

12th April 2016

Minutes of the proceedings at the **FORTY SECOND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING** held this day in the **MAIN HALL, TOWN HALL, WOKINGHAM** from 7.30pm to 8.25pm.

PRESENT

The Worshipful the Town Mayor of Wokingham
(Councillor Philip Mirfin - in the Chair)

Cllrs: M Ashwell, C J Bowring, N Campbell-White, D O H Davies, Mrs A N Drake, Ms L Forbes, C R George, Ms S C Gurney, Mrs G S Hewetson, T J Lack, D G Lee, J P McGhee-Sumner, M Monk, C D Moore, K G Morgan, S Odedra, M L Richards, Ms I L Shepherd-Dubey, A N Waters and R J Wyatt.

IN ATTENDANCE

40 members of the public
Town Clerk
Responsible Finance Officer
Civic Officer

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from the following Councillors: M Bishop, Mrs UK Clark, P M Lucey, Mrs S Steatham

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 2)

The Minutes of the Forty First Annual Town Meeting, held on 17th March 2015, were submitted to the meeting (pages 268 to 284, copies circulated at meeting).

It was proposed by Cllr J P McGhee-Sumner and seconded by Cllr D G Lee and it was

RESOLVED
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that the Minutes be received as a true and complete record and be confirmed and signed by the Town Mayor.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES (Agenda Item 3)

No matters were raised.

NOTICE CONVENING MEETING (Agenda Item 4)

The Town Clerk stated that the Notice had been posted in accordance with statutory procedures.

TOWN MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT (Agenda Item 5)

The Town Mayor gave the Annual Report as follows:

Distinguished guests, Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen

It has been a wonderful year in which to have been elected to be your Mayor and Kathy and I have felt very privileged and proud to have represented Wokingham through this role.

We are very fortunate in Wokingham to have such an enthusiastic group of dedicated Officers led by our Town Clerk Jan Nowecki, who very much leads her team by example. A Town Clerk who was recognised for the splendid work she does by no less a body than the National Association of Local Councils, who named her the runner up in the Town Clerk of the Year category, 2015.

We also have a new recently elected Council that were elected in May last year. A mix of youthful councillors full of exuberance to the greyer of hair like myself who have matured in our roles over a good number of years on this Council. We continue to work towards the Town Council's vision and meeting our objectives, and you'll hear examples of this from my colleagues during the meeting.

I would at this time like to pay a special thanks to Cllr Bob Wyatt who still contributes greatly to this Council and hopefully still will for many years to come, who recently has been in considerable pain following a fall at home. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

Also I must thank Lady Elizabeth Godsall for the continuing support she gives to our Town in her capacity as High Steward of Wokingham.

A sad, but proud, part of the year for me was the departure of the REME from the barracks at Arborfield where they had resided for many years. Their last parade as a regiment through the town in June last year was truly spectacular and a credit to every soldier that took part. A very big thank you to their Parade Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Claire Phillips and Regimental Sergeant Major Redburn who we worked in partnership with.

Towards the end of May, sadly we attended the funeral of John Bingham a stalwart of our Town who worked endlessly for a number of charities, yet probably known best for his work as a Town Centre Manager and for many years' father Christmas at the Winter Carnival.

Also this year, the Lions donated a bench in Howard Palmer Gardens in memory of Sue Balchin who was another big supporter of many of the town's charity events over the years.

In early June the Emmbrook Primary school celebrated 50 years, and the Mayoress and I enjoyed a very entertaining afternoon at the school. In June there were a number of events linked to Wokingham in Bloom which culminated with the Town once again winning the Silver Gilt Award for the third year running. My special thanks to all those individuals and organisations that joined in with securing the award for the Town. It gave me great pleasure later in the year to receive the award on behalf of the Town.

In late June, the past Mayor, Martin Bishop and his wife Yvonne along with the Town Clerk and her husband joined my wife and I to attend the very last Beating of the Retreat at Arborfield Garrison as the guests of Major General Figures the Master General of the REME. Once again it was a privilege to represent the town at such a significant event.

On the 7th July, we entertained all the would be Mini Mayors in the Jubilee Room for Tea and to decide who would take on the Mini Mayor role during 2015/6. George Bradley from the Hawthorns School was the winner and has proved a very able Mini Mayor during the past year. I would like to thank his mother and father for supporting George at the events he has attended.

