

# 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Minutes of the proceedings of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held this day in the **MAIN HALL, TOWN HALL, WOKINGHAM**, from 7.30pm to 8.05pm.

## **PRESENT:**

Chairman: Cllr Mrs G S Hewetson (Mayor)

Cllrs: M Bishop, N Campbell-White, D O H Davies, Mrs A N Drake, L Forbes, C George, S C Gurney, T Lack, D G Lee, K G Morgan, C D Moore, I L Shepherd-Dubey, S Steatham, A N Waters, R J Wyatt.

## **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jan Nowecki – Town Clerk

Nicky Harmsworth – Responsible Finance Officer (RFO)

## **PRAYERS**

Reverend Anna Harwood from All Saints Parish Church led the prayers this evening.

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs M Ashwell, C J Bowring, Mrs UK Clark, P M Lucey, M Monk, J P Mirfin, J P McGhee-Sumner, S Odedra and M L Richards.

## **MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)**

There were no declarations of interest.

Cllr Lee joined the meeting.

## **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OR PUBLIC (Agenda Item 3)**

No questions had been received.

## **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING (Agenda Item 4)**

It was proposed by Cllr R J Wyatt and seconded by Cllr D Davies and the following was

**RESOLVED  
29470**

that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016 (pages 15244 to 15248) be confirmed as a true and correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

## **MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS (Agenda Item 5)**

The Mayor began her announcement with thanks to the Winter Carnival for organising another hugely successful day in Wokingham on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November. The Mayor then gave an insight into the seasonal events she had attended in December starting with a presentation from the Barkham Hookers to the Wokingham Poppy Appeal. Just under £8,000 had been raised by the ladies which was a record achievement.

The Mayor then said what great fun she had had sitting on a trike as part of the Annual Toy Run where 1760 bikes had participated and was overwhelmed by the support along the route.

The Mayor concluded her communications with how lovely it was that 13 schools had participated in the "Dressing the Christmas Tree" event the

previous evening. The Mayor's list of engagements dated 17th October to 27th November were received and noted.

#### **ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING**

##### **(Agenda Item 6)**

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs G S Hewetson and seconded by Cllr S Gurney and the following was

**RESOLVED  
29471**

that the minutes and any recommendations of the Arts & Culture Committee meetings held on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016 (page 15249) and 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016 (pages 15266 to 15268) be received.

#### **FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING**

##### **(Agenda Item 7)**

It was proposed by Cllr D O H Davies and seconded by Cllr R J Wyatt and the following was

**RESOLVED  
29472**

that the minutes and any recommendations of the Finance and Personnel Committee meetings held on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 (pages 15250 to 15253) and 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 (pages 15269 to 15277) be received.

#### **AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**

##### **(Agenda Item 8)**

It was proposed by Cllr N Campbell-White and seconded by Cllr T Lack and the following was

**RESOLVED  
29473**

that the minutes and any recommendations of the Amenities Committee meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 (pages 15254 to 15259) be received.

Cllr Lee asked if there had been any update on police support for CCTV in the town, the Town Clerk advised that the police had been invited to attend the next Amenities meeting in January.

#### **CIVIC COMMITTEE MEETING**

##### **(Agenda Item 9)**

Cllr M Bishop asked Councillors to note that following agenda item 9 of the Civic meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November the website had been updated with the criteria for adding additional names on the War Memorial. He thanked Cllr Wyatt for giving the Committee his wealth of knowledge to enable the policy to be re-affirmed that any request for a name to be added to the memorial must meet the criteria of the individual having to live within Wokingham Town Boundary at the time of their death.

It was proposed by Cllr M Bishop and seconded by Cllr R J Wyatt and the following was

**RESOLVED  
29474**

that the minutes and any recommendations of the Civic Committee meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 (pages 15260 to 15262) be received.

It was then proposed by Cllr M Bishop and seconded by Cllr R J Wyatt and the following was

**RESOLVED  
29475**

To move the timing of the Town Council newsletter in line with the Council Municipal year from 2017 to include the resident survey if that is agreed at Strategy meeting next week.

The Town Clerk advised Council that as the newsletter would no longer going out with the May cultural month brochure consideration would be given to exploring the possibility of sending with WBC News. However, whilst this might offer some cost saving, it would not serve the Council's ambition to ensure we are seen as an independent Council to WBC. Cllr Forbes asked whether our information would get missed if too many leaflets came through. The Mayor reassured with the fact that May Cultural Month goes out in March and the newsletter will now go in May which offers a gap.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
(Agenda Item 10)**

**RESOLVED  
29476**

It was proposed by Cllr D Lee and seconded by Cllr K Morgan and the following was

that the minutes and any recommendations of the Planning and Transportation Committee meeting held on the on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 (pages 15263 to 15265) be received.

Cllr Lee thanked the Committee and the P&T Officer for all they have achieved, this sentiment was echoed by the Mayor.

**MARKET DEVELOPMENT WORKING PARTY  
(Agenda Item 11)**

The Town Clerk's progress update 18 was received.

Cllr Lee asked if WTC tenants trading arrangements would be taken into consideration if the market redevelopment goes ahead as planned. The Town Clerk advised that the proposed developers had spoken to all businesses in the area to ensure that they could continue to trade whilst the work is happening but recognized the importance of working with all businesses whilst the refurbishment takes place.

**RESOLVED  
29477**

It was proposed by Cllr C Moore and seconded by Cllr C George and the following was

that the notes and any recommendations of the Market Development Working Party meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2016 be received.

**STRATEGY WORKING PARTY  
(Agenda Item 12)**

**RESOLVED  
29478**

It was proposed by Cllr D O H Davies and seconded by Cllr I S-Dubey and the following was

that the notes and any recommendations of the Strategy Working Party meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016 be received.

Council were invited to attend a Peach Place pre commencement meeting with the main contractor Dawnus, on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 6.15 at the Town Hall where refreshments would be available.

**COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES  
(Agenda Item 13)**

Cllr Wyatt gave a verbal update of the meeting at Wokingham United Charities on 14<sup>th</sup> November and advised that they would be advertising for a Grants Manager early in the new year.

## **TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION**

### **(Agenda Item 14)**

Cllr Ashwell was not able to attend the meeting but the Regeneration Update December 2016 was received and noted.

Cllr Gurney advised as a resident she had not seen any communication from WBC about the temporary lane closure of Peach Street. The Town Clerk confirmed that a press release had gone out and she understood that more communications would be coming out in the next few weeks but she would discuss with WBC.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

## **COUNCIL YEAR CALENDAR**

### **(Agenda Item 15)**

The Town Council calendar for the municipal year May 2017 to April 2018 was received. The Town Clerk advised that an i-cal version would sent out shortly.

**CHAIRMAN**