Mayor Cllr R Coleman Taylor to present Citizenship Awards for Outstanding Services to Todmorden and its Community to:

**The Townley and Mattock Family**  
**Healthy Minds – Todmorden**  
**Daniel Bath**  
**Stephen Joel Crowther**

*The Mayor welcomed all of the Citizenship award winners and nominees to the meeting and was delighted to see so many attending.*

**The Townley and Mattock Family – recipients Clare Townley and Glen Mattock**

*The Mayor congratulated them on this award having provided background to the nominations for this award and was pleased to present the Citizenship award to Clare and*

	<p><i>Glen for their important contribution to Todmorden and its community for over 60 years as employers, innovators, valued members of community groups and civic leaders</i></p> <p><b>Healthy Minds – Todmorden – recipients Deborah Corbyn, on behalf of Healthy Minds Todmorden</b></p> <p><i>The Mayor congratulated them on this award having provided background to the nominations for this award and was pleased to present the Citizenship award to them for the work they do which is of paramount importance in our town, and increasingly so as we live through the pandemic and experience the impacts it will have on our community for some time to come.</i></p> <p><b>Daniel Bath</b></p> <p><i>The Mayor congratulated Daniel on this award having provided background to the nominations for this award and was pleased to present the Citizenship award to Daniel, reflecting the important contribution he has made to the musical life of Todmorden for over 20 years as a performer, teacher, composer, conductor, and founder of the Music for the Many</i></p> <p><b>Stephen Joel Crowther</b></p> <p><i>The Mayor congratulated Steve on this award having provided background to the nominations for this award and was pleased to present the Citizenship award to Steve for the hard work and dedication he has put into the development and promotion of junior football in Todmorden over the years.</i></p> <p><i>All have touched a great many lives with their kindness and support. Todmorden is incredibly lucky to have such wonderful people.</i></p> <p><i>Full details of nominations can be accessed on Todmorden Town Council Web Site <a href="https://todmorden-tc.gov.uk/news/">https://todmorden-tc.gov.uk/news/</a></i></p>
	<p><i>Cllr The Revd G Kent advised the meeting that Florence Dean known to many in her role as Registrar of Births Deaths and Marriages had recently passed away. The meeting acknowledged her service to Todmorden</i></p>
2020(TC)040	<p><b><u>ITEM 2 Apologies for Absence</u></b>  To receive and approve apologies for absence and reasons given to the Clerk prior to the meeting noting substitutions at late notice will be allowed</p> <p><i>Apologies were received from Cllr K White for medical reasons,</i></p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr R Coleman- Taylor and Seconded by Cllr A Hollis                      Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b>  <i>That apologies and the reason for absence be accepted from Cllr K White on medical grounds</i></p>
2020(TC)041	<p><b><u>ITEM 3. Declarations of Interest</u></b>  To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from members on matters to be considered at the meeting. Officers are required to make a formal declaration about council contracts where the employee has a financial interest.</p>

