

RWBTC/8/2017-2018

22nd February 2018

QUESTION TIME

Prior to the formal commencement of the meeting, Councillors will receive questions from members of the public for a period not exceeding ten minutes.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. 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.

3. WRITTEN REPORTS

To receive written reports from the following: -

Wiltshire Police

Member of Parliament

Wiltshire Councillors

Area Board Representatives

Representatives appointed by the Council

Copies to be circulated at the meeting.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Of a meeting of the Council held on Thursday 14th December 2017 [RWBTC/7/2017-2018] Copy previously circulated.

5. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

6. TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS

With and without notice received under Standing Orders.

7. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Report on a meeting of the Planning Committee held on Thursday 11th January 2018 [P/7/2017-2018] and Thursday 8th February 2018 [P/8/2017-2018], copies previously circulated.

8. AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Report on a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 11th January 2018 [A/5/2017-2018], copy previously circulated.

9. REVENUE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Report on a meeting of the Revenue and Resources Committee held on Thursday 25th January 2018 [R&R/5/2017-2018]. Copy previously circulated.

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

To receive notices of motion in the order that they have been received.

a) Notice of motion in the name of Councillor Rob Anstee:

Car Parking Fees

“We the Council deplore the actions of Wiltshire Council with regards to the car parking fees here in Royal Wootton Bassett most notably the Borough fields car park.

This car park is the main car park for the Market Town which is used by the parishioners for the New Court Doctors Surgery, Cohens Chemists, Sainsburys and local market town shops.

The fees which our Town has to pay to use these facilities is absurd. In effect you’re making the elderly, young and infirm pay to be able to go and see a doctor, dentist or chemist. This Market Town is also now going to have to pay for the faithful to attend Church on a Sunday!

Obviously; this Town also uses this car park to be able to spend their hard earned cash within the local Market Town shops. This Council tries exceedingly hard to maintain our ethos as a Market Town. However; the levies which Wiltshire Council force upon our parishioners is ridiculous.

Recently, an application has been submitted for an Aldi off Coped Hall Roundabout which is on the outskirts of the Town. I have no doubt that when this opens they wouldn’t impose such a tariff upon is clientele and our Market Town will be the worse for it. This will also reduce the highwayman’s tax you currently impose upon us.

You might argue the free 2 hours parking available on the main street. However; I wouldn’t wish to risk the dangers of trying to get parked here due to the volume of traffic that descends upon this road as it’s a case of “take your life in your own hands” as all traffic coming through this Town has to proceed along this single road. We no longer have the use of the temporary road linking between the 2 railway bridges which could have alleviated the pressure along this main road.

It is formally requested that a vote is taken on the night of the Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council Meeting and if in agreement a formal letter sent to Wiltshire Council.

b) Notice of motion in the name of Councillor Steve Walls:

Waste Collection – High Street Stacking bags at War Memorial

“Leaving rubbish bags for collection next to the War Memorial is not only unsightly, it creates a bad impression of the town. To stop this continuing, we propose the Town Council contact shops/businesses in the High Street to request that they do not place waste bags next to the War Memorial. Also, strongly request Wiltshire Council to liaise with the contractors to if necessary change the collection point for the relevant waste bags.”

c) Notice of motion in the name of Councillor Steve Walls:

Increase in Cost of Parking Permits for Residents of Wood Street

“The cost of an annual parking permit is currently £240. Subsequent to the recent parking review, Wiltshire Council proposed revised rates of £540 for the Wood Street Car Park and £624 for the Boroughfields car park. Residents of the Wood Street area have submitted a petition concerning this to the Area Board and this was forwarded to the Cabinet member for Highways, Cllr Wayman. These are substantial and unreasonable increases and do not take into account ability to pay.

However, the Cabinet have approved these large increase, though Cllr Wayman has intimated that she could look at ways to help residents.

We propose that the Town Council request Wiltshire Council to look at ways to help residents.”

11. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

The Council is asked to adopt the calendar of meetings for the 2018/2019 Civic year, copy attached, *Appendix A*.

12. NOMINATION OF MAYOR ELECT

It is normal practice at the February Council Meeting in a non-election year to nominate a Mayor Elect for the forthcoming year. Election years are excluded as it is not clear whether the Mayor Elect would retain

their seat at the May Election, or if the political composition of the Council might change.

The advantage of nominating a Mayor Elect is that it not only allows the incoming Mayor to plan their diary but also provides forewarning for those clubs, groups and organisations wishing to invite the Mayor to attend functions.

It is now the practice of the Council, confirmed in its Standing Orders, that the Deputy Mayor should normally become the Mayor.

The Council is therefore asked to consider nominating the Deputy Mayor Councillor Mike Farrow as Mayor Elect for the forthcoming Civic Year.

13. NOMINATION OF DEPUTY MAYOR ELECT

The Council is asked to consider nominating a Deputy Mayor Elect for the forthcoming Civic Year.

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14. CHILD PROTECTION AND ADULT SAFEGUARDING AND ACCESS AUDIT POLICIES

The Town Council has had a request for the above two policies from the Museum Group so they could use the documents as part of a grant application they wish to submit.

The Town Council has taken the opportunity to review these and are attached at *Appendix B*. The Council is asked to adopt both policies and review every two years.

15. LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME

In recent months some Councillors expressed a view that it would be beneficial for the Town Council to be benchmarked against others in the country.

The local council award scheme (LCAS) is a national benchmarking scheme with three levels of benchmarking; foundation, quality and gold. The fee for making the application is £200 and the Council is asked to authorise submission under the scheme.

If successful, the Town Council will have an understanding how the local authority is performing against other local Councils in the country and if unsuccessful, it will identify areas for improvement.

Attached at *appendix C* is the checklist that can be used for the LCAS submission.

16. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

On Friday 9th February 2018 Wiltshire Council published the independent examiners report on the Royal Wootton Bassett Neighbourhood Plan together with its own decision notice.

Due to the report being 81 pages, the documents have been sent electronically to Members, *Appendix D*.

The Council is asked to consider the Wiltshire Council decision notice in its capacity as qualifying body and decide whether it wishes to adopt the proposed modifications so that it can proceed to referendum.

Subject to the Council making the necessary modifications, Wiltshire Council intend holding the public referendum on Thursday 19th April 2018.

The Councils instructions are sought.

17. CIVIC AWARD

At the Revenue and Resources meeting held on Thursday 25th January 2018 it was resolved to make five nominations for Civic Awards. Each of the five people nominated have been approached and acceptances have been received.

The Council is asked to confirm the nominations and authorise the Town Clerk to make arrangements for a suitable presentation ceremony.

18. COMMUNICATIONS

The Council is asked whether it wishes to issue any Press Releases or other Communications in respect of the Agenda items.

19. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Council 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.