



## Cricklade Town Council First Town on the Thames

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### FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING Monday, 12th April 7pm at Ockwells

Councillors present D. Tetlow, Chairman  
Cllr B. Atfield                      Cllr B. Beasley                      Cllr R. Case                      Cllr G Chapman  
Cllr P. Colmer                      Cllr L Forrester                      Cllr M. Hatton                      Cllr T. Robertson  
Cllr R Szybiak

2 members of the public and 1 representative from the press were present.

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

#### Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

### MINUTES

#### 10.01 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Councillors T Clements, A Dentith and Sgt M Alvis.

#### 10.02 Declarations of Interest

Name	Item	Type of Interest	Nature of Interest	Action
Cllr. B Atfield	4 – Cotswold Water Park Society	Personal	Member of Cotswold Water Park Society	Spoke
Cllr M Hatton	4 - Cotswold Water Park Society	Personal	Member of Cotswold Water Park Society	Spoke

#### 10.03 Chairman's Announcements

- i) Following her resignation due to ill health, the Chairman expressed his thanks to Councillor M Boulton for her many years of service to the town. Notice of the Vacancy had been displayed and this advertising period was due to expire on 19<sup>th</sup> April after which time if at least 10 requests for an election had not been received then co-option would begin.
- ii) The Chairman congratulated Cricklade Bloomers for leading a successful Worm Charming event on 28<sup>th</sup> March at Saxons Rest to launch the start of the town's entry into the Britain in Bloom competition.
- iii) A new part time Grounds/Handy person had been appointed to the Town Council staff and would start work on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> April. Changes to the work pattern of the Grounds Team would now include some coverage for weekends with respect to litter picking and play area checks.

#### 10.04 **Cotswold Water Park**

A verbal presentation was given by the Chief Executive of the Cotswold Water Park, Dennis Grant. The main points covered during this and in a follow up question and answer session were:

- The geography and size of the Water Park
- The number of employees and volunteers at the sites
- The customer base and the daily cost of running the Park
- The investment made in the Four Pillars development
- The private and public sector funding that supports the Water Park
- That the public sector was now likely to provide less backing
- That the Society had taken 5 years to emerge from the previous financial crisis and now had a small surplus (£5,000)
- Recognition that the Society should have consulted more widely with local communities
- Chief objectives was to concentrate on the west of the Water Park
- That the Water Park was an important part of the Core Strategies in Gloucestershire and Wiltshire

During a Suspension of Standing Orders, the Chairman of the Business Association commented that Tourism was an important aspect of the Water Park and that joint working with Cricklade – potentially a southern gateway for the Park - could perhaps be better addressed. The chief Executive confirmed that a new Business Manager was in place and there should now be improved liaison.

The Chief Executive thanked Cricklade Town Council for the opportunity to come along to the meeting to update members.

#### 10.05 **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 were signed by the Chairman and adopted as a true record.

#### 10.06 **Policing Issues**

The Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) had submitted a written report ahead of the meeting. The main points were:

- That the NPT continues to work on the priority areas in the town
- The co-operation between the Town Council, Police, Fire Service and Business Association had resulted in the smooth running of the recent funeral organised by the gipsy community
- Reports of anti-social behaviour had decreased
- Recorded incidents of crime (burglary, robbery, vehicle crime, violence) had also decreased
- Disappointment that there had been no callers at the most recent Joint Surgery.

It was observed that budget cuts of approximately £5.6m were sought yet the precept for Wiltshire Police had risen. It was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk liaise with the NPT to how this rise will be reflected.

During a Suspension to Standing Orders, the Chairman of the Business Association confirmed that he and the Town Clerk were working closely with the police on a recent incident recorded on the CCTV equipment.

