



# Cricklade Town Council

## First Town on the Thames

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### FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> May 2009 7PM at Ockwells

Councillors present D Tetlow, Chairman  
Cllr B Atfield                      Cllr B Beasley                      Cllr R Case                      Cllr A Clements  
Cllr P Colmer                      Cllr M Dixon                      Cllr Mrs L Forrester                      Cllr M Hatton  
Cllr Mrs R Szybiak                      Cllr Mrs A Dentith

**The fire evacuation procedures were made known to all present before commencement of the meeting.**

**Public Question Time** – There were no questions asked.

### MINUTES

**09.13 Apologies for absence.**

Received from Cllrs: Mrs T Robertson, Mrs G Chapman, Mrs D Avenell & Mrs M Boulton

**09.14 Declarations of Interest**

None received

**09.15 Chairman's Announcements**

- a) Travellers at Calcutt – The Chairman expressed concern that an unauthorised development has taken place and is concerned for the residents of Cricklade. A press release received today was read out. Wiltshire Council Enforcement Officers were at the scene on Friday evening when the travellers arrived. More evidence is needed for Wiltshire Council to prosecute. A Planning application is expected and will be considered by this Council in the usual way.
- b) Wiltshire Map – Reg & Kathleen Coole donated an historic map of Wiltshire that was presented to them by Marston Meysey Parish Meeting in recognition of their services as County Councillors. Thanks were relayed to Mr & Mrs Coole.
- c) Tina Jones successfully completed the Working With Your Council course with Gloucestershire University and was presented with a certificate of achievement. Congratulations were relayed to Tina the Assistant Town Clerk
- d) Tina Jones and David Osborn have been appointed as Appointed Persons First Aid which is a requirement through health and safety regulations – Congratulations were relayed to both.
- e) David Osborn Head Groundsman has completed a two day chain saw course and has been awarded a certificate. This enables him to attend to some small tree surgery that Council would normally hire a Tree Surgeon to do.
- f) Meeting with the County Archaeologist – The meeting was to establish other uses for Long Close. However it was established that they wish to set up a Management Plan for all parts of the Town Walls which would incorporate Long Close.
- g) A letter was read out from the Chairman of the Cricklade Twinning Association giving an account of the Twinning Association's recent visit to Suce Sur Erdre. The Mayor of Suce Sur Erdre expressed his thanks for Council's Greetings and thoughts. A book on the history of the roads in Suce was presented to the Council.

## 09.16 Policing Issues

Sergeant Alvis and PC Skey gave the following report:

- New leaflets were distributed called 'We Listen our policing pledge to you'.
- The Neighbourhood Policing Team have had recent success with regards to ASB and petty crime being on the decrease.
- A person has been remanded for 15 incidents in the local area.
- Recent reports include graffiti, disturbance of the peace (fighting), fire at the Leisure Centre, damaged wall at Stones Lane. More serious, burglaries whilst properties were occupied – to date no success with arrests.
- Beat Surgeries that are on Thursdays between 1pm and 3pm are more popular. It was suggested that Saturdays may be better as the town is busier.
- Forthcoming events will have police presence.

It was noted that the community are slowly losing local facilities with the public toilets to be closed at 6pm and the paper bank at the leisure centre being removed.

Questions asked:

- Ball games are becoming a nuisance at the back of Hebraden House – this was noted but there is not a lot that can be done.
- Communication deteriorated once the local police station closed and more policing on the street is needed. Sergeant Alvis said that the budget and resources provided for the police needs to be managed in the best possible way that would benefit the community, volunteers may be an option.
- A large proportion of the council tax goes to the police – Sergeant Alvis felt that the police give excellent value for money as a lot of unseen work goes on. An invite was extended to members if they wish to join the police whilst on patrol.

CCTV update – The following report was distributed

Camera at Fire Station – Fitted and was only operative for a day as it was vandalised the next. The wireless unit was pushed down on its bracket and its cabling ripped out. Contractors are to return to repair the wiring and will be re-locating the camera angle to enable it to pick up the views that were originally agreed.

Leisure Centre Camera – Fitted and again operating for a day and was then vandalised. The aerial master has been twisted round.

The cost to add additional anti-vandalism precautions is £299 + VAT. This includes extra long stand-off brackets for the leisure centre; these are a maximum of 3 foot for this style of bracket and should only be accessible from a cherry picker. Also anti-vandal/climb paint which can be applied to the bottom two thirds of the master to prevent anyone from gripping the master and turning it.

