



Cricklade Town Council
First Town on the Thames
The Council Office
Ockwells, 113 High Street
Cricklade
Wiltshire SN6 6AE
Telephone: 01793 751394
Fax: 01793 752515
E-mail: admin@cricklade-tc.gov.uk
Website: www.cricklade-tc.gov.uk

FULL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, 16th January 2012 at 7pm at Ockwells

Councillors present: Cllr D Tetlow (Chairman)
Cllr B Beasley Cllr G Chapman Cllr M Clarke Cllr P Colmer
Cllr H Jain-Brar Cllr J Harmer Cllr M Hatton Cllr A Jensen
Cllr J Norman Cllr T Robertson Cllr R Szybiak

There were also 3 members of the public present.

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

Public Question Time

Mr R Jones, Chair of Cricklade Business Association, asked for confirmation of media reporting about the provision of additional care facilities for the elderly in Cricklade. Cllr P Colmer answered this question during his Wiltshire Council verbal update.

MINUTES

11.79 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs R Case, A Dentith and L Forrester, Sgt M Alvis and Ms L Shack.

11.80 Declarations of Interest

Name	Item	Type of Interest	Nature of Interest	Action
Cllr M Hatton	12 – Town Twinning	Personal	Member, Town Twinning Association	Spoke and voted
Cllr P Colmer	9 – Cricklade and Area Community Campus	Personal	Member, Shadow Community Area Board (SCOB)	Spoke
Cllr A Jensen	9 – Cricklade and Area Community Campus	Personal	Member, Shadow Community Area Board (SCOB)	Spoke
Cllr T Robertson	9 – Cricklade and Area Community Campus	Personal	Member, Shadow Community Area Board (SCOB)	Spoke
Cllr R Szybiak	9 – Cricklade and Area Community Campus	Personal	Chair, Shadow Community Area Board (SCOB)	Spoke

11.81 Chairman's Announcements

- i) The Chairman commented that 2011 had been a successful year for Cricklade with the In Bloom Champion of Champions win and the development of the new Town Centre Car Park. 2012 promised to be another busy year with the Diamond Jubilee and the start of the work to clear Long and Hall Close.
- ii) The Town Council could now be followed through social media on Facebook and Twitter.

11.82 Minutes

The minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on Monday, 5th December 2011 were adopted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

11.84 Policing Issues

Members **NOTED** a written report from the Neighbourhood Policing Team. Main points included:

- The recent issue of an interim Anti Social Behaviour Order against a resident of a neighbouring village
- Issues around another local individual with alcohol dependency problems
- Information about a county-wide spate of thefts of quad bikes, metal and tools from farms and businesses.

11.85 Town Clerk's Report - Members **NOTED** the report as follows:

11.67	Town Clerk's Report Olympics 2012 – The outcome of the Town Council's nomination for an Olympic Torchbearer would be announced in the next few weeks. Ongoing
11.73	Rural Housing Needs Survey - Members resolved that the Town Council on behalf of the Town Plan Steering Group agreed that WC undertakes a Rural Housing Needs Survey in Cricklade. This had now been printed and would shortly be ready for delivery to households throughout the town. Closed
11.76	Town Council Precept - It had been resolved that a figure of £242,841 should be set as the parish precept to levy to Wiltshire Council for 2012/13. This equated to an annual precept for a Band D property of £150.15p. This represented an increase of 2.5% on the 2011/12 precept figure and equal to a rise of £3.67p per year or 7p per week for Band D households. WC had been formally notified of this. The Town Clerk also made amendments to the budget sheets and all Councillors had been sent copies. Closed
11.78	Liaison with Outside Bodies - Members resolved that there should be a standing item on relevant committee agendas to enable updates to be given to that responsible appointing committee. This practice had already been started at C&L and PCT. Closed

11.86 Correspondence

Members **NOTED** the following items of correspondence:

- i) A letter from the Solicitor and Monitoring Officer to Wiltshire Council about the new standards framework introduced under the Localism Act 2011
- ii) A note from the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils (WALC) about nominations for a Buckingham Palace Garden Party

It was **AGREED** that at i) above the Town Clerk should write to the Monitoring Officer highlighting concerns around data protection issues on the new requirements about Registers of Interests. At ii) above it was also **AGREED** that Cllr G Chapman should be nominated to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party on 22nd May 2012.

