

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE, ON  
MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2020, AT 7.30 P.M.**

Councillors present: Councillor Major J Sibbald (Town Mayor)  
Councillors A Crawford, A Duveen, A Gilhome,  
J Goodman, J T Hannaby, E L Johnson,  
J E Nunn-Price, P O'Leary, I L Sheldon,  
and C H Wills-Wright.

Others present: One member of the public from item 65. 26 k)

Clerk: W P Falkenau.  
Deputy Clerk: S Sanders

**Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors I R Cameron, O C Curley,  
A Dunford, A C Menzies and C Walters.

**Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests**

None.

**Minutes of the Council meeting held on 9 December 2019**

The minutes were approved and signed.

**61. Statements and questions from the public**

None.

**62. Matters arising from the Council meetings held on 25 November and  
9 December 2019**

54. District and County Councillors' reports

The Clerk had exchanged emails with Mr Barber, the Deputy Police Commissioner,  
concerning on street parking enforcement. The Clerk was to pass copies of the emails to  
councillors. **Action: Clerk**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Crawford  
SECONDED BY Councillor Hannaby  
IT WAS RESOLVED that Mr Barber and representatives of the police be invited to attend  
the Annual Town Electorate meeting on 6 April 2020. **Action: Clerk**

**63. Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 25 November,  
9 December 2019 and 20 January 2020**

34 c) Update on failure of vehicles to turn left when entering Market Place from  
Newbury Street and suitability of signage and road markings in Market Place and entry  
roads.

There had been a recent incident with a vehicle, leaving Wallingford Street, travelling the  
wrong way along the north side of the Market Place. The County Council highways  
officers had been asked to come forward with ways of reinforcing the one way system in  
the Market Place. It was hoped that this would be attended to in May, when the  
rearrangements for the bus stop dropping off points would proceed.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE, ON  
MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2020, AT 7.30 P.M.

34 b) Update on re-installation of the CCTV camera in Wallingford Street.

The Clerk was due to meet the District Council officers, the following Friday.

36. Neighbourhood Plan Update

Councillors were to submit to the Clerk suggestions for any changes to the draft Plan by 28 February. **Action: All**

The Clerk was to prepare a timetable for completion of the Plan process and refer this to the Planning Committee meeting on 2 March. **Action: Clerk**

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

**64. Minutes of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on 13 January 2020**

25 c) Repairs to uneven areas of the cemetery approach road

Further comparable quotes had been received. These were to be circulated to all councillors. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

There was a wish to proceed with these works as soon as possible.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Hannaby  
SECONDED BY Councillor Wills-Wright  
IT WAS RESOLVED that delegated authority be given to the Clerk, Councillor Crawford and the Town Mayor, to jointly approve the contract for the works.  
**Action: Clerk, Crawford and Sibbald**

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

**65. Minutes of the Promotion, Communications and Events Committee meeting held on 3 February 2020**

26 e) Wantage Town Guide

Councillors Nunn-Price and Walters had submitted amendments to the proof.

26 k) Freedom of Wantage 21 March 2020

A meeting of those involved was to be held at the Cob and Pen on the following day, at 7 pm.

A member of the public arrived.

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

**66. Minutes of the Policy, Management and Finance meeting held on 27 January 2020**

64 c) Plans for the part pedestrianisation of the Market Place

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE, ON  
MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2020, AT 7.30 P.M.**

It was noted that a working group and its membership had been agreed, but had not yet met. The Clerk was to arrange a meeting. **Action: Clerk**

64 i) Future arrangements for Youth Town Council

Ms Hicks of Sweatbox was keen to involve the three remaining youth town councillors in the future arrangements. Councillor Crawford was to progress this. **Action: Clerk**

73. General Correspondence and Other Business

The Clerk had received a request from Mr Williams of Grove Extravaganza to pass him all the email addresses of town councillors, for the purpose of sending an invitation to the event. It had been the past practice of the Clerk to respond to such requests by asking that the invitation be passed to him for forwarding to all councillors. This ensured that all councillors received the same information and avoided issues relating to GDPR. It was agreed that this practice should continue. **Action: Clerk**

67. Health Sub-committee

The OCCG OX12 report had been referred to both the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The OCCG had indicated that it now intended to proceed with formal consultation for the permanent closure of the beds at the Wantage Community Hospital.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Hannaby  
SECONDED BY Councillor Sheldon

IT WAS RESOLVED that a public meeting be called, as soon as possible, to bring to the attention of the public what was being proposed.

Scheduled meeting of S106 Sub-committee on 17 February 2020

Councillor Crawford had requested that the above meeting be cancelled due to other commitments. The only new business to be dealt with, related to funding for bus services, and this was due to be referred to the Planning Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Crawford  
SECONDED BY Councillor Hannaby

IT WAS RESOLVED that the S106 Sub-committee meeting scheduled for 17 February, be cancelled.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Sheldon  
SECONDED BY Councillor Wills-Wright

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

**67. Risk Assessment dated 22 January 2020.**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Wills-Wright  
SECONDED BY Councillor Sheldon

IT WAS RESOLVED that the updated Risk Assessment for 2020 be accepted

**68. To consider request from Betjeman Park Trust for the Town Council to support its S106 funding application.**

The Trust had applied to the District Council for £2,128 for replacement of footpath edging. The District Council requires the Town Council's support for S106 funding applications within Wantage parish.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE, ON  
MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2020, AT 7.30 P.M.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Goodman  
SECONDED BY Councillor Johnson  
IT WAS RESOLVED that support be given to the Betjeman Park Trust's application for S106 funding.

**69. District and County Councillors' reports**

District Council

The work of the District Council had been focused on preparing budgets. A balanced budget was being sought. Funds had been allocated for the production of a new local Plan, for a transformation project, and a project to consider the merging of the Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire District Councils. Contracts were being reviewed. This could lead to some work being brought in-house. Attention was being given to dealing with fly tipping and litter dropping.

County Council

The County Council had also been working on budgets. The Growth Board was considering a rail strategy that could lead to the re-opening of the station at Grove by as early as 2024. The County Council has been asked to consider taking over responsibility for the South Oxfordshire Local Plan.

**70. Town Mayor's communications**

The Town Mayor advised that a report covering recent activities would be available on the Town Council's website.

**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.

**71. Update re staff recruitment**

The Clerk reported that Andrea Yates had been recruited as Town Centre Manager to work twenty five hours a week. James Mitchell had been recruited as Town Projects Co-ordinator to work ten hours a week. Mr Mitchell would be commencing his duties that week. Mrs Yates would commence on 2 March 2020.

The Clerk had been advised that the application for £17,000 of S106 funding relating to the Town Centre Manager appointment had been approved. A formal offer letter had not yet been received.

The Clerk had made enquiries about renting the office and store previously used by the Food Bank. He intended to bring a formal proposal concerning this to the next meeting of the Policy, Management and Finance Committee. **Action: Clerk**

The meeting came out of confidential session.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

WPF