

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE BEACON, PORTWAY, WANTAGE ON MONDAY 31 JULY 2023, AT 7.30 P.M.

Councillors present: Councillor A Dunford (Town Mayor)
Councillors J T Hannaby, E L Johnson, P Kirby-Harris (part), K Morris. L Todd, C Walters and V Wright.

Others present:

Clerk: W P Falkenau
Deputy Clerk: S Sanders
Clerk Designate: J Evans

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors I R Cameron, A Crawford, T Gilhome, A C Menzies and S Third.

Councillor Menzies had been injured in a road accident. It was agreed to send him the Council's best wishes for a speedy recovery and some flowers. **Action: Clerk**

Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests and non-registrable interests

None.

29. To approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26 June 2023

The minutes were approved and signed.

Councillor Kirby-Harris arrived.

30. Statements and Questions from the public

None.

31. Matters arising from the Council meeting held on 26 June 2023

16.5 Neighbourhood Plan

The District Council had reviewed the latest draft and proposed a number of changes. Acceptance of these would make the Plan suitable to proceed to the inspection stage.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Johnson

SECONDED BY Councillor Cameron

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the proposed changes and modify the Plan accordingly.

Action: Johnson

Thanks were recorded for the work undertaken to Councillor Johnson, and all those involved in the preparation of the Plan over many years,

32. Minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 26 June and 10 July 2023

9 d) Update on 20's Plenty for Oxfordshire

The County Council consultation had closed. It was hoped that the proposals would be introduced by Christmas.

9 e) Update on the operation of bus stops (Market Place and Seesen Way)

Councillor Hannaby taken photographs of buses not adhering to the bus waiting restrictions. She agreed to pass copies of the photographs to the committee members. **Action: Hannaby**

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

33. Minutes of the Leisure and Amenities Committee meeting held on 3 July 2023

7 b) Update on additional/replacement fencing – Stockham Park

The Deputy Clerk was to arrange another date for councillors to visit.

Action: Deputy Clerk

10 c) Update on trees for Market Place

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Dunford
SECONDED BY Councillor Hannaby
IT WAS RESOLVED to support the planting of more trees around the town centre.

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

34. Minutes of the Policy, Management and Finance Committee meeting held on the 17 July 2023

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

35. District and County Councillors' reports

County Council

No work or priority was to be given to the reopening of the Grove railway station. Work on the Larkhill to Harwell cycle route had not been completed.

The Clerk was to seek advice from Mr Wilkins and Mr Tranter about what work on the cycle route was required. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk was to seek more information concerning the obstacles to reopening the railway station. **Action: Clerk**

District Council

No report.

36. Town Mayor's communications

The Town Mayor reported on events and activities that she and the Deputy Town Mayor had attended.

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The meeting closed at 8.33 p.m.

WPF