September brought with it the induction of Catherine Bowstead, as the new vicar at the Wokingham Methodist Church. A lovely occasion to introduce a charming lady who has thrown herself fully into Wokingham life.

The last Sunday in November we had a fantastic Winter Carnival supported by thousands of our residents and the many volunteers who give their considerable time to this very worthwhile event; undoubtedly our visitors enjoyed a fun afternoon and our restaurants and retailers benefitted from such huge numbers in the town.

Our Civic Awards evening in January produced once again a number of good citizens who have over the years contributed greatly to our Town, congratulations to all recipient's and on behalf of the town I would like to thank them for all they do.

The above offers just a flavour of what goes on in our town and what makes it one of the best places in the country to live. We are extremely fortunate to have many talented individuals and groups that support the many events; some of whom are here this evening. There are many on a long list but I would particularly like to thank our churches and schools, St Sebastian's Brass Band, Wokingham Choral Society, the West Forest Sinfonia, Wokingham Rock Choir as well as the Lions, Rotary, Inner Circle, Windsor Forest Unicorns and the Fireworks organizing Committees, together with the organizers of the May Fayre and Winter Carnival for the their ongoing support of the town, year upon year.

Just before I finish and hand over to our Committee Chairmen, I would like to mention a very new event this year for Wokingham that I would like to encourage all to support; The Wokingham Walk on May 15th.

Stan Hetherington and Andy Slay together with a small group of other helpers are introducing what they intend will become a regular feature in the Wokingham annual Calendar.

Whilst we already have a Half Marathon, May Fayre, Bikeathon, Wokingham Festival, Firework event, Winter Carnival etc. there is no annual charity walk for the people of Wokingham who might like to have the opportunity to raise funds for a charity of their own choice.

The Wokingham Walk will take place in May each year (the first walk will be Sunday 15th May 2016). There is a choice of 2 distances, 5 miles or 15 miles with the majority of the walk along countryside footpaths in the local area.

The aim is to keep things simple and there will be an entrance fee for each participant which will cover the costs of organising the event with any remaining funds being donated to the Borough Mayors' charity.

The event will not expect participants to raise sponsorship for any nominated charity and this will leave people free to support a charity of their choice through sponsorship should they wish.

We must now move on and it is time for me to introduce the Chairmen of our principle Town Council Committees to present their individual reports;

I will now hand you over to the Committee Chairman for their reports starting with Councillor David Davies, Chairman of the Finance and Personnel Committee.

COMMITTEES' ANNUAL REPORTS (Agenda Item 6)

Chairman of Finance and Personnel Committee

Cllr Davies stood and presented his report as follows:

In the last year the role of this committee has changed and our responsibilities have been expanded to take on responsibility for the personnel working for Wokingham Town Council as well as for the finances and this addition has been an interesting one which has allowed a deeper insight into the running of the Town that the simple numbers present.

The primary responsibility of the committee remains however the finances of the council so that the other committees and this council itself have sufficient funds to be run effectively and reserves to support capital spending. I am pleased to report that despite some recent unexpected costs the Council continues to be in good financial health

Our position has allowed us to commence the planning for the redevelopment of the town square and the financial modelling performed by the RFO has given the council the confidence to press ahead with one of the most ambitious plans in recent memory that will create a great space for the use of all residents in the future.

Nicky has continued to perform excellently as RFO and I would like to again commend both her and Jan as Town Clark for the excellent job they do and the support they provide to me personally.

In closing I believe that the F&P committee is the most effective when it is the least interesting, my colleagues from the other committees can now detail how your monies as tax payers have been spent and the wonderful things that have been achieved, with the recent successful audit to assure that the finances remain in safe hands.

Next the Mayor asked Cllr Lee to present the Planning and Transportation Committee report:

Chairman of Planning and Transportation Committee

Cllr Lee stood and presented his report as follows:

Good evening everyone.

My name is David Lee and I am chairman of the Planning and Transport Committee which considers matters of planning and transport affecting our Town.

Our role is to ensure that residents' views on these matters are considered and recommendations made to the Borough Council Planning Committee.

Although the Town Council is a Statutory Consultee on all planning issues relating to Wokingham Town it is the Borough Council Planning Committee which makes the final decision.

When comments are made by the Town to the Borough on planning applications to have any impact they must be Material Planning Points. Simply making a statement that we as your representatives do not like an application carries no weight in the decision making process.

The Committee members are therefore trained in Planning Law and are fully aware of all Planning Guidance both Local and National. And I would thank them for undertaking this thankless task.

