

# **CIRENCESTER TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of a Meeting of the Policy Committee held in the Council Chamber, Bingham House, No. 1 Dyer Street, Cirencester, at 6.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2004.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs S A Alexander – Chairman  
Councillor D S P Clifford – Vice Chairman

**Councillors:** Mrs M T Eccles (6.15 p.m. arrival)  
B D Hudson  
Mrs M S Rickman (6.10 p.m. arrival)  
D J M Sankey

Andrew Rennie Crook – Town Clerk  
Clive Sherwood – Deputy Town Clerk  
Johan Newman – Personal Assistant

**OBSERVERS:** G T Adams  
R Bourne  
R G Lock  
D J Nash  
N E Whereat

## **08.05 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs R Leicester and Mrs B A Potter.

## **09.05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were received.

## **10.05 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2004 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.** It was noted that the same had not yet been approved by Council.

## **11.05 A REVIEW OF POLICIES**

In reviewing Council policies, the Committee considered the policy passed by Council on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2003, namely: -

“Provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 -

In acknowledging its responsibilities under the provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, instructs the Policy Committee to at all times take into account the provisions of the legislation when recommending policies to Council and asks that the Finance Committee gives consideration to the issues raised in this report when recommending budgets for the coming year 2004/5.”

The Clerk in introducing the policy, identified the fact that this was an appropriate moment to take the opportunity to train the Members in an area of legislation that required consistent consideration by Council. The Clerk drew attention to the Council's involvement in the provision of CCTV cameras and the regular contact that it maintained with both Community Safety Officers at Cotswold District Council and the Police.

Contd.

The Clerk referred to Section 17 of the Act which states "Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed on it, shall be the duty of each authority to which this section applies to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area."

**RECOMMENDED that the Council's policy with regard to the provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, reads as follows: -**

**"Cirencester Town Council will, as a matter of policy, have due regard to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 in all aspects of its business.**

**Further, the Policy Committee recommends that the Finance Committee take due regard to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 when recommending the budgets for the year 2005/6."**

## **12.05 KINGSHILL ESTATE – SALE OF LAND**

Members received a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended to the signed Minutes) pursuant to the recommendation made by the Committee on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2004, namely that: -

- "a) the Officers identify more precise information with regard to the location and physical features of the area;
- b) a report be brought to the Policy Committee at the next meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2004."

Members then considered whether the applications to purchase amenity land next to 21 and 61 Crabtree Lane fell within the Council's exception policy that there be a presumption against the sale of land on the Kingshill Estate.

**RECOMMENDED that the applications to purchase amenity land adjacent to 21 and 61 Crabtree Lane be declined as neither application justified an exception to the policy.**

## **13.05 SETTING COUNCILS' OBJECTIVES**

Members received a report by the Clerk (a copy of which is appended to the signed Minutes) pursuant to Resolutions made, namely that: -

"... the Council sets and publishes annual Objectives against which progress can be measured and priorities balanced and that the Policy Committee be asked to formulate and bring forward a report to Council in due course."

"... an informal Policy Committee Meeting be arranged, to which all Members are invited, to consider the Council's objectives before the final report on the Review of the Council and Office Staffing."

The Committee thanked Councillor Dr P A Hedges (the previous year's Policy Committee Chairman) for facilitating the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2004 and for providing a summary of the exercise, which included "A Vision for Cirencester" and the objectives of the Town Council".

Contd.

The Committee accepted that the summary was a good first step and **RECOMMENDED that: -**

**a) the following vision statement be adopted: -**

**“Cirencester Town Council is working to make Cirencester a clean, safe and vibrant town, meeting the needs and aspirations of all its citizens by: -**

- providing cost-effective services**
- promoting a clean, safe and low-crime environment**
- supporting activities and facilities for all ages and abilities**
- encouraging a good citizenship and pride in our town**
- supporting a vibrant economy**
- encouraging appropriate developments that can meet the needs of all.”**

**b) every time a decision is made in respect of a definitive issue, a timescale be attached identifying a programme of expectation.**

The meeting closed at 6.30 p.m.

Councillor Mrs S A Alexander  
Chairman