

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PROMOTION, COMMUNICATION AND EVENTS COMMITTEE OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON, PORTWAY, ON MONDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7.30 PM.

Committee members present: Councillor C Walters(Chairman)
Councillors O C Curley, J Goodman, J E Nunn-Price and
Major J Sibbald.

Others present: One member of the public.

Town Clerk: W P Falkenau.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Crawford, T Gilhome, JT Hannaby, and C Wills-Wright J Goodman and Dr C Walters.

Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

None.

To sign the minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2019

The minutes were approved and signed.

25. Statements and Questions from the Public

None

26. Matters arising from the minutes

a) Silver Band Concerts in the Market Place in Summer 2020

Dates for the concerts had been confirmed and all to start at 3 pm. The Silver Band had requested that the parish church be booked in case of inclement weather. The Clerk had not yet contacted the church. **Action: Clerk**

b) Gazebos

Due to workload, the Clerk had not yet sought a quote for new gazebos. It was agreed to continue to use the two gazebos that the Council possessed and were usable. **Action: Clerk**

c) Foldable seats and tables

The Clerk had still not yet investigated the three options. He had also not been able to follow up on whether the section of building adjacent to the Council's storage shed, and currently used by the Diving Club, could be made available. **Action: Clerk**

The possibility of clearing space in the Council's own storage shed, by getting rid of some of the items being stored, was still under investigation.

d) Arrangements for Volunteers' Reception on 21 February 2020

The organisation and arrangements for the reception had been completed. Invitees had been asked to confirm attendance by 7 February. Canon Turbitt had been invited to the reception to receive his freedom of the town scroll.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PROMOTION, COMMUNICATION AND EVENTS
COMMITTEE OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON,
PORTWAY, ON MONDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7.30 PM.

e) Wantage Town Guide 2020

A proof of the Guide had been passed to all councillors. The Clerk needed to forward any final amendments by the following day. The Chairman and Councillor Nunn-Price agreed to conduct a review and advise the Clerk of any changes required.

Action: Nunn-Price/Walters

f) Communication strategy and review of approach to website and social media

The Clerk and the Town Mayor had not yet been able to progress this.

Action: Clerk/Sibbald

The Clerk had not yet ascertained the cost of a large LED display board. **Action: Clerk**

The Town Mayor had been approached by Penny Post about producing a monthly electronic newsletter for Wantage. Penny Post was currently producing a newsletter for Hungerford. Councillor Sibbald agreed to contact the Town Mayor of Hungerford for feedback on how this was working for its Town Council. **Action: Sibbald**

It was noted that there would be insufficient time to produce a newsletter for this quarter, to be distributed to all residents by Royal Mail, in March 2020.

g) Protocol and procedure for marking the death of a senior figure

The work on the protocol and procedure had been completed. The only action outstanding was the purchase of covers for the flags that were installed in the town centre during the summer. These were not likely to be installed until late April. The covers were to be purchased before then. **Action: Sibbald**

h) VE Day 75 event

There was no further progress to report. It was agreed that an event in Wantage should be held on the Friday and that it be suggested to Grove Parish Council that they hold an event on the Saturday. A meeting of a sub-committee had not yet been called. **Action: Sibbald**

The actions from the previous meeting had not yet been progressed i.e.

- value of Love Wantage brand to be referred to the Town Centre Manager for a view;
- proliferation of websites seeking to engage with the Wantage community, the role of the wantage.com website and its ability to record events being promoted more widely, to be discussed with Mr Hill, the owner of the wantage.com website. **Action: Clerk/Sibbald**

i) Follow up regarding Pride in Wantage and other awards

The Clerk had not yet sought quotes for the provision of plaques.

Action: Clerk

j) Update re provision of Changing Places facility in town centre

The cost for the provision of a facility had not yet been obtained.

Action: Hannaby

k) Freedom of Wantage 21 March 2020 – draft event plans

The Town Mayor had published event plans for the parade in the Market Place and the gathering in the Manor Road Memorial Park. These were noted. Arrangements for the Civic Ball were proceeding. It was agreed that there was a need to publicise the event widely and by various means, as soon as possible. **Action: Sibbald**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PROMOTION, COMMUNICATION AND EVENTS
COMMITTEE OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON,
PORTWAY, ON MONDAY, 3 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7.30 PM.

1) Arrangements for Seesen civic visit over weekend of 21 March 2020

Details of visitors and hosts had been sorted and a programme published. Three of the visitors had booked rooms at the Bear Hotel. There was a need to agree a policy with Seesen with regard to who meets hotel costs. **Action: Sibbald**

Councillors were asked to advise if they wished to participate in any of the activities in the programme. **Action: All**

27. Town Electorate meeting 6 April 2020 – agenda and notice

The agenda and notice were noted. Members were invited to put forward ideas for the promotion of the meeting. **Action: All**

28. Arrangements for the production of a quarterly newsletter

A small working group to progress this had not yet been formed. **Action: Wills-Wright**

29. Other business

None.

The meeting closed at 8.12 pm.

WPF