

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE ON MONDAY 1 AUGUST 2022, AT 7.30 P.M.

Councillors present: Councillor Major J Sibbald (Town Mayor)
Councillors I R Cameron, A Dunford,
T Gilhome, J T Hannaby, E L Johnson, A C Menzies,
I L Sheldon, S Third and C Walters.

Clerk: W P Falkenau.
Deputy Clerk: S Sanders

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Crawford, A Przybysz and C H Wills-Wright.

Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests

Councillor Hannaby declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of the Wantage Hospital League of Friends, a trustee of the Wantage Nursing Home Trust and a trustee of the Vale Community Impact.

To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 20 June 2022

The minutes were approved and signed.

28. Statements and Questions from the public

None.

29. Matters arising from the Council meeting held on 20 June 2022

16. 2. b) Update on suitability for mobility scooters and wheelchairs to the East Gate site, Springfield Road by the footway connecting to Charlton Road.P21/V3349/FUL

The developer had requested a site meeting to take place on the coming Thursday. The Town Mayor and Councillor Menzies agreed to attend. **Action: Menzies/Sibbald**

17. 4. d) iii Manor Road Memorial Park - Picnic tables/benches

The District Council had agreed the location for four benches.

30. Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 20 June and 11 July 2022

8 a) Update of re-installation of the CCTV camera in Wallingford Street

The District Council had advised that it was due to approve the awarding of the contract to the supplier by the beginning of August.

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

31. Minutes of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on 4 July 2022 and updated quote for resurfacing works of the Market Square parking area

10 g) Update on Market Square Improvements

The proposed contract cost had increased by more than 25% to £12,998.48. The contractor was also proposing a different location for two disabled parking spaces.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Hannaby
SECONDED BY Councillor Walters

IT WAS RESOLVED that a budget of £15,000 be set for the resurfacing and line marking of the Market Square with the location of the disabled parking spaces being agreed prior to the work proceeding. If agreement for the location of these spaces cannot be reached, the work is to proceed without them. If the cost of the works has the prospect of exceeding £15,000, this matter is to be referred back to a Council meeting. **Action: Clerk**

There was support for the disabled parking spaces to be located on the south side of the western parking area, adjacent to the statue area.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Sibbald
SECONDED BY Councillor Sheldon

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Town Mayor and the Clerk engage with the contractor to settle the location of the disabled parking spaces, **Action: Sibbald/Clerk**

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Hannaby
SECONDED BY Councillor Johnson

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

32. Minutes of the Promotion, Communication and Events Committee meeting held on 25 July 2022

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Gilhome
SECONDED BY Councillor Third

IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be adopted.

33. Minutes of the Policy, Management and Finance Committee meeting held on the 18 July 2022

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Sheldon
SECONDED BY Councillor Dunford

IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be adopted.

34. To approve the appointment of Mr Rose as internal auditor for 2022/23

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Sheldon
SECONDED BY Councillor Dunford

IT WAS RESOLVED that Mr Rose of IAC Audit & Consultancy Ltd be appointed internal auditor for 2022/23.

35. General Correspondence

a) Settlement Assessment Questionnaire for Town and Parish Councils

An email had been received on 26 July from the District Council's Planning Policy Team seeking completion of a questionnaire concerning what facilities were currently available within the parish. The deadline for completion of the questionnaire was midnight on Tuesday 6 September. Consideration was to be given on how to respond. **Action: Clerk**

36. District and County Councillors' reports

County Council

The police were not willing to enforce 20 mph speed limits or deal with vandalism relating to Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs). There was the possibility of industrial action relating to the fire services. Road repairs were progressing well and Mill Street was due to be resurfaced.

District Council

Priority was being given to the Abingdon Regeneration project.

37. Town Mayor's communications

The Town Mayor's communications were available to view on the Town Council's website.

The Mayor had attended the Institution, Induction, and Installation of The Reverend Katherine Magdalene Price. He agreed to distribute a copy of the Order of Service to all councillors.

Action: Sibbald

The meeting closed at 8.24 p.m.

WPF
