Minutes of the proceedings of the CIVIC COMMITTEE meeting held on this day in the Main Hall, TOWN HALL, WOKINGHAM from 7.30pm to 8.25pm.

PRESENT
Chairman: Cllr Mrs G S Hewetson
Councillors: M Bishop, P Lucey (The Mayor), T Lack, J McGhee-Sumner, Mrs S Steatham and R J Wyatt

IN ATTENDANCE
Civic Officer – Nicola Payler

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)
Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr P Mirfin (Vice-Chairman) and Cllr Mrs Clark.

MEMBERS’ INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)
There were no declarations of interest.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OR PUBLIC (Agenda Item 3)
No questions were received.

CIVIC COMMITTEE MINUTES (Agenda Item 4)
It was proposed by Cllr Hewetson and seconded by Cllr McGhee-Sumner and it was

that the Minutes of the Civic Committee meeting held on 4th October 2017 (pages 15443 to 15447) be received as a true and correct record and that they be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

MONITORING REPORT (Agenda Item 5)
The Monitoring Report dated 21st November 2017 was received and noted.

1) **In the event of the death of the Monarch and/or senior members of the Royal Family**
The Civic Officer advised that WTC has now received approval from WBC for both Councils to come together to mark a proclamation in the Market Place. The Civic Officer will include this again as an agenda item at the next Civic meeting for final approval and this item will then be removed from the Monitoring Report.

2) **Retirement of High Steward**
See agenda 12.

3) **Charity Bike Ride from Wokingham**
To remove from the monitoring report and re-add as an agenda item in 2018 as required.

4) **2018 WW1 commemoration**
See agenda item 8.
COMMITTEE’S BUDGET (Agenda Item 6)
A report on the Committee’s expenditure to 31st October 2017 was received and noted.

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVE (Agenda Item 7)
The Committee discussed and agreed that Cllr Lucey will support the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman on the judging panel for the Civic Award Selection meeting on Thursday 7 December.

REMEMBRANCE EVENTS (Agenda Item 8)
2017
The Committee discussed and reflected on the recent Remembrance events and asked the Civic Officer to note the following:

- To allow more seating for Councillors in Church as this was restricted this year and last.
- Try a different way to organise the wreath layers to make the process a little smoother and more efficient, by gathering individuals in the Council Chamber and then lining up in the corridor.

The Committee commented how well Armistice worked in Howard Palmer Gardens and were pleased with how many people attended the Church Service.

2018
The Committee revisited the outline plans for 2018. Committee members discussed the various ideas for next year.

Cllr Wyatt shared that he has a large collection of WW1 memorabilia which could be displayed if suitable supervision is in place, as well as recorded talks he has made and music from the era.

The Civic Officer will place this as an agenda item at the next meeting for further discussion.

ACTION: CIVIC OFFICER

INFORMATION ITEMS (Agenda Item 9)
The Committee members received confirmation that Wokingham Town Council collected £272.47 for the Poppy Appeal.

COMMITTEE INFORMATION (Agenda Item 10)
No information was raised.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC (Agenda Item 11)
It was proposed by Cllr P Lucey and seconded by Cllr M Bishop and it was that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and instructed to withdraw.

RESOLVED

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PART II

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC  (Agenda Item 12)

a) The Civic Officer updated the Committee members about recent discussions and forthcoming plans for the retirement of the High Steward.
b) Ideas for a suitable gift were discussed and the Chairman agreed to explore this further outside of the meeting.

ACTION: Chairman and Civic Officer

CHAIRMAN