

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE, ON
MONDAY, 29 JULY 2019, AT 7.30 P.M.**

Councillors present: Councillor Major J Sibbald (Town Mayor)
Councillors O C Curley, A Dunford, A Duveen,
T Gilhome, J Goodman, E L Johnson, A C Menzies,
I L Sheldon, Dr C Walters and C H Wills-Wright.

Others present: Thames Valley Police – PC Darren James.
Two members of the public

Clerk: W P Falkenau.
Deputy Clerk: S Sanders.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors I R Cameron, A Crawford,
J E Nunn-Price and P O’Leary.

The meeting stood in a minute’s silence in memory of former Councillor, Eddy
Goldsmith.

Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests

None.

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 24 June 2019

The minutes were approved and signed.

24. Statements and questions from the public

A member of the public asked why dates for sub-committee meetings were not appearing on the Council’s calendar. It was advised that these meetings were called on an ad hoc basis and would be included when dates were set. There had been no recent sub-committee meetings other than a Staffing sub-committee, which by its nature was required to be held as a confidential meeting without members of the public present.

In a second question, it was asked what the Town Council was doing to promote events around the town. It was noted that the Deputy Clerk was actively promoting events through the Council’s website, social media and through the Town Council’s physical noticeboards. The effectiveness of this would be considered by the Council’s Promotion, Communication and Events Committee.

25. Briefing by PC Darren James from Thames Valley Police

PC James was welcomed to the meeting. He explained that the local priorities for the police were influenced by the Police Neighbourhood Action Group which helps to signpost issues that are of importance to the local community. There was discussion concerning CCTV. PC James advised that there was no objection from the police regarding the Council’s proposal to install CCTV equipment in various premises around the town. He advised that there was a need to give regard to responsibilities under GDPR. He acknowledged that there was a need for CCTV coverage in Wallingford Street following the removal of the District Council’s camera some years ago. He was asked whether when bylaws specify a Police Constable, could it be assumed that a Police Constable Support Officer (PCSO) be substituted? He advised that the duties of Constables and PCSOs were covered under separate legislation and that advice concerning this would need to be sought from elsewhere. There was discussion

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concerning incidents by Shush and the Cellar Bar and the obstruction of dropped kerbs by parked vehicles. He reported that as well as calling telephone number 101, incidents and complaints could now be reported online. He was also happy for Councillors to be passed his email address. PC James was thanked for his briefing and he left the meeting.

26. Matters arising from the Council meeting held on 24 June 2019

23 – District Councillor’s report

It was noted that Councillor Crawford was seeking changes to the S106 funding application procedures.

20 - item 2

It was noted that the top band was now available to perform on 15 September.

27. Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 24 June and 8 July 2019

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Major Sibbald
SECONDED BY Councillor Johnson
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be adopted.

28. Minutes of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on 1 July 2019

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Hannaby
SECONDED BY Councillor Dunford
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be adopted.

29. Minutes of the Promotion, Communications and Events Committee of the meeting held on 22 July 2019

Item 10 – Protocol and procedure for marking the death of a senior figure

The Town Mayor reported that he had purchased arm bands and rosettes.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Dr Walters
SECONDED BY Councillor Duveen
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes, as amended, be adopted.

30. Minutes of the Policy, Management and Finance Committee meeting held on 15 July 2019 and to consider membership and chairmanship of the Climate sub-committee

23 – Climate change sub-committee

It was resolved that the following Councillors be members of the sub-committee. Councillors Cameron, Crawford, Dunfor, Duveen, Hannaby, Johnson, Nunn-Price, Dr Walters and Wills-Wright. It was agreed the Chairmanship of the sub-committee should be determined by the sub-committee itself and referred to its first meeting.

31. The appointment of Mr Rose as internal auditor for 2019/20

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Sheldon
SECONDED BY Councillor Goodman
IT WAS RESOLVED that Mr Rose be appointed as Internal Auditor for 2019/20.

32. District and County Councillors' reports

County Councillor's report

Councillor Hannaby reported that the integration of the administration of the Cherwell District Council and the County Council was proceeding. The County Council was developing a new Children's Strategy for over 600 children in care. Bed blocking was recurring with local nursing homes full. The strategy for the homeless was also under review and also one for electric vehicles was being developed.

District Councillors' report

The District Councils were working with the County Council with a view to introducing civil parking enforcement. Strategies relating to the leisure centre and health and welfare were due to be published in January.

33. Town Mayor's communications

The Town Mayor had produced a report for events and activities that he and his deputy had participated in from 25 June to 29 July. It also included future events and activities. The report was available on the Council's website.

CONFIDENTIAL

ON THE PROPOSITION of The Town Mayor
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.

Pride in Wantage

Arrangements for the presentation of a Pride in Wantage award were agreed.

Action: Clerk

Attendance of Lidl information stall at the Farmers Market on Saturday 27 July 2019

Complaints had been received from the stallholders at the Farmers Market about the positioning of the Lidl stall in the area occupied by the Farmers Market. It was agreed that the complaints be referred to the next Leisure and Amenities meeting for its consideration. The Clerk was to acknowledge the complaints and advise of the action being taken.

Action: Clerk

The meeting came out of confidential session.

The meeting closed at 8.52 p.m.

WPF/ME