	<i>None received</i>						
2020(TC)042	<p><b>ITEM 4. Public Participation</b> To adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public to make representation on the business of the agenda for the meeting. No resolutions can be under public participation.</p> <p>No representations made</p>						
2020(TC)043	<p><b>ITEM 5. Minutes</b> To approve the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020.</p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr R Coleman - Taylor    Seconded by Cllr A Hollis                      Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> <i>That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 18th November 2020 be accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman as such.</i></p>						
2020(TC)044	<p><b>ITEM 6. Exclusion of Press and Public – Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960</b> To consider and confirm any agenda items that require the exclusion of the Press and Public in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 for matters appertaining to confidential or exempt information.</p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr R Coleman- Taylor and    Seconded by Cllr M Taylor    Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> <i>That any Members of the public and or press be welcomed to stay for all items on the Agenda</i></p>						
2020(TC)045	<p><b>ITEM 7. Committee minutes</b> To confirm the receipt of approved committee minutes previously circulated and to receive them En-Bloc</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 20px;">6a</td> <td style="padding-right: 40px;">Development Committee</td> <td>25<sup>th</sup> November 2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6b</td> <td>Resources Committee</td> <td>2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr J Williams    and    Seconded by Cllr C Potter    Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED.</b> <i>That the Committee minutes of the Development Committee of the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and Resources Committee of the 2nd December 2020 be received en bloc</i></p>	6a	Development Committee	25 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	6b	Resources Committee	2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2020
6a	Development Committee	25 <sup>th</sup> November 2020					
6b	Resources Committee	2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2020					
2020(TC)046	<p><b>ITEM 8. Schedule of Payments</b> To receive a schedule of twelve payments made between 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and 9th December 2020, totalling £5956.81, including payment of £3000 to Calder Valley Community Land Trust Ltd – The Fielden Acre Project – Share Offer, and to authorise a payment of £37,779 in respect of Festive lights contractual commitment.</p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr The Revd G Kent and    Seconded by Cllr M Taylor    Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> <i>That the schedule of twelve payments made between 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020 and 9th December 2020, totalling £5956.81, including payment of £3000 to Calder Valley Community Land Trust Ltd be authorised ad the schedule duly signed</i></p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr J Williams    and    Seconded by Cllr C Potter    Unanimous</i></p>						

	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That a payment of £37,779 in respect of Festive lights contractual commitment be authorised.</p>
2020(TC)047	<p><b>ITEM 9. Financial Summary</b> To receive the financial summary as of 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020</p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr J Williams and Seconded by Cllr C Potter Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the financial summary as of 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 be received.</p>
2020(TC)048	<p><b>ITEM 10. Budget 2021-2022</b> To receive a report from Resources Committee recommending a zero increase in Precept with a Precept demand to be issued based on a band D property of £ 54.68 for 2021/22</p> <p><i>Cllr D Skelton spoke to the item to advise that the budget had been discussed at Resources Committee and given the difficult financial circumstances that many residents find themselves in, a zero increase in Precept charge to the Precept payer was proposed with the budget still delivering on its existing commitments, whilst also continuing to increase the Election and Community Development Reserves.</i></p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr D Skelton and Seconded by Cllr S Martin</i></p> <p><i>That Members agree a zero increase in Town Council Tax for Todmorden Precept payers with band equivalent rate levied to remain at £54.68 per annum. To instruct the Town Clerk to issue a Precept Demand to Calderdale MBC based on an annual band D equivalent of £54.68. and That if there are changes to the tax base/collection recovery rate that leads to a reduction in income received below that received last year, the Town Clerk be authorised to move funds from the Earmarked Reserves (Budget Phasing and Non precept Grant Phasing) to establish a balanced budget for 2021/22</i></p> <p><i>Cllr M Taylor responded to the proposed motion that the Lib Dems felt that as Calderdale MBC suffers increasing financial hardship, a time will come when local delivery of services may stop and unless picked up by the Town Council will go altogether. Whilst the Town Council still can raise Precept and is not capped in the amount, an opportunity is being lost to do so. However whilst the group would wish to be consulted more on the budget, nevertheless the LibDem group would not be objecting to the proposal but would abstain when called to vote</i></p> <p><i>The Mayor called for a vote on the motion as tabled by Cllr D Skelton</i></p> <p><i>For Ten</i> <i>Against None</i> <i>Abstention Seven</i></p> <p><i>The Motion was carried</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That Members agree a zero increase in Town Council Tax for Todmorden Precept payers with band equivalent rate levied to remain at £54.68 per annum. To instruct the Town Clerk to issue a Precept Demand to Calderdale MBC based on an annual band D equivalent of £54.68. That if there are changes to the tax base/collection recovery rate that leads to a reduction in income received below that received last year, the Town Clerk be authorised to move funds from the Earmarked Reserves (Budget Phasing and Non Precept Grant Phasing) to establish a balanced budget for 2021/22</p>
2020(TC)049	<p><b>ITEM 11. Wheelspark Project – Selection of Contractor</b> To receive a report from the Resources Committee recommending the appointment of a contractor and an update on progress.</p>

