

RWBTC/5/2017-2018

28th September 2017

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council held on Thursday 28th September 2017 at 7.50pm at Manor House, Lime Kiln, Royal Wootton Bassett.

PRESENT: Councillors: Robert Anstee, David Bowler, Steve Bucknell, Mary Champion, Mike Farrow, Janet Georgiou, Paul Heaphy, Nic Hughes, Sue Hughes, Mike Leighfield, Caroline Redmond, Jenny Stratton, Marion Sweet, Steve Walls, Steve Watts.

Officers in Attendance: Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, Michelle Temple, Administrative Services Manager, and Emily Maiden, Administrative Officer.

44. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rebecca Hearne.

45. 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 received.

46. WRITTEN REPORTS

James Gray MP submitted a written report to the meeting. Councillors Steve Walls and Nic Hughes gave a verbal report on the recent Area Board meeting.

Wiltshire Police had not submitted a report in time for the meeting. Members raised concerns over the recent acts of vandalism against vehicles in Glebe Road, which has been reported to the Police but as yet progress is not forthcoming. It was suggested that the local Officers be contacted to request an update on the investigation into the vandalism on Glebe Road.

47. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED to confirm and sign minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Thursday 13th July 2017 [RWBTC/4/2017-2018]. Copy previously circulated.

48. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor's Civic Service took place on Sunday 17th September 2017 at St Bartholomew's Church. Councillor Bucknell thanked all those who had been involved with the event.

The Mayor also informed the Council of the recent events that he has attended, including the Camera Club awards, Chippenham Civic Service, the WOBLETS performance of Joseph and the Evensong service for Brian Taylor.

The Deputy Mayor advised the meeting that he was looking forward to presenting medals at the Noremarsch Junior School One Mile Fun Run.

49. TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS

There were no questions received either with or without notice received under Standing Orders.

50. PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED to note the report on a meeting of the Planning Committee held on Thursday 13th July 2017 (P/3/2017-2018), copy previously circulated.

51. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED to note the report on a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 7th September 2017 (A/3/2017-2018), copy previously circulated.

52. REVENUE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED to note the report on a meeting of the Revenue and Resources Committee held on Thursday 14th September 2017 (R&R/3/2017-2018), copy previously circulated.

53. THAMESDOWN BUS ROUTE

Alex Chutter from the Thamesdown bus company attended a meeting of the Town Council on 13th July 2017, where it was recommended that Thamesdown Buses investigate different route options for the R1 service, including extending the town centre route to include areas which are not currently served by any buses, including Green Park. Mr Chutter explained that preliminary research was being carried out, including collating the views of residents. The Council invited Mr Chutter to a future meeting to report back on the R1 service and any enquiries that had been made into additional routes in the town.

Mr Chutter was unable to attend the meeting due to a prior commitment, and indicated that he would be submitting a written statement to be shared with Members. Unfortunately, a written

statement had not been sent to the Town Council in time to be presented to the meeting.

Members discussed the closure of the R1 service, which will cease running from the end of October 2017. Despite Thamesdown pulling out of this route in the near future, it was felt that both Thamesdown and Stagecoach should still be contacted regarding the areas of the town which are not well served by either bus company.

54. SPARROW LANE

The Council received a verbal update from the Town Clerk, following a meeting with John Price, Estate Survey, Strategic Asset and Facility Manager at Wiltshire Council.

Members were advised that Wiltshire Council would be surveying the land at no cost to the Town Council, following concerns about the exact location of the land boundary at Sparrow Lane. The Town Council's solicitors are looking into the legalities associated with the land transfer and boundary concern; once the survey has been completed the process of licensing prior to the transfer of the land to the Town Council.

55. WEBSITE

Members received a report from the Chairman of the Revenue and Resources Committee, advising the Council of the quotes received in relation to the updating of the website and recommending a way forward to proceed with this project, copy previously circulated.

Councillors Mike Leighfield and Marion Sweet were happy to work together to assist in the delivery of the project should the Council be minded to approve the recommendations outlined in the report.

It was recommended to: -

- Approve the quotation received from In Touch at a cost of £3,095. In Touch are a company with experience in running Town Council websites and are able to meet the requirements for the site both now and in the future.

- Approve the quotation from SDS Group for the scanning of repatriation items at a cost of £8,000. The SDS Group has proven experience and in the future there may be a possibility of linking this data to the website.
- Approve remaining with Towns Web for its cemetery records service for the time being at a cost of £495.

RESOLVED to approve the quotations from In Touch, SDS Group and Towns Web as outlined in the report.

56. COMMUNICATIONS

RESOLVED to congratulate Royal Wootton Bassett Academy on the 2017 exam results.

57. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Committee is asked that members of the public and press be requested to leave the meeting to allow discussion of the establishment, property and finance matters as it is considered the publicity would be prejudicial by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.