

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY, MANAGEMENT AND  
FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE,  
ON MONDAY, 17 JULY 2017, AT 7.30 P.M.**

Committee Members present: Councillor C S Dickson (Chairman)  
Councillors Mrs CEC Dickson, E C Goldsmith, J C Goodman,  
Mrs J T Hannaby, K A Harris, B Mabbett, C McCarthy, Mrs J E Nunn-Price  
and S Trinder.

Others present: Mr J Mitchell – Opera Unmasked (up to item 15a).  
One member of the public.

Town Clerk: Mr W P Falkenau.

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Crawford, Miss K Gill, Mrs M Gradwell,  
P O’Leary, Mrs J Reynolds and Major J Sibbald.

**Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary and other Interests**

None.

**Minutes of Meeting held on 19 June 2017**

The minutes were approved and signed.

**14. Statements and Questions from the Public**

None.

**15. Briefings by applicants for donations and grants**

a) Opera Unmasked.

Mr Mitchell gave a briefing on the project Young Voices of the Vale 2018 Competition in support of his application for funding for this. The Youth Town Council had already given its support to the request for £700, but he would welcome any additional funding that the Town Council was able to provide. He was thanked for his briefing and he left the meeting.

**16. Matters Arising**

a) Update on health survey

A meeting of the Sub Committee had been called for Thursday 20 July. Due to the short notice given there was the possibility that some members might not be able to attend. The Clerk agreed to email all members to ascertain whether there was a significant number that would be unable to attend.

**Action: Clerk**

b) Update on investment and banking arrangements

The Clerk had not yet been able to progress this. He had visited a local bank, but found that all contact for business accounts had to be made by telephone.

**Action: Clerk**

c) Update on review of financial regulations

The Clerk was to arrange a Working Party meeting to progress this.

**Action: Clerk**

The aim was to refer any regulation changes to the Committee meeting in November.

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**POLICY**

**17. Review of rules relating to ‘Statements and questions from the public’**

The current rules were noted. These had been set in 2004.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mabbett  
SECONDED BY Councillor Dickson

IT WAS RESOLVED that the rules relating to ‘Statements and questions from the public’ remain unchanged.

There was suggestion that the wording of the rules could be made more user friendly.  
Councillor Mrs Nunn-Price agreed to review these and come forward with recommendations.

**Action: Mrs Nunn-Price**

**18. Minutes of Youth Town Council meeting held on 19 June 2017.**

The minutes were noted and actions approved.

**MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE**

**19. Financial statements to July 2017**

The financial statements were considered. There were no major issues or concerns. It was noted that the review of the statements formed part of the annual review of internal control conducted by the Council. It was agreed that the financial statements be posted on the Town Council’s website.

**Action: Clerk**

**20. Requests for donations and grants**

a) Opera Unmasked

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Nunn-Price  
SECONDED BY Councillor Mabbett

IT WAS MOVED that the £700 donation approved by the Youth Town Council be endorsed and that no further contribution be made. This was approved nine in favour, none against. Mr Mitchell was to be advised that the Town Council strongly supported the competition and that he be encouraged to seek funding from the District Council, parish councils and others, and that the Town Council would use its endeavours to promote the competition.

**Action: Clerk**

b) Wantage Silver Band re Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> event

Councillors involved in the Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> event were unaware of any outstanding obligation to contribute to the Silver Band. The Clerk was to seek clarification from the Deputy concerning this.

**Action: Clerk**

**21. To consider purchase of signs and cones relating to the market**

The Clerk advised that this had been referred to the meeting from the Leisure and Amenities Committee. The purchases involved would normally be dealt with by the Clerk without referral to the Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Goldsmith  
SECONDED BY Councillor Mrs Nunn-Price

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IT WAS RESOLVED to leave it to the Clerk to sort out what cones and signs might be needed to support the market.  
**Action: Clerk**

**22. Accounts for payment**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Dickson  
SECONDED BY Councillor Goodman  
IT WAS RESOLVED that Accounts for Payment in the sum of £ 37,299.61 (attached) be approved.