If we have concerns/recommendations regarding an Application we will normally discuss this with the Planning Officer at the Borough with a view to seeing if the application can be amended to improve the proposal prior to determination.

If the application is to be heard by the Borough Planning Committee a member of the Town Planning Committee will speak at the Planning Committee to ensure our concerns are fully appreciated by the members before they determine the application.

The Committee takes a close interest in all applications involving listed buildings, new building, change of use and any activity in Conservation Areas. And in addition any applications brought to our attention by councillors and residents.

If you would like a specific application considered by the Committee please let us know; we would also be delighted to hear your reasons for objection or indeed support.

We welcome all residents to attend our Committee Meetings.

In 2015 the Committee were consulted on 425 planning applications. Of these some 40 were considered in detail and we raised concerns on 21 applications.

Of the 21 that had concerns/suggestions raised some ten were subsequently refused or withdrawn by the Borough Planning Committee at Shute End.

In addition to these applications the Committee carefully considered and submitted extensive comments on:

- The Regeneration of Elms Field
- Carnival Pool Redevelopment
- Gypsy and traveller Local Plan
- Matthews Green Strategic Development Location plans
- And Keephatch Beech plans

Applications to be considered by the Committee are listed on the Town Council's web site. And as I mentioned earlier if you would like the Committee to consider any applications please let the office or your local councillor know which.

TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION

The Town Council is recognised as a key participant in formulating proposals for the Regeneration and continues to be actively involved in the development of the design strategy. In particular, the redevelopment of the Market Place is a key priority for the Town Council and the Committee is closely involved in ensuring the integration of that redevelopment into the overall regeneration plans.

HIGHWAY SAFETY

The Committee continues to raise awareness of highway safety issues, by identifying and submitting ideas for improvement to the Borough Council, and by closely scrutinising and commenting upon planned changes to the highway infrastructure.

OFFICER SUPPORT

I would like to thank the members of the Committee for their considerable work over the year which has been invaluable and produced many excellent results. In addition I would like to thank Mike Dunstan, the Town Council's Planning Officer, for his continued enthusiasm, hard work and support of the Committee members, the Chairman and myself.

RESIDENTS

Finally, I thank residents for their contributions to the activities of the Committee and encourage your continued participation in the meetings in the coming year; your input helps us in our deliberations, guides our actions and is greatly appreciated.

Next the Mayor asked Cllr Ashwell to present the Amenities Committee report:

Chairman of Amenities Committee

Cllr Ashwell stood and presented his report as follows:

Thank you your worship, it is my absolute pleasure to report on a year in the life of our Amenities Committee.

Our aim is to enhance and improve the Town Centre and also the recreational opportunities within Wokingham Town Ward boundaries for the benefit of existing and future residents. It's a tremendously rewarding portfolio.

I'd like to thank our deputy chairman Cllr Campbell-White, my fellow councillors and the people that do the real work our officers Paul Smith, Rob Vincent and our Town Clerk Jan Nowecki. We've got a great team!

I'll take you on a whistle stop tour of the achievements over the past year:

TOWN HALL and MARKET PLACE

We are always polishing this our jewel in Wokingham's crown

- We've repainted; had stone masonry, roof and guttering repairs
- We are part way through an extensive overhaul of the windows to be completed in July
- A Room dedicated to our association with the REME Regiment has been established. Now renamed The REME room it has many artefacts on display donated by the regiment as an historical reminder of their association with our town
- Our Town Hall continues to provide a venue for community and business alike
- Weddings are us! We can provide something special for anyone and it doesn't have to cost a fortune. Our Jubilee Room is fantastic for that more intimate celebration and nothing is too much trouble for our host with the most Kevin Belstone
- We've worked really successfully with our local property landlords to strengthen our anti pigeon defences. Although it's a never ending battle with our feathered friends
- Our Christmas Lights looked the best yet this year with an additional 8 trees in Broad Street all white lighted up. It's Christmas all year in Amenities!

