

THTC/2/2015-2016

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN HALL AND TRUST CHARITY

Minutes of the meeting of the Royal Wootton Bassett Town Hall and Trust Charity held on Thursday 25th February 2016 at 9.00pm at Manor House, Lime Kiln, Royal Wootton Bassett.

PRESENT: Councillors: Steve Bucknell, Mary Champion, Susan Doyle, Ian Ferries, Linda Frost, Janet Georgiou, Sue Hughes, Mike Farrow, Marion Sweet and John Wilks.

Officers in Attendance: Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, and Emily Maiden, Administrative Officer and Committee Clerk.

9. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Steve Watts, Paul Heaphy, Mike Leighfield, Michael Page, Audrey Wannell and Chris Wannell.

10. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with sections 10 and 12 of Wiltshire Council's Members Code of Conduct, as adopted by Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council at a meeting held on Thursday 12th July 2012.

RESOLVED to note that no declarations of interest were made.

11. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESOLVED to note that no announcements were made.

12. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED to confirm and sign minutes of a meeting of the Royal Wootton Bassett Town Hall and Trust Charity held on Thursday July 2015 (THTC/1/2015-2016). Copy previously circulated.

13. WILTSHIRE FARMERS' MARKET – REINSTATEMENT OF CHARGES

Members received a report on the reinstatement of charges for the monthly farmers' market, copy previously circulated.

The report noted a lack of correspondence from the Wiltshire Farmers' Market since October 2015, and therefore recommended that the Town Trust consider reinstating market rental charges with immediate effect. Since the publication of the agenda however, the circumstances regarding communication with the Wiltshire Farmers' Market Association had changed. Members were informed that an email had been sent to the Town Council stating that the Wiltshire Farmers' Market Association had lost their Administrator and had therefore been unable to respond to correspondence on a regular basis. The economic future of the market is uncertain at present, therefore a meeting of the Wiltshire Farmers' Market Association will be held to discuss the way forward. Once a decision has been made, the Association will be in contact with the Town Trust with an update.

In view of the latest information from the Wiltshire Farmers' Market Association, it was RESOLVED to defer this item until the next meeting of the Town Trust to allow the Association to ascertain the full details of its economic position and provide a set of accounts for Members to view.

14. STREET TRADING CONSENT

Masons Fruit and Vegetables submitted an application for street trading consent in the Town Hall area on Mondays and Thursdays between 8.30am and 4pm. Details of the application were circulated to the Town Council as part of the consultation process in accordance with Wiltshire Council's street trading policies. A number of concerns have been raised in relation to this application; therefore it is recommended that the Town Trust submit objections to the street trading application from Masons Fruit and Vegetables.

A report with recommendations from Gillian Welsman-Clarke was previously circulated, which included the results of investigations undertaken in conjunction with Bevirs Solicitors regarding ownership of the land identified as the preferred site for Masons' stall.

As a result of these findings, it was RESOLVED to object to the application for a fruit and vegetable stall in the vicinity of the Town Hall on non-market days.

15. TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE

A number of the painted panels on the Town Hall were repaired with limewash after Wiltshire Council's Conservation Department instructed the Town Council to use this particular material. Since this work was undertaken however, the panels have failed due to the incompatibility of the materials as suggested by the Conservation Officer. The Town Council's Listed Buildings contractor is able to provide a more suitable method of repair, which has now been approved by Wiltshire Council who are using this in their own recommendations for other Listed Buildings. A quotation for the completion of this work has been submitted by the Town Council's approved contractor, totalling £2,720 excluding VAT.

RESOLVED to approve the works for the repair of the failed panels, using the services of the Town Council's approved contractor at a total cost of £2,720 excluding VAT.

16. ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT MUSEUM & HERITAGE GROUP

Roger Smith, Chairman of Royal Wootton Bassett Museum & Heritage Group provided a report on the activities of that organisation since the last meeting of the Town Trust. It was noted that the display of photographs of old Wootton Bassett has been a popular attraction, and that the Ghost Walks led by Town Crier Owen Collier continue to be successful. Mr Smith passed on his thanks to Owen Collier on behalf of the Museum and Heritage group, and praised the dedication of the volunteers who run the Museum on a daily basis, welcoming visitors from across the globe.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm