

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE, ON
MONDAY, 9 APRIL 2018, AT 7.30 P.M.**

Councillors present: Councillor S Trinder (Town Mayor)
Councillors Mrs C E C Dickson, C S Dickson, Miss K Gill,
E C Goldsmith, J Goodman, Mrs M Gradwell, Mrs J T Hannaby,
K A Harris, B Mabbett, C McCarthy, Ms J E Nunn-Price,
Mrs J Reynolds and Major J Sibbald.

Clerk: Mr W P Falkenau.
Deputy Clerk Communications: Miss S Mckendrick

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Crawford and P O'Leary.

Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None.

Minutes of Council Meetings held on 5 March 2018

The minutes were approved and signed.

64. Statements and questions from the public

None.

65. Matters arising from the Council minutes held on 19 February and 5 March 2018

57. Town Mayor's Communications – letter of support for the expansion of the Grove Rugby Club Pavilion

A letter of support from the Town Mayor on behalf of the Town Council to the Rugby Club had been sent and receipt acknowledged.

66. Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 19 February and 12 March 2018

36a. Update on traffic calming VAS

The VAS at Ickleton Road had not been installed by the end of March. The Town Council had received a grant for the sign. The element relating to the pole installation had been retained by the County Council and it was unclear whether the cost of installing the pole would still be covered by the County Council.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Goodman
SECONDED BY Councillor Major Sibbald
IT WAS RESOLVED to express disappointment to the County Council for the failure to install the pole by the end of March and that there was an expectation that the cost of the pole installation would be met by the County Council.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Reynolds
SECONDED BY Councillor Major Sibbald
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes, as amended, be adopted.

67. Minutes of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on 5 March 2018

40 j. Salt/grit bins

It was noted that the bin for Witan Way should be located on the south east side of the roundabout.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Trinder
SECONDED BY Councillor McCarthy
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes, as amended, be adopted.

68. Minutes of the Promotion, Communications and Events Committee meeting held on 26 March 2018

32. To consider participation in the "Silent Soldiers" initiative

There was support for the purchase of the black metallic figures supplied by the Royal British Legion. It was noted these would only be in situ for a temporary period during the commemoration of the end of World War 1.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor McCarthy
SECONDED BY Councillor Mabbett
IT WAS MOVED that six figures be purchased, four for the town entrances, one for the museum and one for the Market Place. Councillors Mrs Hannaby and Major Sibbald declared interests as officers of the British Legion. The resolution was approved eleven in favour, none against.

It was reported that at the recent meeting of the local Royal British Legion branch there was a request to give recognition to the end of the World War 1 by the Town Council hosting a modest event at The Beacon following the Remembrance Day service. It was suggested that refreshments be provided and the Silver Band be asked to play. It was agreed that this be referred to the next meeting of the Committee and that the Deputy Clerk Communications should make enquiries regarding the availability of The Beacon and of the Silver Band.

Action: Deputy Clerk Communications

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mabbett
SECONDED BY Councillor Major Sibbald
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes, as amended, be adopted.

69. Minutes of the Policy, Management and Finance Committee meeting held on 19 March 2018

71 e) Update on offer by Crab Hill developer - Town Council to take over responsibility for maintenance of green space areas

The developer had advised that it was not prepared to transfer the freehold of the green spaces to the Town Council and that the lease proposed in the S106 agreement should apply. It had also been confirmed that there was no definition for the length of the offer period referred to in the S106 agreement.

It was generally felt that there was insufficient information available for the Town Council to make a final decision concerning this.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor McCarthy

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SECONDED BY Councillor Goodman

IT WAS RESOLVED that representatives of St Modwen, the Crab Hill developer, be invited to meet the Town Council to:

- a) discuss the lease,
- b) provide advice on the phasing of completion of the development and
- c) give details of when S106 payment instalments would be received.

The meeting was to be held on a separate evening from other Council business and as many Councillors as possible were to attend. District Council Planning officers and Legal Team members were also to be invited to attend. **Action: Clerk**

Consideration of re-establishment of a Crab Hill Green Spaces Sub-Committee was to be referred to the Annual Council meeting. **Action: Clerk**

71 c) Update on actions from Health Sub-Committee meeting held on 8 January 2018

The Clerk was to chase for a response to his letter to the Oxford Health Trust.

Action: Clerk

A meeting of the Health Committee to be held as soon as a response is received.

Action: Trinder

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Dickson

SECONDED BY Councillor Ms Nunn-Price

IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes, as amended, be adopted.

70. District and County Councillors' reports

District Councillors' report

A decision on the planning application for the development of the former King Alfred's Academy East Site had been deferred pending consideration of objections raised by neighbours. The Harwell link road had recently been opened. The District Council had reported a gender pay gap of only 1.1%. The planning application of the new leisure centre at Mably Way had been submitted.

County Councillor's report

There had been ongoing work relating to the Corporate Plan, the Oxfordshire Growth Deal and the Oxford-Cambridge Expressway. The introduction of the Transformation Plan was affecting the availability of resources.

71. Town Mayor's communications

The Town Mayor was liaising with District Council Officers regarding the deep clean activity that was proceeding within the town and was due to be undertaken at the end of the week. The Town Mayor reminded Councillors of the litter pick that he had arranged for Sunday 15 April.

Confidential

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman

SECONDED BY Councillor Goodman

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.

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- 72. **Confidential minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2018 and matters arising from the minutes of the meetings held on 19 February and 5 March 2018**
- 73. **Confidential minutes of the Policy, Management and Finance Committee meeting held on 19 March 2018**
- 74. **Confidential minutes of the Promotion, Communication and Events Committee meeting held on 26 March 2018**

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman
SECONDED BY Councillor Goodman

IT WAS RESOLVED that the resolutions made in confidential session be adopted.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

WPF/ME