- We're doing all we can to support our market traders against a backdrop of difficult times
- We support new traders, start-up businesses and charities.
- JAC is a great example they have been able to integrate disadvantaged teenagers using their market stall
- Our established traders have our full support and commitment to insure our markets longevity. Our major example of this is... The Market Place itself I announced last year that:
 - It's been our long term ambition to improve our Market Place
 - We've been working in partnership with WBC
 - We have built on the community consultation of a year or so ago
 - We now have the plan to level the whole space around our town hall to create an environment where cars and people can share the space in harmony
 - To create a total ambience that showcases our heritage and complements our wonderful Town Hall Practically this unique space will be greatly improved to serve our Residents, Market Traders, Restaurants and Retailers.
 - We are embracing this once in a generation opportunity to be the next project for Wokingham Town Centre
 - We have already commenced enabling works and you will witness the tangible evidence this time next year Have a look the visuals on display down stairs - it's so exciting to be a Wokingham Town resident right now!

Right, quickly out and about....

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

- Howard Palmer Gardens our Town Centre Haven is working really well with 2 Open Air Theatre productions planned in May
- Leslie Sears playing fields – we joined the Residents Association, NAG and Evendons Primary School in designing a brand new playground. This was installed last year and the kids love it
- King George V playing fields & Langborough Rec – are looking really good with the football pitches being used again
- Joel Park – what a wonderful area. We again worked closely with our residents to provide an adventure trail for 3-6 year olds. We are so privileged to have (and struggle to keep up with) The Holt Copse Volunteers. They (with a little help from their friends) have just unlocked a grant of £8,000 from The Tesco 'Bags Of Help' Scheme to extend their all-weather footpaths
- We provide the dog waste bins on all our open spaces
- We provide a minimum of 15 Grass cuttings per year on all our open spaces
- We have 380 Allotment plots and all have been fully let and monitored throughout this past year
- We are wanting to expand our allotment portfolio to Montague Park, Matthews Green and Keephatch Beech – better than a Hedge Fund!!
- The biggest news of last year was OUR WORLD WIDE INTERNATIONAL CELEBRITY – OKI THE FEMALE ROE DEER When she took up residence at our Ormonde Road Allotment – she went viral.

We all did the Oki – Cokey for August/September and Cllr George became Deer Dundee!

Last but not least....

WOKINGHAM IN BLOOM

- In only our third year of entry in The Thames & Chiltern Awards we have again achieved a Silver Gilt with a once again improved score
- As I sit at the traffic lights and look at our sign showing a hat trick of successes I can't help thinking that in a football context we would get to keep the trophy but we are GOING FOR GOLD!
- We also received a regional award for our interpretation of The Britain in Bloom Theme
- Walter County Infants School were highly commended in The Schools Challenge for Bloom
- Incredible Edible at Elms Field were awarded the thriving mark
- In The Neighbourhood Section The Cockpit Path Community Garden (have you seen that!) and Norreys Garden Share Scheme were awarded OUTSTANDING
- Incredible Edible at Elms Field were awarded the thriving mark
- This is a truly amazing example of Community, Business, Education and Local Government (that's two local governments – Town & Borough) Collaboration
- Thank you to all involved including all our residents associations, the scouts, Holts Copse Volunteers and The Friends of the Emmbrook who completed our major project this year the renovation of the pond at Woosehill Meadows
- Tony Hewetson for chairing the steering group and our officer Paul Smith for going well beyond the call of duty.

So I'd like to finish by asking you to please give all involved with WOKINGHAM IN BLOOM a massive round of applause – Thank you; Your Worship.

Next the Mayor asked Cllr McGhee-Sumner to present the Civic Committee report on behalf of Cllr Bishop (Chairman) who was unavoidably delayed:

Committee Member of Civic Advisory Committee

Cllr McGhee-Sumner stood and presented his report as follows:

Good evening ladies and gentlemen.

Our objectives are to maintain the Civic Structure on behalf of the community, co-ordinating Civic events to capture and promote our heritage, ensuring historical information is available for educational and recreational purposes working closely with local organisations and our Arts and Culture committee. We are indeed privileged in Wokingham to have such a wonderful Town Hall and Civic traditions.

We support the Mayor's involvement with the Town Council and responsible for such events as the Civic Awards ceremony, Mayor Making, Civic Sunday, Armed Forces Day, the Mayor's market, Remembrance Sunday and Heritage days.

Last year our Macebearer and Mayor's attendant Peter Parsons retired after twelve years of service and I thank him for his undivided contribution and welcome David Dunham who has now taken on this role.

As previously mentioned by the Mayor our Mini Mayor, a civic role open to our Primary school students, has been admirably performed this year by George Bradley from Hawthorn's School. This process is a great way to introduce school pupils to local government and I hope that this tradition will be continued in the years ahead.