## 10.07 Clerks Report

The Town Clerk's Report was noted as follows:

09.98	<p><b>Youth Services</b> - It was agreed at the Full Town Council meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March that the Town Clerk should log the move of the Youth Development Coordinator from Cricklade &amp; Purton to a different Community Area as an Issue with the Area Board. And that a letter was sent to the Portfolio Holder at Wiltshire Council seeking reassurance that the post will be filled, setting out the Town Council's concerns around the lack of consultation and information prior to the Coordinator leaving post. These actions had been done. (Progress on the issue can be tracked on the Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board Issue Log at <a href="http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk">www.wiltshire.gov.uk</a>) <b>Closed</b></p> <p><b>Northern Community Area Partnership</b> – It had been agreed that the Vote of Confidence made at the last Full Town Council meeting on the work undertaken by NCAP be notified to the Area Board meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> March. This was included in a written update for Town and Parish Councils distributed prior to the meeting. <b>Closed</b></p>
09.100	<p><b>Town Twinning – 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations</b> –Members had agreed that an event should be hosted by the Town Council on the evening of Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> June to welcome visitors from Sucé-sur-Erdre. And that the organisation of the event and choice of a suitable gift was delegated to the Town and Assistant Town Clerks and Cllr Tetlow working together with the Cricklade &amp; District Town Twinning Association. The Town Hall has been booked. The suggestion of an exchange of town flags has been suggested to and agreed by the Association as an appropriate gift. Agreement now awaited from the organisers in Sucé. <b>Ongoing</b></p>
09.101	<p><b>Wiltshire Pension Fund</b> - Following recommendations from the Personnel Sub Committee, Members had resolved to adopt the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Eligibility of new employees into the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)</li><li>b) Employing Authority Discretions.</li></ul> <p>Both policies (appended to the minutes of the Full Town Council meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> March) have been passed to the Wiltshire Pension Fund. <b>Closed</b></p>

## 10.08 Area Board Update

Cllr Tetlow updated Members on the Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> March at Marsh Farm Hotel, Wootton Bassett. The main points were:

- All grant applications from Cricklade Action Network and Cricklade Leisure Centre Gardeners had been successful
- That it was disappointing that other than Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service and the NHS, Cricklade Town Council and Cricklade Business Association were the only partners providing written updates
- The agenda had been full with presentations on Police Protective Services and Traffic and Transport issues.
- The process remained poor with only 25 minutes allocated for 12 partner organisations and a further 12 parishes to give updates or raise issues. Clearly, this did not allow for proper debate.
- Applications for Performance Reward Grants were given support by the Area Board and will pass to the next stage of the process before being decided by a Panel at Wiltshire Council
- There would shortly be an event to discuss the future of Community Planning

Cllr Tetlow had also attended a meeting in Devizes to review the effectiveness of the Area Boards process. It had been clear that there were a number of issues to address and the Deputy Leader made a commitment that feedback and proposals would be taken forward.

It was important that Town Councillors and local people were encouraged to attend the next Area Board which is to be held at Cricklade Town Hall on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2010.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should raise an Issue Sheet highlighting the fact that local issues were not given sufficient priority on the Area Board Agenda.

#### 10.09 **Wiltshire Council Report**

Cllr Colmer updated Members on the following:

Gypsies and Travellers Consultation – This county-wide consultation was to look at the issues around providing new sites, develop a method for assessing what is a good location and invite land to be put forward for consideration. There would be sessions in Salisbury, Devizes and Chippenham to which the public were invited. Alternatively, comments could be posted on line. A request had been made to hold a local drop-in session before the Area Board in Cricklade on 26<sup>th</sup> May. A response was awaited.

Out of Hours Health Care – The new service had started on 1 April and promised better GP services.

Sarsens Housing Appeal – This local issue around the proposal to develop affordable housing on an inappropriate site at The Fiddle was now at the Appeal stage. A meeting between Cllr Colmer and local residents was scheduled for 29<sup>th</sup> May.

Flood Fair – A Flood Fair was to be hosted by Wiltshire Council was to be hosted in Chippenham. Cllrs Chapman and Avenell would represent Cricklade Town Council.

Youth Services - The Portfolio Holder would fund the shortfall in youth provision in the area. (The Area Board was unable to agree to this). Cllr Colmer was looking at alternative ways to improve the current provision.

