



Cricklade Town Council

First Town on the Thames

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EXTRA-ORDINARY FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday, 26th October 2010 7pm at Ockwells

Present: Cllr G. Chapman (Vice-Chair)
Cllr B. Atfield Cllr D. Avenell Cllr R. Case Cllr A. Clements
Cllr P. Colmer Cllr A. Dentith Cllr M. Dixon Cllr L. Forrester
Cllr T. Robertson Cllr R. Szybiak

There were 3 members of the public present.

Notice to public regarding fire instruction on entrance door were brought to the attention of the public.

Public Question Time

The Chairman of Cricklade Business Association asked that it be brought to the attention of Members that the interest rate quoted on the draft car park consultation leaflet at the Full Town Council meeting on 18th October 2010 related to a fixed interest rate and not a variable one as may have been assumed. And that the overall costs of taking on a Public Works Loan for the new car park would be favourable compared to the parking charges proposed by Wiltshire Council for the Town Hall Car Park. Also, that it should be made clear that the proposed wide public consultation was not a referendum.

MINUTES

10.94 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Beasley, Clark, Hatton and Tetlow.

10.95 Declarations of Interest

None received.

10.96 Chairman's Announcements

No announcements were made.

10.97 Minutes

The minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on Monday, 18th October 2010 were adopted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

10.98 Town Centre Car Park

Following a resolution at the Full Town Council meeting on Monday, 18th October 2010, the Town Clerk submitted a revised consultation leaflet to gauge public opinion about taking on a Public Works Loan to cover the cost of building a Town Centre Car Park through a rise of the local precept.

The Town Clerk gave a verbal update. The main points were:

- The outcome of the most recent discussions with Wiltshire Council's Central Bidding Unit

- That advice was that starting the build with a Public Works Loan was likely to give credibility to the project and lever external funding for associated works (e.g. lighting and CCTV)
- The difficulties of identifying suitable external funding streams for capital projects in the current economic climate
- That officers continued to seek external funding
- That the outcome of the Chancellors Spending Review confirmed that Town and Parish Councils would not be 'capped' for Council Tax purposes. And that, in future, a referendum style approach on Council Tax rises would be implemented.

Members considered an amended draft consultation leaflet. Main points of discussion were that:

- With a few minor amendments, Members were happy with the re-drafted leaflet containing only one closed question
- The leaflet should be printed on coloured paper (pale yellow), each given a number and delivered to all households in the town
- All returns should be to a central collection point – Cricklade Town Council offices
- The outcome of the consultation should be based on a majority return
- The Town Council was committed to securing the best value possible for the town
- Some of the costs were unavoidable particularly those relating to complicated drainage works
- A less developed car park that fell short of already agreed planning permission may require a fresh planning application

Members **RESOLVED** that the amended consultation leaflet should be printed, delivered to all households in Polling District NT1 and returned to the Town Council offices. And that the consultation period should run between 1st November - 10th December 2010. Also, that there would be no minimum requirement for responses and a simple majority of replies to the consultation question would be sufficient to determine the outcome.

It was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk liaise with those Councillors who had volunteered to deliver leaflets by hand to residents. (These were Cllrs Atfield, Chapman, Clements, Colmer, Dentith, Dixon, Forrester and Robertson). And that those households within the more remote parts of the parish boundaries should be sent leaflets via the postal service.

Meeting closed at 7.30pm