

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN  
COUNCIL HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE  
ON MONDAY, 14 MAY 2018 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present: Councillor S Trinder (Town Mayor up to item 1)  
Councillor C McCarthy (Town Mayor from item 1)  
Councillors A Crawford (part), C S Dickson, Mrs C E C Dickson, Miss K Gill,  
E C Goldsmith, J Goodman, Mrs M Gradwell (part), Mrs J T Hannaby, K Harris,  
B Mabbett, Mrs J E Nunn-Price, P M O'Leary, Mrs J Reynolds and Major J  
Sibbald.

Other present: Four members of the public (part).

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

**Apologies for Absence**

None.

**Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

None.

**Statements and Questions from the Public**

None.

**1. Election of Town Mayor**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Goldsmith  
SECONDED by Councillor Goodman  
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Councillor McCarthy be Town Mayor for the  
ensuing year.

Councillor Mrs Gradwell arrived.

Councillor McCarthy thanked Councillor Trinder for the good work he had done as Town Mayor  
over the past two years. He presented him with a past town mayor badge.

**2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

Councillor McCarthy signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Town Mayor confirmed that the practice of councillors sitting to speak in Council  
meetings would continue to apply.

Councillor Crawford arrived.

**3. Election of Deputy Town Mayor**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Dickson  
SECONDED by Councillor Mabbett  
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Miss Gill be Deputy Town Mayor for the ensuing year.

**4. Appointment of Standing Committees, sub-committees and of Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen.**

**Appointment of Standing Committees and sub-committees**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Major Sibbald

SECONDED BY Councillor Goodman

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the appointments for committees and sub-committees that applied in 2017/18, excluding the Crab Hill Green Spaces sub-committee, be applied for 2018/19.

These are as follows:

- (a) Planning Committee: Councillors Crawford, Miss Gill, Mrs Reynolds, Major Sibbald and Trinder.
- (b) Leisure and Amenities: Councillors Mrs Dickson, Dickson, Goldsmith, Goodman, Mrs Gradwell, Mrs Hannaby, Harris, Mabbett, McCarthy, Mrs Nunn-Price, O'Leary, Major Sibbald and Trinder.
- (c) Promotion, Communication and Events Committee: Councillors Dickson, Goldsmith, Goodman, Mrs Gradwell, Mrs Hannaby, Harris, Mabbett, McCarthy, Major Sibbald and Trinder.
- (d) Policy, Management and Finance Committee: All Councillors.
- (e) Health Sub-committee: Councillors Crawford, Dickson, Goodman, Mrs Hannaby, Mabbett, Mrs Nunn-Price and Trinder.
- (f) Staffing sub-committee: Councillors Mrs Hannaby, Goodman, McCarthy and Trinder.

**Appointment of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees and sub-committees**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Goodman

SECONDED BY Councillor Mrs Dickson

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen for committees and sub-committees for the ensuing year, remain unchanged from 2017/18, with the exception of the Health Sub-committee where the Town Mayor by custom acts as Chairman.

These are as follows:

- (a) Planning Committee: Chairman - Councillor Mrs Reynolds, Vice Chairman - Councillor Trinder.
- (b) Leisure and Amenities Committee: Chairman - Councillor Trinder, Vice-Chairman - Councillor Mrs Gradwell
- (c) Promotion, Communication and Events Committee: Chairman - Councillor Mabbett, Vice-Chairman - Councillor Goodman
- (d) Policy, Management and Finance Committee: Chairman - Councillor Dickson, Vice-Chairman - Councillor Miss Gill
- (e) Health Sub-committee: Chairman – Councillor McCarthy

### **Crab Hill Green Spaces Sub-committee**

It was suggested that the scope of this sub-committee should be extended to deal with all S106 matters. It was felt that there was an urgent need to appoint it in order to deal with the offer regarding the Crab Hill Green Spaces.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor McCarthy  
SECONDED BY Councillor Mrs Hannaby  
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that a S106 sub-committee be appointed, with Councillor Dickson being the Chairman, and the following as members - Councillors Crawford, Dickson, Goodman, Mrs Hannaby, McCarthy, Mabbett and Mrs Nunn-Price

It was noted that the Health, Staffing and S106 sub-committees were all sub-committees of the Policy, Management and Finance Committee.

### **5. Appointment of Internal Auditor**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Major Sibbald  
SECONDED by Councillor Goldsmith  
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Mr Symes be appointed Internal Auditor for the year 2018/19.

### **6. Appointment of Data Protection Officer**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby  
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Nunn-Price  
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Miss S Mckendrick be appointed Data Protection Officer for the Council.

### **7. Appointment of Members on Joint Committees**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mabbett  
SECONDED by Councillor Goodman  
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the appointments for joint committees that applied in 2017/18 should apply for 2018/19.

These are as follows:

- (a) Wantage and Grove Traffic Advisory Committee: Councillors Mrs Nunn-Price and Trinder, and Mr Stokell and Ms Thwaite.
- (b) Wantage and Grove Joint Economic Forum: Councillors Dickson, Mrs Gradwell, Mrs Nunn-Price and Trinder.

### **8. Appointment of Representatives on Other Bodies**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby  
SECONDED by Councillor O'Leary  
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the appointments for representatives on other bodies that applied in 2017/18 should apply for 2018/19.

These are as follows:

- (a) Vale and Downland Museum (Wantage): Trustee: Councillor Mrs Reynolds.
- (b) Letcombe Brook Project: Councillors Crawford and Mrs Dickson.
- (c) Independent Advice Centre: Councillor Goodman.
- (d) Parish Transport Representative: Councillor Mrs Nunn-Price.
- (e) Executive Committee of Wantage, Grove and District Twinning Association: Councillor

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Mrs Nunn-Price.

- (f) Dickensian Evening Working Party: Councillors Dickson, Goodman and Mrs Gradwell.
- (g) Friends of Sweatbox: Councillor Crawford and Mr Richardson.
- (h) Wantage and Grove Community Led Children's Services: Councillor Mabbett
- (i) Stiles Almhouses Trustee: Councillor Major Sibbald

**9. To note scope of Internal Audit Review 2017/18 and the completion of the Annual Internal Audit Report 2017/18**

The internal auditor had advised that "The Council's accounting & financial systems are up to date & well controlled."

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor O'Leary

SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Nunn-Price

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Internal Audit Review 2017/18 and the Annual Internal Report 2017/18 be noted.

**10. To consider and approve for signing the Balance Sheet and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018, including consideration of allocation of project reserves**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby

SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Dickson

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Balance Sheet and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018, including the allocation of project reserves as proposed, be approved and signed.

**11. To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2017/18**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Goodman

SECONDED by Councillor Trinder

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement 2017/18 be approved and signed.

**12. To approve the Accounting Statements 2017/18**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Goodman

SECONDED by Councillor O'Leary

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Accounting Statements 2017/18 be approved and signed.

**13. To approve payment of grants for 2018/2019**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mabbett

SECONDED by Councillor Major Sibbald

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the following grants be paid over the coming year:-

Dickensian Evening	£500
GROW Children's Centre	£10,000
Independent Advice Centre	£10,000 (includes £5,000 for accommodation)
Independent Advice Centre – Comet bus	£6,000
Joint Economic Forum	£1,000
Letcombe Brook Project	£8,000
Wantage Museum - general	£19,000
Wantage Museum - Visitor Information Point	£6,350
Be Free Young Carers	£5,000
Sweatbox	£10,500
Wantage Counselling	£3,000
October Club	£3,000

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The question had been raised during the past year about whether Wantage and Grove Street Pastors and the Betjeman Millennium Park should receive annual grants. It was agreed that this be referred to the next Policy, Management and Finance Committee meeting as an agenda item.

**Action: Clerk**

**14. Approval of Signatories for Bank Mandate**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Goodman

SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Gradwell

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor, Committee Chairmen and Town Clerk be cheque signatories, with any three to sign.

**15. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 April 2018**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Major Sibbald

SECONDED by Councillor Mabbett

IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes, including confidential items, be approved and signed.

**16. To note arrangements for meeting with representatives of the Crab Hill developer on Wednesday 16 May 2018 at 9.30 am at The Beacon.**

The Clerk had distributed a statement detailing the timing and amount of S106 contributions, relating to green space maintenance, that will be due as tranches of the development are completed. A copy of a plan detailing the spaces had also been distributed.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Dickson

SECONDED by Councillor Miss Gill

IT WAS RESOLVED to note the statement and plan

All councillors were invited to attend the meeting on the Wednesday.

**Action: All**

**17. Other Business**

Town Crier: It was reported that Mr Richardson was willing to continue as Town Crier, and it was agreed that he should do so.

The meeting closed at 8.17 p.m.

WPF

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