#### 10.10 **A Parish Plan for Cricklade**

Members **NOTED** a report updating Members about progress on a public meeting to promote the production of a Parish Plan and identify a group of volunteers to drive the Plan forward. The public meeting had been scheduled for Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> June at the Town Hall. Members were also reminded about the difference between a Parish Plan and a Village Design Statement and that it would be sensible that the be taken on after a Parish Plan had been completed

It was **RESOLVED** that

- i) a contribution of £500 is allocated towards the Parish Plan from General Reserves. This would also be used to cover publicity in the lead up to the public meeting
- ii) the Meeting Room is made available free of charge for the Steering Group (*with some external funders this contribution may be seen as an 'in kind' contribution*)
- iii) the Town Council acts as the Accounting Body for the Steering Group

#### 10.11 **Working Parties**

Members **NOTED** a report submitted by the Town Clerk recommending a reduction in the number of Working Parties some of which had not met for

more than a year. Also, that consideration be given to the establishment of another committee to spread the workload and give focus to some priority areas (e.g. Tourism).

It was **RESOLVED** to:

- i) Reduce the number of Working Parties appointed and appoint only where there is a real purpose and demand for additional work
- ii) On an ad hoc basis, delegate work/research to the Town Clerk in conjunction with a named Councillor to submit subsequent results to Committee
- iii) Look at (in the longer term) a re-structure the Committee system to allow for another dedicated Committee.

**10.12 Committee Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Community & Leisure Committee of 15th February and 8<sup>th</sup> March and those of the Planning Conservation & Transport Committee meetings of 2<sup>nd</sup> February and 2<sup>nd</sup> March were all **NOTED**.

Cllr Hatton asked that it be noted that the Wiltshire Council and Highways Officers should be thanked for the recently completed improvement works at Purton Road. It was **AGREED** that this request should be passed to the Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee.

**09.13 Town Council Accounts**

Members **NOTED** the Committee Receipts and Payments Report for Month 12 (March) and the current schedule of Ear Marked Reserves. Members **AGREED** those budgets to transfer to Ear Marked Reserves for 2010/11. (*Decisions about releasing existing Ear Marked Reserves can be made at any time by Committees during the year*).

It was **RESOLVED** that the list of budgets to be transferred to EMR for 2010/11 should be submitted to the next Policy and Resources meeting.

**09.14 Appointment of Auditors**

Members **NOTED** a report submitted by the Town Clerk recommending that the existing auditor is re-appointed. And it was **RESOLVED** to retrospectively appoint Auditing Solutions Limited to undertake the Internal Audit for 2009/10 and to re-appoint the same company to undertake the Internal Audit for 2010/11.

**09.15 Reports from Representatives to Outside Bodies**

Members gave the following updates:

Thames Hall Management Committee <i>Cllr G Chapman - Cllr B Beasley - <b>An AGM due in May</b></i>	Jenner Hall Restoration Committee <i>Cllr T Robertson - <b>The AGM had taken place As Cllr Robertson was representing Open Door, a new representative should be nominated at the Annual Town Council meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> May.</b></i>
Leisure Centre Management Committee <i>Cllr G Chapman - Cllr T Robertson - <b>Nothing to report. (Often clash with C&amp;L dates)</b></i>	Community Area Young Peoples Issues Group (CAYPIG) <i>Cllr R Case</i> <b>Continued to attend these meetings.</b>
Cotswold Water Park Joint Committee <i>Cllr R Case - Cllr M Hatton - <b>Nothing to report</b></i>	Link - <i>Cllr G Chapman - <b>Nothing to report</b></i>
Closed Churchyards Maintenance Committee <i>Cllr T Clements - <b>Nothing to report</b></i>	United Charities - <i>Cllr M Hatton - <b>Nothing to report</b></i>
Youth Club Management Committee - <i>Cllr R Case - <b>Nothing to report</b></i>	Cricklade Country Way Trust - <i>Cllr B Beasley Cllr R Case - Cllr Clements - <b>Nothing to report</b></i>
Waylands Estate - <i>Cllr B Beasley - <b>Nothing to report – Next meeting scheduled for July</b></i>	Cricklade Country Way Project - <i>Cllr D Tetlow</i> <b>Nothing to report</b>

**Meeting closed at 8.30pm**

