**Present: North Ward Cllr H Chapman**

**Cllr N Harrington**

**Cllr R V Hawkins**

**Cllr C Mulhall**

**Cllr N O’Byrne (Mayor)**

**West Ward Cllr D Buckle**

**Cllr G Moss**

**Cllr P Rowden**

**Cllr T Smith**

**East Ward Cllr P Bradley**

**Cllr A Lamb**

**Cllr J Maltby**

**Cllr D Payne (Deputy Mayor)**

**Iona Taylor (Town Clerk)**

**Simon Donkin (Welcome to Wetherby) – until 6.57pm.**

**21 21-22 Declarations of interests** – none.

**22 21-22 Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Town Councillors Bennett and Frame.

Apologies were also received from representatives of Welcome to Wetherby and Wetherby Sports Association.

**23 21-22 Minutes of the last meeting.**

The minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting, held on 4th May 2021, were considered and found to be a true record.

**24 21-22 Bonfire event.**

Members agreed that, in light of the decision by Wetherby Sports Association not to organise a bonfire and fireworks event this year, the Town Council should take over the organisation to ensure that this important community spectacle goes ahead.

Some discussion took place, with the key points being:

* The aim of the event is to provide family friendly entertainment.
* Whilst the aim is to break even, any profit can be put back into the community.
* Fundraising / ticket sales / sponsorship will be required to underwrite costs. The Town Council does not have a budget for this event in 2021.
* Although it was not the correct forum for detailed discussion, the consensus of opinion was that the public will want elements such as fairground rides, food kiosks etc.
* Wetherby Sports Association will run a bar to raise funds for their organisation.
* The Town Council is grateful that experienced volunteers are willing to continue to assist with organisation of the event.

The Town Clerk was asked to convene a Working Group to manage the event on behalf of the Town Council.

The Council’s Project Administrator, Barry Riley, will be asked to provide administrative support and guidance to the Working Group.

**25 21-22 Project Administrator**

It was agreed that the Town Clerk be asked to extend the Project Administrator’s contract with the Town Council for a further 6 months.

This will be on a self-employed basis, working up to 25 hours per week with payment at SCP 27 of the NJC 2020-21 National Salary Award.

**26 21-22 Town Hall Repairs**

1. **Approval to proceed with repairs.**

Members noted that, after a competitive tender process, a quotation for the first phase of necessary works has been received which stands at £256,159.67.

The Project Budget & Funding tracker shows that the Town Hall charity currently has in the region of £178,000 in its bank accounts.

The Principle Designer, Richard Maddison of Maddison James Associates, has identified the most urgent works which can be undertaken for a reduced figure in the region of £160,000.

Members agreed that they are inclined to select Bullen Conservation Ltd as the preferred contractor for this project.

It was also agreed that further negotiations should take place with them to identify and agree a reduced programme within the funds currently available. This will be brought back to the Council for consideration prior to formal appointment.

It was agreed that the Clerk should proceed on the basis outlined above.

1. **Future approval.**

It was agreed that the Clerk should refer the decision for final approval to enter into a contract to either Full Council, or the Property Committee, whichever can be convened soonest once a schedule of works and price is identified.

**27 21-22 Jubilee Gardens Wall Repairs**

1. **Quotations received.**

Quotes were requested from four contractors, two of which have subsequently submitted prices. MHS Countryside Management and DNB Stone Services have declined to submit prices on this occasion.

The following prices have been received:

* Most Construction - £33,451.00
* Historic Property Restoration - £26,780.93

1. **Appointment of contractor.**

It was agreed that the Clerk should proceed to appoint Historic Property Restoration.

Members were advised that a £6,000 to the Council’s property repair fund will be received from the owners of the property neighbouring Jubilee Gardens.

As such the cost to the Town Council will be £20,780.93, which does include a contingency. The Town Council’s 2021/22 budget does not include provision for this expenditure so it will be funded in the following ways:

£11,480 – ear marked reserves for property projects.

£9,300.93 – general reserves.

The meeting closed at 7.08pm.

These notes were recorded and prepared by Iona Taylor, Town Clerk.

**SIGNED: (Chair)**

**DATE:**