

**DISS TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the **Town Council** held in the **Council Chamber** at **Diss Corn Hall** on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2023** at **7.15pm.**

Present: Councillors: D. Collins, S. Kiddie, K. Murphy (Chair), R. Peaty, J. Robertson, L. Sinfield, E. Taylor, J. Welch & J. Wooddissee.

In attendance: Sarah Villafuerte-Richards (Town Clerk/Chief Executive Officer)

*There was a question regarding whether the extraordinary meeting was being held legally. The Clerk referred to Standing Orders 6a which states that the Town Mayor may convene an extraordinary meeting of the Council at any time.*

**FC1123b/01 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from councillors Browne and Gingell. Apologies were not received from councillor Kitchen and councillor Olander was absent.

**FC1123b/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

There were none.

**FC1123b/03 MINUTES**

Members confirmed the minutes of the September meeting. It was

**RESOLVED:** To note the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of Full Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 will be approved at the next meeting of Council.

**FC1123b/04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present.

**FC1123b/05 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Members noted that the next meeting of Full Council is scheduled for Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.15pm.

**FC1123b/06 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS)**

Members considered a resolution under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and Standing Orders 3d to exclude members of the public and press in order to discuss the following item which is properly considered to be of a confidential nature.

**FC1123b/07 CEMETERY TREE**

Members considered confidential report reference 42/2324 and the Council solicitor's recommendation regarding the removal of a tree at the Cemetery following the Facilities committee resolution.

It was noted that this decision could have serious financial implications for the Council given the recommendations by the Council's independent arboriculturalist, insurance provider and solicitor to fell the tree. The Town Council would be liable for insurance costs, legal costs of both parties and the costs of stabilising the affected property should it go against the advice received and lose the court case.

Members discussed the importance of planting replacement trees on an appropriate site and it was agreed that the contractor would be asked to leave the stump of the tree in the Cemetery for re-use by the Council. With two abstentions from councillors Collins & Welch, it was

RESOLVED: 1. To continue with the scheduled removal of tree 544 in the Cemetery on 30<sup>th</sup> November.

2. To plant six additional trees on a Council site to mitigate the removal of tree 544.

**(Action: Clerk / Green Corridors Network AG; immediately & by 31.05.24)**

Meeting Closed: 7.52pm.

---

Councillor Murphy  
TOWN MAYOR