The anti Vandal/Climb paint could also be applied to the Fire Station Tower but the Fire Service is not happy with this solution. The fire Service suggested that some sort of wire mesh be applied around the tower. This is still being pursued and Bob Jones has requested a meeting to include reps of all three parties to agree a suitable and effective solution. It has been noted that the camera had not been placed on the top of the tower as originally agreed. This has also been brought to the contractor's attention.

Tesco Camera – Up and working well. However the contractor is to return to fit a corner bracket to enable the camera to view the public lavatories.

Vale Camera – Planning application withdrawn and re-submitted.

During a suspension of Standing Orders Bob Jones chairman of the Business Association who has assisted the Council with this project informed members that it was unfortunate that we suffered the vandalism so soon after the cameras were erected. The fire service camera was not positioned as agreed and a meeting with the contractors has been requested. The Chief Fire Officer is pursuing an idea of placing wire mesh around the tower to protect it from other would be climbers.

### 09.17 Wiltshire Council Report

Councillor Mrs H Dixon spoke on the following:

The gipsy site – a planning application has been submitted but was not valid due to insufficient information. Stop notices have been issued but ignored. A meeting was to be held at Wiltshire Council to decide on further action. There was a possibility that the contractors who delivered materials to an illegal site may be prosecuted. The Wiltshire Council Officers should be commended for their quick response. Cllr Colmer stated that Wiltshire Council need to have a proactive approach process in place. Thanks were relayed to Cllr Helen Dixon for all her support given to this council over the years and wished her well as this would be her last meeting as CTCs Wiltshire Council representative.

### 09.18 Minutes

The Minutes of the Full Town Council meetings held on the 14<sup>th</sup> April & 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009 were signed by the chairman and adopted as true records.

### 09.19 Clerk's Action Report

09.04 - Community Speed Watch – Parish/Town Councils who have adopted the initiative to be approached for information - Consulted with P C Alvis who said that there were no parishes or towns who had adopted this initiative as yet but two were awaiting training.

09.04 - CCTV – Vale Hotel – Application to be called into committee – The deadline had been missed therefore the application has been withdrawn and will be re-submitted. – Cllr Mrs H Dixon has been kept informed.

09.12 - Town Council Vacancy – Ruth Szybiak has now been co-opted onto the Town Council and the Declaration of Acceptance of office signed  
The Chairman welcomed Ruth to her first council meeting.

### 09.20 Committee Minutes

The following meeting minutes were noted:

Planning Conservation & Transport 6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> April, 11<sup>th</sup> May.

Community & Leisure 7<sup>th</sup> April, 11<sup>th</sup> May.

Personnel Sub-Committee – 14<sup>th</sup> April.

### 09.21 Correspondence and actions to take.

- a) Letter from Cricklade Business Association Chairman requesting a meeting with the Council. During a suspension of Standing Orders Bob Jones explained that before the demise of North Wiltshire District Council, there was a forum of the North Wiltshire Market Towns that met quarterly with NWDC Officers. This was valued as an excellent means of communication. With the loss of the intermediate layer of L G and the introduction of Area Boards, where it is expected that business will have a seat (non voting) that some formal dialogue with our own Town Council would be favourable and advantageous to both parties. Following discussions it was **RESOLVED** that this request be supported and that it becomes the responsibility of the Council. An initial meeting is to be arranged with the Business Association and the outcome of this meeting to be reported back to this Council. Cllrs D Tetlow, B Atfield have agreed to meet with Bob Jones.
- b) Wiltshire Criminal Justice Board Newsletter - held in the Council offices – Noted
- c) Area Boards information with meeting dates – Wiltshire Councillor J Thompson to be contacted to request that one of the Area Board meetings be held in Cricklade. Cllr Tetlow is to be named as this Council's representative to attend the Area Board meetings.

## 09.22 Town Council Accounts

The Town Council's receipts & payments & committee reports for month 1 were previously circulated and noted. Cllr Tetlow mentioned that he had observed that the Council is holding a little over £18,000 surplus and this is to be investigated into the reasons why. Also the council's reserves stand at £93,000 which is 47% of the precept.

Consideration was given to the recommendation from Community & Leisure committee that £1,500 is provided from reserves for allotment set up costs. Cllr Beasley asked for a breakdown of where the money was to be spent. The Clerk replied that it was to go towards legal costs, preparation of the ground, fences and gates. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to support this recommendation.

Before the closure of the meeting and during a suspension of Standing Orders Mr A Smith a member of the public who arrived late asked what was to happen with Bath road and the gate. It was explained that this was discussed at the last Planning meeting and there will be no change to the situation and the gate will remain.

Mr Smith also asked where he could obtain photographs of the recent beating of the bounds. He was directed to Mr J Barratt.

**Meeting closed at 8.20pm**