**24. Confidential Items**

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman  
IT WAS RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded, and they were instructed to withdraw.

**24. To sign the confidential minutes of the minutes held on 19 June 2017 and matters arising.**

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman  
IT WAS RESOLVED that the resolutions made in confidential session be adopted.

**23. General correspondence**

a) Proliferation of 'A' boards on pavements around the town

It was reported that there were a growing number of 'A' boards obstructing pavements around the town. Action to deal with these was the responsibility of the County Council. In the current financial climate, it was unlikely that the County Council would be willing to attend to these. The Clerk advised that the Town Council could seek delegated authority from the County Council to deal with these.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Goodman  
SECONDED BY Councillor Dickson  
IT WAS RESOLVED to seek delegated authority from the County Council to permit the Town Council to remove 'A' boards. The issue was also to be referred to the next Traffic Advisory Committee and the Joint Economic Forum.  
**Action: Clerk**

b) Armed Forces Day Event

The Sub Committee dealing with the event had recommended that the event be held again in 2018 on Sunday 1 July. It was agreed to approve this.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

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**Wantage Town Council**

**Accounts for Payment - June to July 2017**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Powers</b>	<b>Ref</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
01/07/2017	VWHDC	Rates cemetery	Burials	DD	£	52.00
01/07/2017	VWHDC	Rates car park	OA 1985	DD	£	316.00
01/07/2017	VWHDC	Rates Market	OA 1985	DD	£	347.00
01/07/2017	Abbey Properties	Market Attendant's shed rent	OA 1985	SO	£	100.00
22/06/2017	NEST	Pension contribution payments	Office	DD	£	48.00
21/06/2017	Staff - various	June payroll	Office/OA1985	Bacs	£	5,749.52
Total direct debits					£	6,612.52
19/06/2017	HMRC	PAYE 1st quarter	Office/OA 1985	306059	£	3,513.80
19/06/2017	KA District Scouts	Donation	Halls/Recreation	306060	£	4,000.00
19/06/2017	SGW Payroll	Payroll processing June	Office/OA 1985	306061	£	66.60
19/06/2017	Castle Water	Water in cemetery	Burials	306062	£	14.15
19/06/2017	Castle Water	Statue area water supply	OA1985	306063	£	5.21
19/06/2017	WP Falkenau	Flags and allotment infill material	Highways/allotments	306064	£	421.18
19/06/2017	Mrs C Bennett	Return of burial reservation fee	Burials	306065	£	100.00
19/06/2017	Shush	Stage/entertainment for Armed Forces Day	Entertainment	306066	£	7,090.56
26/06/2017	Charlton Environmental	Weedkilling in town centre	Highways	306067	£	252.00
26/06/2017	Broxap	Replacement bench seats	Street furniture	306068	£	1,335.60
26/06/2017	CD Associates	Reimbursement re Hi viz tabbards/advertising items for Armed Forces Day event	Entertainment	306069	£	340.87
26/06/2017	JT Productions	PA for Armed Forces Day event	Entertainment	306070	£	575.00
07/07/2017	White Horse Horticulture	Grass cutting etc at cemetery/play area June	Burials/Open spaces	306071	£	1,240.00
07/07/2017	Red Corner	Photocopying charges June	Office	306072	£	34.62
11/07/2017	Mobiloo	Disabled toilet for carnival	Entertainment	306073	£	360.00
11/07/2017	V&D Museum	2nd quarter grant - museum	Entertainment	306074	£	4,750.00
11/07/2017	V&D Museum	2nd quarter grant - visitor information point	Tourism/LGA 72	306075	£	1,587.50
11/07/2017	W&G Children's Centre	1st half grant	Entertainment	306076	£	5,000.00
Total cheques					£	30,687.09
<b>Total payments June to July 2017</b>					<b>£</b>	<b>37,299.61</b>