

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE VALE AND DOWNLAND MUSEUM, 19 CHURCH STREET, WANTAGE ON MONDAY 28 JUNE 2021, AT 7.30 P.M.

Councillors present: Councillor Major J Sibbald (Town Mayor)
Councillors O Curley, A Dunford, J T Hannaby,
E L Johnson and I L Sheldon.

Clerk: W P Falkenau.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors I R Cameron, A Crawford and A Gilhome.

Councillors A Duveen, P O'Leary, C Walters and C Wills-Wright observed the meeting via Zoom.

Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests

None.

14. Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on 3 May 2021

The minutes were approved. It was noted that Councillor Dunford had subsequent to the meeting agreed to be a member of the Promotion, Communication and Events Committee.

15. To consider reports from the 2020/21 Internal Audit Review dated 16 June 2021

The letter and reports from Mr Rose, the internal auditor, were noted. Two points had been raised.

a) It was recommended that when a donation was made, the power under which it was given should be recorded at the time the decision was made (it was currently recorded in the accounts for payment schedule when the payment was made). The Clerk advised that in future the power would be recorded in the minutes when the decision was made.

Action: Clerk

b) The year-end bank reconciliations had not been signed and dated. It was recommended that the year-end bank reconciliation be subject to review and approval by Council prior to the approval of the Accounting Statements. It was noted that this was the next item on the meeting agenda.

16. To consider and approve signing of the Bank Reconciliation at 31 March 2021

The bank reconciliation was considered and approved.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Councillor Sheldon

SECONDED BY Councillor Johnson

IT WAS RESOLVED that the bank reconciliation and supporting bank statements be signed/initialled by the Town Mayor as evidence of this.

Action: Sibbald

17. To consider and approve for signing the Balance Sheet and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

These were considered.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Councillor Hannaby
SECONDED BY Councillor Sheldon

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Balance Sheet and Accounts for the year-ended 31 March 2021 be approved, and signed by the Town Mayor and Clerk as evidence of this.

Action: Sibbald/Clerk

18. To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21.

Councillors had reviewed the governance statement and confirmed that the responses were appropriate.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Councillor Dunford
SECONDED BY Councillor Johnson

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Town Mayor and Clerk sign the Annual Governance Statement as indication of the Council's approval.

Action: Sibbald/Clerk

19. To approve the Accounting Statements 2020/21

The Accounting Statements were noted. These had been subject to review by the internal auditor. The Clerk, as Responsible Financial Officer, had signed the Statements on 23 June 2021.

ON THE PROPOSITION OF Councillor Hannaby
SECONDED BY Councillor Johnson

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Town Mayor sign the Accounting Statements, as indication of the Council's approval.

Action: Sibbald

20. Process to Co-opt a Town Councillor

Councillor Goodman had resigned as a councillor on 28 May. An election had not been called. Councillors were to agree a process for co-option of a new councillor, with a view to referring a decision to the next Council meeting. The Town Mayor was to arrange discussion.

Action: Sibbald

21. Town Mayor's communications

A note detailing the Town Mayor's communications had been placed on the Council's website. A letter had been received from the Burgermeister of Seesen congratulating the Town Mayor on his re-election and confirming the civic visit to Wantage in July 2022.

The meeting closed at 7.46 p.m.

WPF
