

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting
held remotely on Monday 26 April 2021 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Bowden, Cllr Campbell, Cllr Corlett-Shaw, Cllr Ellwood, Cllr Irven (Chair), Cllr Johnson, Cllr Murphy, Cllr Terrett, Cllr Westcott and Cllr Whetlor.

In attendance: Sarah Reed – Jess Prendergrast, Onion Collective

21/01EX To receive Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, section 85 (1)- Cllr Irven proposed that '**apologies from Cllr Richards are accepted**'. Seconded by Cllr Whetlor. Carried.

21/02EX To receive any **Declaration of Interests** under Watchet Town Council's Code of Conduct (adopted on 9 July 2012) issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 Si No: 1464- **None at this point**

21/03EX Exclusion of Press and Public
"That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw" (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Cllr Irven proposed that '**in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted that Standing Order 1c is invoked and the public are instructed to withdraw from the meeting**'. Seconded by Cllr Westcott. Carried

See Excluded Notes 21/43EX

21/04EX Update to Council on:

(i) Fraud by false representation under the Fraud Act 2006- (Appendix 1a,1b,1c & 1d) – *circulated to members prior to the meeting*

Firstly, the Chair explained to members why this matter was to be discussed in closed session.

The Clerk circulated a report outlining in chronological order a sequence of actions with accompanying paperwork, taken by the Chair of Council advised by the Proper Officer regarding a forged letter in his name to the CIC Regulator raising false allegations against Onion Collective. A person/s had fraudulently appropriated his identity in making the complaint. Advice has been sought and the action was reported to Action Fraud, who will collate the information and send it to the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB), who will determine whether it is possible to undertake an investigation.

The Council agreed to continue to endorse and support actions taken by Council Officers and the Chair of Council in taking this matter forward.

Cllr Irven proposed '**the re-admittance of the public to the meeting**'. Seconded by Cllr Johnson. Carried.

Meeting closed at 7.23pm

Signed: 

Dated: 5/5/21 