11.87 Area Board Update

Councillor Tetlow informed Members that the next Area Board meeting would take place at Lyneham Primary School on Wednesday, 25th January at 6pm. The main focus would be centred on the new tri-service technical training centre at Lyneham. Other agenda items would include plans for county wide celebrations for the 2012 Olympics and Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Visiting Cabinet Representative, Councillor Toby Sturgis, would talk about his portfolio responsibilities for Waste, Property, Environment and Development Control Services. A grant application had been submitted for consideration by Cricklade Jenner Hall.

11.88 Cricklade and Area Community Campus

Councillor Szybiak updated Members on the findings of the second round of consultation based on the proposal for a split site campus with two sites (the Leisure Centre and two High Street options – Ockwells and the Police Station). Main findings included that:

- The definition of a campus led to some confusion in the community
- Ockwells was important, providing good services and that both High Street buildings should provide local services
- A need to redevelop the Police Station which was not in keeping with Cricklade's historical High Street
- The cost of embarking on this project in the current economic climate
- The possibility of moving the museum to the High Street making local history much more accessible
- Services at the Leisure Centre should include (*in order of preference*) a swimming pool, outdoor space, a hall, youth club, a gym, tennis courts, a playgroup facility and squash
- The Leisure Centre would benefit from a police presence
- Services in the High Street should include (*in order of preference*) the Library, Town Council, Police, Tourist Information/Shop, Day Centre, WC enquiry point and museum.

Two public open sessions had taken place which had been well attended and all consultation with target groups was due to finish at the end of January and a firm proposal put to the Area Board at the end of March.

Councillor Colmer passed his thanks to members of the SCOB particularly Cllrs Szybiak, Robertson and Jensen for all the work put into the campus proposal.

The Town Council had taken part in a workshop to discuss the options available. A formal response would be submitted when Members had sight of a firm proposal.

11.89 Wiltshire Council Report

The main points of Cllr Peter Colmer's verbal update were:

Joint Strategic Assessment – An important document containing useful statistics for housing, the economy, health, and the environment in the Community Area giving evidence to a number of trends around health and well-being. This background could be used to help draw together plans and actions for community and more strategic planning purposes. Cllr Colmer would try to extract information specific to Cricklade.

Wiltshire Core Strategy – This draft document was to be considered for publication by Cabinet on 17th January. It would then be released for a six week consultation exercise in late February. There appeared to be some contractions in the draft with regard to Cricklade. The Town Council would have an opportunity to comment as would the Town Plan Steering Group. Town Council input to the consultation would fall to the Planning, Conservation and Transport Committee.

Waste Site Allocations – There had been indications that the new green waste facility at Purton would have an impact on Cricklade in terms of increased HGV traffic (with an estimate of 40 additional lorry movements in the town each day).

Members commented that in 2011, Hills had made a presentation to the Planning Committee giving reassurances that there would be alternative access to the site and that a planning application was to be submitted for this. The Town Council had not, as yet, been informed that an application had been made. Furthermore, unanswered enquiries about the effect of the national freight route on Cricklade (i.e. whether it actually applies to the town) meant that any attempt to pursue a weight restriction could not be properly pursued.

During a Suspension of Standing Orders the Chairman of the Business Association commented that the entrance to the site covered a narrow railway bridge, not ideal for HGV traffic. And that guidance should be urgently sought as to Cricklade's position with regard to the national freight route.

It was **AGREED** that the Assistant Town Clerk (Planning) should pursue clarification on the freight route and then begin to lobby for a weight restriction.

Youth Centre – A campaign was soon to be launched for volunteers at the youth centre.

Tourism – There would be a proposal to the Area Board that an allocation of £5,000 towards a business project to improve tourism in the Community Area.

Torch Route – In spite of a last minute appeal to the Olympic Committee, the Olympic Torch Route will not unfortunately include Cricklade.

Health & Social Care – Approval had been given under the Older People Accommodation Development Strategy, which identified a need for a 40 unit extra care scheme within the Cricklade area. A Working Group would be set up to deliver this to include Town Council representatives and it is proposed that this will form a sub-group of the SCOB.

11.90 Annual Town Meeting 2012

Members **NOTED** a report by the Town Clerk about a possible format for the Annual Town Meeting on 30th April to again be held at the United Church.

Members **RESOLVED** that the format used in previous years should be followed involving presentations by the Chairman and Committee Chairs and that:

- the adjacent hall be provisionally booked for possible presentations by the Town Plan Steering Group and/or SCOB
- as suggested in the Town Clerks' report, proposals for a process for written questions together with details of any procedures relating to the granting of civic awards be brought for consideration at the next Full Council meeting
- delegation for follow-up and event management be given to the Town and Assistant Town Clerk with the Chairman and Committee Chairs.