The REME (Corps of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical engineers) became Honorary Townspeople in 1978 and have now unfortunately been relocated to Lyneham, however, in recognition to their service to the Town we have transformed our committee room downstairs to accommodate pictures and artefacts donated by the REME museum and now we have a fantastic REME room, which is available for hire.

There are some Photobooks at the back of the room this evening which capture our recent Mayoral and Jubilee events. Please do take a look.

When you are visiting the Town Hall later in the year you will be able to take advantage of our new Wokingham App which will guide you through the Hall with explanations of our history and items on display.

This year on Sunday June 12th we will be celebrating the Queen's birthday in conjunction with our annual Civic parade and Street Concert, I do hope you will be able to join us in these celebrations. To arrange such an event involves an enormous amount of work by our Town Clerk and Officers here at the Town Hall. So, finally my thanks to Nikki Payler our Civic officer, our Town Clerk, other officers and Honoraries for all their dedication and hard work during the year.

Next the Mayor asked Cllr Mrs Hewetson to present the Arts and Culture Committee report:

Chairman of Arts & Culture Committee

Cllr Mrs Hewetson stood and presented her report as follows:

Another eventful year has flown by and last year was also the election of the new Town Council. As Arts & Culture Chairman I welcomed almost a complete change of Councillors to my Committee. Only Cllr Monk had served in the previous term. I offer each and every one of them my thanks for so quickly taking up the Cultural baton.

The one constant that can be relied on is the support of the movers and shakers in Wokingham and this annual meeting attracts a good number. Thank you all for coming and demonstrating the real reason why we are one of the best places to live.

The Arts & Culture Committee have achieved a lot this year but we couldn't have done it without our partners and officers, particularly Gemma the A & C officer who supports us throughout the year and all the other officers who so willingly assist in the planning and delivery of the major events. Special thanks to Jan Nowecki, our Town Clerk, who with unflinching good humour, runs a very tight ship. Jan may have come second in the Star Council award but she has far greater responsibility than the winner who was a Parish Clerk.

It is a mark of how highly the staff regard her that they worked so hard on the nomination. I had the pleasure of obtaining testimonials from many community leaders who had reason to respect and cause to repay the many times she has given so freely of her help and wisdom.

Our Committee continues to build on the reputation it gained during the Diamond Jubilee and this year our Monarch is giving us yet another reason to celebrate. This time it is to commemorate her 90th Birthday and yet again, Wokingham is going to Town - Broad Street to be precise. We are closing the street for the entire day June 12th and the Civic March and Church Service will be the formal start of the day. When the parade returns the fun begins. The afternoon will see many different stage acts, street performances and craft and quizzes for the children. There will be a short break and then the Commonwealth Street Concert will commence. Please join us for all or part of the day and bring your tables and chairs - and the family, of course. Last year we tried a food area for the first time and it was such a success that we are increasing the number and the variety of stalls. The restaurants, cafes and pubs will also be pleased to ensure you do not lack for anything.

This may be the last national event for a while but you may be assured that we will continue to strive towards our objective for something going on each week encouraging residents into the Town.

We have committed to a yearly street Concert and this is growing in popularity both in terms of audience numbers and corporate sponsorship. Looking back over the past year, The Lions delivered the May Fayre and a team of dedicated residents, the Winter Carnival.

More arts works with WTC to deliver the Living Advent Calendar and many talented artists and entertainers give their skills freely to make this yet another significant Event that contributes to our local charities. We have incorporated the Dressing of the Tree into The Advent Calendar and are really delighted that the schools continue to make lovely decorations. The Nativity has rightly become the cornerstone of this celebration and in 2015 our own Wokingham Theatre stole the limelight with three magnificent and highly entertaining performances. They have happily agreed to put on this event in alternate years with Bottletop. One thing we have in abundance in Wokingham is talent!

2015 saw year two of Theatre in the Park at Howard Palmer Gardens which has proved to be a perfect venue. This time we had a Shakespeare adaptation and a children's piece created specifically for HPG - it was lovely to see so many rapt young faces. This event allows us to engage directly with the schools and also supports a local young, formative theatre group.

Pre-school children are catered for in our Fun Day at Langborough Recreation Ground. The larger site meant we were able to add electric go-carts (hugely popular) and gave families space to picnic.

