

WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Wootton Bassett Town Council held on Thursday 15th April 2010 at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Station Road, Wootton Bassett.

PRESENT: Councillors: Steve Bucknell, Mary Champion, Peter Doyle, Susan Doyle, Linda Frost, Owen Gibbs, Paul Heaphy, Mike Leighfield, Peter Roberts, Sanjay Soni, Jenny Stratton, Audrey Wannell [Late] and Chris Wannell [Late]

Officers in Attendance: Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk
Michelle Temple, Administrative
Team Leader and Susan Huish,
Administrative Assistant

PRESENTATION

Councillor Peter Roberts and his work colleagues raised £50.00 during a ‘dress down day’ which he presented to Councillor Steve Bucknell for his charity, the Richard Jones Foundation. This makes a total of £100.00 donated this year by The Carbon Trust Team.

94. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bill Roberts, Ernie Taylor and Steve Walls.

95. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007.

RESOLVED to note that no declarations were made.

96. WRITTEN REPORTS

Inspector Steve Cox was in attendance at the meeting to present a report from the Wiltshire Constabulary.

Inspector Cox announced the arrival of Acting Police Sergeant Simon Wright. PC Wright adds to the existing team comprising of one Area Commander, three General Police Duty Sergeants, one Neighbourhood Police Team Sergeant, fifteen Patrol Constables, six Neighbourhood Police Team Community Beat Managers and finally, seven Neighbourhood Police Team Police Community Support Officers.

The recent issues of anti-social behaviour in the Otter Way Play Area will no longer be a priority area to police. This is largely due to CCTV operation in the area.

Inspector Cox informed the Council that due to a new process of recording crime figures he was unable to provide a breakdown of the current detection and reduction figures, however, a breakdown of individual Town figures will be provided in the near future.

Turning to the Police Information Point, the Wootton Bassett Police Station has seen an improvement in the attendance, as members of the public are becoming more aware of this service.

Finally, Inspector Cox gave his thanks to Councillor Steve Bucknell for their working partnership over the last year.

The Mayor thanked Inspector Steve Cox for his report and for his support to the Council since his arrival in the Town.

Councillors recorded a unanimous vote of thanks to the Police for their part in co-ordinating the Afghan Heroes charity bike ride on Sunday 14th March 2010.

Councillors Peter Doyle and Bill Roberts submitted written reports as representatives of Wiltshire Council. It was agreed that the Town Clerk write to Councillor Mollie Groom reminding her of the opportunity to make a report to Council meetings.

Councillors Mike Leighfield and Paul Heaphy reported on the last Area Board meeting. Councillor Paul Heaphy expressed a need for the Community Group to maintain its momentum and was concerned at the Area Boards decision to take the Community Plan issue offline.

RESOLVED that a letter be sent to Wiltshire Council lobbying for this matter to be considered at their earliest opportunity so that a report can be returned to the Area Board.

Verbal reports were received in respect of the following:-

Councillor Mary Champion [Age Concern], Councillor Peter Roberts [St Bartholemew's School], Councillor Jenny Stratton [CAYPIG - Community Area Young Peoples Issues Group] and Councillor Paul Heaphy [Noremarsh School and Chamber of Commerce].

97. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED to confirm and sign Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on 11th February 2010 (WBTC/8/2009-2010). Copy previously circulated.

98. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor drew attention to the following;-

- The Mayors variety show which will be held on Saturday 24th April 2010 at the Memorial Hall at the cost of £15.00 per ticket
- The Annual Town meeting to be held at the Civic Centre on Thursday 29th April 2010
- The Armed Forces are holding a charity event in Taunton on Saturday 24th July 2010. Members of the Town Council have been invited to attend.
- Letter from Wiltshire Council regarding Gypsy and Traveller issues, copies of which will be circulated at the end of the meeting
- Congratulations to Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, as the newly elected Chair of the Society of Local Council Clerks [SLCC].

99. TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS

No questions were raised either with notice under Standing Order 43(a) or without notice under Standing Order 43(b)

100. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Report on a meeting of the Planning Committee held on Thursday 11th February 2010 (P/9/2009-2010). Copies previously circulated.

RESOLVED the reports be adopted.

101. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Report on a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 11th March 2009 (A/5/2009-2010). Copy previously circulated.

RESOLVED the report be adopted.

102. REVENUE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Report on a meeting of the Revenue and Resources Committee held on Thursday 18th March 2010 (R&R/6/2009-2010). Copy previously circulated.

RESOLVED that the report be adopted.

Councillor Audrey Wannell left the meeting.

103. APPRECIATION EVENTS

To receive a report from Ann Kingdon, Project Support Officer, Wootton Bassett Town Council. Copy was attached.

Ann Kingdon was contracted on a temporary basis in February 2010 to co-ordinate the many offers of appreciation events that have been received by the Wootton Bassett Town Council and the Royal British Legion.

The report outlined the events that are in the process of being arranged for later in the year. Attached was a calendar of events.

A total of twenty offers that have been received to date, have been included in this report. These are as follows;-

- 3 Male Voice Choirs
- 6 Charity motor cycle rides
- 1 Charity pedal cycle ride
- 3 Presentation plaques
- 2 Military bands
- 2 Singers
- Glen Miller style band
- Classic car rally
- Classic Military vehicle rally.

Of the seven events that were included in a report to the Town Council on Thursday 15th October 2009, five events have been dealt with. They are;-

- Newbury Races
- Royal Artillery – Ceremonial Light Gun
- Newton Newton - Flagpole
- Di Xiao - Piano Concert
- The Millies Award

The remaining events, The London Welsh Male Voice Choir and the Fred Pearce Lodge plaque, were included in the latest report.

As part of this process, a master calendar of possible events has been created which shows the suggested dates against others that are being held in the Town, e.g. Mayor Making and the Carnival.

The Council was asked to consider the following;-

[a] Whether the Esmor Davies concert was to be used for fundraising, either for local or military charities.

RESOLVED to seek views at the Annual Town meeting.

[b] Decide whether or not to accept a visit from Dereham Motor Cycle Club in 2011, date to be confirmed.

RESOLVED to seek further information, i.e. how many will attend?

[c.1] Whether to go ahead with the proposed concert and, if so, to select a date for the event.

[c.2] To underwrite any costs not covered by sponsorship

[c.3] Whether the concert is to be a fundraiser and, if so, to select which charities are to be beneficiaries.

RESOLVED to;-

[i] Agree the idea in principle but not to underwrite the full costs

[ii] Talk to RAF Lyneham and other charities, i.e. Help for Heroes, to ask if they would be interested in supporting this event.

104. PRESS RELEASES

The Committee was asked to consider whether it would like any Press Releases issued in respect of the Committee Agenda items.

RESOLVED to issue Press Releases on the following:-

- The appointment of Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, as the Chair of the Society of Local Council Clerks [SLCC]
- The calendar of appreciation events

105. PRIVATE SESSION

RESOLVED that members of the public and press be requested to leave the meeting to allow discussion of the establishment, property and finance matters as it is considered that the publicity would be prejudicial by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.