11.91 Town Twinning Visit

Members **NOTED** a report by the Town Clerk proposing that the Town Council hosts an informal reception for the Town Twinning visitors from Sucé-sur-Erdre on their arrival on 1st June just ahead of the Diamond Jubilee weekend.

During a Suspension of Standing Orders, Mr R Jones, Chair of the Business Association questioned whether this was a good use of Town Council resources and what benefits the Twinning Visit brought to the town.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- i) an informal reception to welcome the French visitors from Sucé-sur-Erdre takes place at the Ockwells offices on 1st June
- ii) up to £250 be drawn on from General Reserves to cover costs to include a suitable gift from the Town Council's commemorative Jubilee collection and
- iii) organisation is delegated to the Town and Assistant Town Clerks liaising with the Twinning Association and the Chair of the Council.

11.92 Wiltshire Council Leaflet

Members **NOTED** a report by the Town Clerk about the requirement for towns and parishes precepting more than £140,000 to contribute to Wiltshire Council's Council Tax leaflet. This had to follow a set template to include with a brief breakdown of service expenditure.

It was **RESOLVED** that with some minor agreed amendments, the information be passed onto Wiltshire Council as the Town Council's contribution to the 2012 Council Tax leaflet.

11.93 Town Council Accounts

Members **APPROVED** the quarterly Committee and Payments report to December 2011.

11.94 Town Council – Cheque Signatories

Members **NOTED** a report by the Town Clerk about cheque signatories to the Town Council's Santander cheque account. In line with Financial Regulations concerning banking arrangements and cheques, it was **RESOLVED** that the following Councillors and Officers are cheque signatories:

Cllr David Tetlow
Cllr Gina Chapman
Cllr Peter Colmer
Cllr Terri Robertson
Mrs Shelley Parker, Town Clerk
Mrs Tina Jones, Assistant Town Clerk
Mr John Coole, Assistant Town Clerk

(All cheques must be signed by two authorised Members of the Council and one officer and from the list of authorised signatories.)

11.95 Interim Internal Audit

Members **NOTED** and **APPROVED** the interim Internal Audit 2011/12 and praised Town Council officers for the work put in to ensure the commendable report. Members also discussed a recommendation made by the Auditor to consider a review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

It was **RESOLVED** that Standing Orders and Financial Regulations are reviewed and that it is delegated to the Town Clerk and Councillor M Clarke to make suggested amendments and submit revised versions to the Policy and Review Committee for approval before re-submission to Full Town Council.

11.96 Committee Minutes – Members **APPROVED** the minutes of the following meetings: Planning, Conservation & Transport – 21st November and 12th December. Community & Leisure – 22nd November

11.97 Liaison with Outside Bodies

Members gave the following updates:

Thames Hall Management Committee – Cllr Beasley had met with the Committee to discuss the future management of the hall. A report was to be submitted to the P&R Committee on 23rd January.

Neighbourhood Policing Team – Cllr Tetlow had attended the most recent Tasking meeting at Royal Wootton Bassett Police Station. The new priority for the team (replacing anti-social behaviour) would be traffic offences.

Town Plan Steering Group – Cllr Harmer gave an update on progress of the plan which was taking shape in draft form. As the plan was community-led, some issues, as expected, would be aspirational and it was important to manage expectations and to ensure that content was factually correct, deliverable and not in conflict with findings from recent evidence-based consultation. The option of working with the support of officers may be useful for the TPSG.

United Charities - Cllr Hatton confirmed that 70 grants of £50 had been made in December including one special and larger award.

Liaison with Schools – Cllr Clarke confirmed that the process of amalgamation of St Sampson's Infants and Junior schools continued. A statutory notice of closure was awaited which, once issued, would lead into a 6 week consultation period. A final decision would be made by Cabinet. Building works were planned through funding of £250,000 from Wiltshire Council towards a new staff room and a physical built link between the 2 schools.

Cricklade Town Council and Cricklade Business Association Liaison Group - Cllr Tetlow confirmed that a meeting was due for this group. A vacancy needed to be filled following the death of Cllr Atfield. Cllr Clarke expressed an interest in this role. An appointment would need to be made at the next Full Council meeting.

Meeting Closed at 8.59pm