Hopefully, you will have had a May Cultural Month brochure delivered to your homes. If not they are available at the back of the hall. 2016 is 25% bigger than 2015 and includes the Queen's Birthday Celebrations in June. This gives us the opportunity to showcase our talented and highly productive cultural organisations and the cost is covered by the advertising. It would be lovely to produce them monthly but I have a feeling Gemma would resign, she puts so much hard work and care into producing it.

Another ongoing piece of work is the virtual museum which will continue to be added to as and when Gemma has the time.

Finally, last year I highlighted our efforts to improve the marketing of the events with the appointment of our new marketing manager, Philippa Temmink. I hope you will agree that she has made a difference and that more residents know about our offerings. The umbrella brand "Love Wokingham" is appearing on more literature and once again on the back of a bus. We really do believe that despite the challenges facing us, if we play together we stay together and, indeed, love Wokingham.

The Mayor thanked all the Chairman for their reports and for the time they set aside to achieve all of these things.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (Agenda Item 7)

Mr Keith Malvern asked:

Town Centre Parking

When the Town Council considered the Borough Council's parking proposals they said that this was the wrong time. Now that the Executive Committee of the Borough Council have tried to implement the charges would the Town Council consider asking the Borough to implement charges like Woodley Town Council wanted?

The Mayor asked Cllr D G Lee to respond who gave the following reply:

If I could just remind everyone that a meeting of the planning committee here on 2nd February, what we agreed was this – I will read it out if I may:

Wokingham Town Council has considered the impact on the town of the proposal to introduce evening and weekend parking charges.

The Town Council believes that, with the regeneration of the town under way, this is not the right time to implement additional charges.

However, if they are justified by a financial assessment and are not the prelude to further charges or restrictions then the Town Council will not object, but requests that residents be allowed to purchase an annual pass to park anywhere in the town at any time of the day or night.

You mention about Woodley so as I've mentioned in our comments that although as a Town Council we would have preferred a different outcome we appreciate the financial position the WBC is in; it is the lowest funded authority in the whole country and we would accept the financial reality we all find ourselves in to achieve a balanced budget.

With regards to Woodley, the situation there is that they have also accepted the need to ensure a balanced budget which is not only a legal requirement but one of sound financial management.

The Woodley position is very clear; having agreed the need for the increase they argued that there is in Woodley a small night time economy as compared to Wokingham town and as such could obtain the same financial outcome by increasing the day time charge only.

I would finish by saying that the need to ask some to pay slightly more is not something we enjoy doing or are agreeing with but I am sure you would agree it is a necessity to ensure funds are available to protect vulnerable children and adults which is what the WBC uses the funds for.

Mr Keith Malvern then asked:

I am grateful for your comments but can I just ask if you have been reassured by the financial information about the usage of the car parks and the implications of the finances?

Cllr D G Lee advised the following:

We were very clear in what we said – if it is a requirement to have a sound balanced budget we would reluctantly agree. I can advise you that if a number of Borough Councillors do not accept the argument put forward they can ask for a Scrutiny meeting to be held and I can confirm that this is happening in June.

Mr Andrew Le Breuilly (Litter Heroes) asked:

Recycling Bins

In the last year or so we have been collecting rubbish around the town and we have noticed there are no recycling bins. Are there any plans for some to be included?

The Town Clerk advised the following:

It is planned that some will be included in the Market Place development and we are working with the Borough Council as it is them who have the contract for collecting the rubbish.

It is thought that consideration will also be given to including these with the wider town regeneration plans too.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT ELECTORS MAY WISH TO RAISE (Agenda Item 8)

The Mayor advised that this Saturday he and others are collecting in the town for his nominated charity this year; Macmillan Cancer Support. He asked that if anyone is interested in joining him to please get in touch.

GRANTS (Agenda Item 10)

The Mayor then asked the RFO to announce the following names of the grant recipients for them to collect their certificates. The RFO advised that payments would be made via BACS to their nominated bank accounts next Monday 18th April, provided that they had notified us of their details:

All Saints Church
ARC Youth Counselling
Wokingham Choral Society
Wokingham & District Citizens Advice Bureau
Cultural Partnership
Dingley Early Years Centre
Holt Copse Conservation Volunteers
Home Start
Wokingham Job Support Centre

Just Around the Corner
The Litter Heroes
The Link Visiting Scheme
Wokingham Lions Club
Readibus
Relate
Samaritans of Bracknell, Wokingham, Ascot & District
St. Catherine's Church
Saint Sebastian Wokingham Band
Wokingham Volunteer Centre
Wokingham Winter Carnival

CHAIRMAN