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Community Way
Croxley Green
Rickmansworth
Hertfordshire WD3 3SU

MINUTES OF the 378th MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
ON THURSDAY 30 MAY 2024

Present: Cllr Tobin in the Chair
Ryan Bennett – Clerk to the Council
Natalie Carter – Administrative Assistant to the Clerk
Cllrs Aguiar, Gallagher, Glasser, Hughes, Jolowicz, Kyriakou, Montague, Parikh,
Parks, Reed, Sian and Stungo.
Voting Members: 13
Members of the Public: 0

CC2508/24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and approved from Cllrs Benner and Bichard.
Apologies were received and not approved from Cllr Panju.

CC2509/24 Declarations of Interest by Members

The Chairman recommended that any Declarations be made at the appropriate time.

CC2510/24 Parish Matters

No matters were raised.

CC2511/24 Minutes

The Minutes up for review were the Minutes of the 377th Meeting of the Council held on 25 April 2024.

Resolved:

- That the Minutes of the 377th Meeting of the Council held on 25 April 2024 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

CC2512/24 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

CC2513/24 Representations from the Public

No representations were made.

CC2514/24 Committee Reports

Members adopted the following reports:

Committee	Date
Planning and Development	3 rd April 2024
Leisure, Events and Environment	5 th March 2024

CC2515/24 Clerk's Report

The Clerk provided a summary of activities undertaken by the Parish Council staff and Rangers.

CC2516/24 Internal Audit Report

The Clerk presented the end of year Internal Audit Report. The Clerk was happy to report that the Auditor identified no issues of concern and advised that all recommendations listed in the report would be implemented. Members commented that the Council should seek to alleviate financial risks to the Parish Council and wider Croxley Green community wherever possible.

Resolved:

- That the Council receives the Internal Audit Report.

CC2517/24 Annual Governance Statement 2023/24

The Clerk advised that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return was circulated with the Agenda for Members to review.

Resolved:

- That the Annual Return Section 1 (Annual Governance Statement) be signed accordingly.

CC2518/24 Annual Statement of Accounts 2023/24

The Clerk advised that the Annual Statement of Accounts ending 31 March 2024 were circulated with the Agenda for Members to review.

Resolved:

- That the Annual Accounting Statements (Section 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return) for the year ending 31 March 2024 be approved and signed.

CC2519/24 Memorial Tree Planting

Members discussed a request from the family of former Parish Councillor, Hazel Seeley, to plant a memorial tree in her honour. This request is in accordance with the recently adopted Memorial Tree policy, which has not yet been utilised. The policy allows residents to commemorate loved ones by planting trees in Caius woodland, typically with applicants covering the associated costs.

Given Hazel Seeley's service to the community and her meeting the eligibility criteria, it was proposed that the Parish Council cover the costs of the tree and plaque, up to £400, as a gesture of goodwill.

Resolved

That Council:

- Approves the request to plant a memorial tree in memory of Hazel Seeley.
- Agrees to cover the associated costs, of up to £400, for the tree and plaque as a gesture of goodwill and appreciation for her service to our community.

CC2520/24 Installation of an Additional Welcome Sign

The Council discussed a proposal to install a Welcome Sign at the entrance of the Bywaters Estate after it has been noted that some residents feel disconnected from the wider Croxley Green community. The proposed sign aims to promote a sense of belonging as it will match the existing Welcome Signs in size, style, and materials.

In addition, Members discussed approving an additional expense, of up to £1500, for the installation of the new sign at Bywaters, and to reinstall the previously removed sign on the A412 over the Grand Union Canal.

Resolved

- That Croxley Green Parish Council commissions a Welcome Sign, at a cost of £2421, which will be installed at the entrance to the Bywaters estate.
- That an additional £1500 be allocated for the installation of the new sign, and the sign previously removed on the A412.

CC2521/24 Office Replacement Consultation

[Cllrs Sian and Stungo left the meeting at this point at 21.19]

The Clerk provided an update to members on the responses received to the Council's Office Replacement Consultation.

CC2522/24 Closure

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.21 pm.