	<p><i>Cllr D Skelton informed that following the tender exercise, the Resources Committee had considered the options (which had previously been circulated to all Councillors) and recommended that The Freestyle Collective be appointed as preferred contractor to deliver the Wheelspark Scheme.</i></p> <p><i>Cllr M Taylor added his support to the scheme and mentioned the bi-partisan approach to this, that had all Town Councillors support as a great scheme for the people of Todmorden</i></p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr D Skelton and Seconded by Cllr M Taylor Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> <i>That Town Council confirm the Resources Committee recommendation to appoint Freestyle as the preferred contractor to deliver a new Wheelspark for Todmorden. That Town Council ratify the decision of the Resources Committee to draw down the Skatepark Earmarked Reserve of £5000 to enable this project to still be progressed.</i></p>
2020(TC)050	<p><b>ITEM 12. Todmorden Emergency Support group</b> To consider the approval of Cllr A Hollis to act as Trustee for Todmorden Emergency Support Group.</p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr C Potter and Seconded by Cllr R Coleman - Taylor Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> <i>That Cllr A Hollis be approved to act as a Trustee for Todmorden Emergency Support Group. That thanks for their contribution to Todmorden, be sent to the outside bodies Todmorden Town Council is represented on.</i></p>
2020(TC)051	<p><b>ITEM 13. Investment – Calder Valley Community Land Trust Ltd – The Fielden Acre Project – Share Offer</b> To receive a report from Resources Committee seeking ratification of their decision to make an investment of £3000.</p> <p><i>Proposed by Cllr D Skelton and Seconded by Cllr P Taylor Unanimous</i></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> <i>That Town Council ratifies the decision of the Resources Committee to authorise the Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer to make the investment of £3000.</i></p>
020(TC)052	<p><b>ITEM 14. Correspondence Received</b> To consider any correspondence received not already tabled for discussion on the Agenda</p> <p><i>The Internal Auditor Report was presented for consideration. It raised no serious concerns. Clarification was sought regarding education related payments and the Town Clerk advised that this could be sorted either with an increase in the Mayors Allowance for that position to then make the payment under personal allowance or for the Town Clerk to complete the Cilca qualification , to enable General Order of Competence to be implemented.</i></p>
020(TC)053	<p><b>ITEM 15. Date of the Next Town Council meeting</b> To note the date of the next Meeting of the Town Council be scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.30 p.m.</p> <p>An informal meeting of the Town Council will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (switch to be agreed) .</p>

	<p><i>Proposed by Cllr R Coleman- Taylor and Seconded by Cllr M Carrigan      Unanimous</i></p> <p><i>That the informal meeting of the Town Council will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021</i></p>
020(TC)053	<p><b>ITEM 15 Mayors Closing Remarks</b>  To receive remarks from the Mayor</p> <p><i>The Mayor addresses the meeting</i>  <i>“2020 a year to remember, or perhaps a year to forget! A year in which many millions of people all over the world came face to face with the fact that our world is very fragile and that there will be no future for the human race unless we can work together to build that future.</i></p> <p><i>As Town Councillors, members of the sphere of governance closest to the people, we have been under a lot of pressure in the last few months and we have had to use all our skills and our powers of persuasion to help people get the support they need during this crisis. I'd like to thank all the Councillors for pulling together and working for the community. We work best when we work together.</i></p> <p><i>Our thanks should also go to the many individuals and organisations who have gone the extra mile to help local people. I want to remind you that it is still possible to make nominations for the Mayor's Certificate of Recognition for their work in the community.</i></p> <p><i>In a few moments, this meeting will close and we will move into a more informal gathering. I hope you will all be able to stay, at least for a few minutes.</i></p> <p><i>In conclusion, I want to wish you all a happy Christmas season and I hope we can look forward to a New Year 2021 that will be a year of recovery and progress”.</i></p> <p>The meeting closed at 8.30pm</p>