

CIRENCESTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber, Bingham House, No. 1 Dyer Street, Cirencester, at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 14th June 2005.

PRESENT: Councillor N E Whereat – Mayor

Councillors: G T Adams
Mrs S A Alexander
R Bourne
Mrs M T Eccles
B D Hudson
J B Leicester
Mrs R A Leicester
J D Leigh
R G Lock
D J Nash
Mrs B A Potter

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

A Prayer was read by the Mayor.

The Mayor advised that he was using his discretion and varying the order of the Agenda so that Item No. 13 – Norman Arch Cottage came at Item No. 10.

12.06 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Dr P A Hedges, Deputy Mayor and Councillor Mrs M S Rickman.

13.06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

14.06 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Special Council and Annual Meetings held on Tuesday, 17th May 2005 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor subject to Minute Nos. C10.06 and C11.06 to be considered under confidential matters.

The Clerk provided the following updates: -

a) Minute No. 04.06 – Representatives on Other Bodies

The Clerk advised that a response was still awaited from the Cheltenham, Cirencester and Tewkesbury Citizens Advice Bureau on whether a representation from the Town Council was still required.

15.06 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor drew the Members' attention to the Newsletter and advised that he had attended the Churn Family Fun Day on 22nd May and the Hospital Fete on 11th June and commented that both events were well attended with over 3,500 people at each event.

16.06 QUESTION TIME FOR ELECTORS

No questions were received.

17.06 QUESTION TIME FOR MEMBERS

No questions were received.

18.06 RESOLUTIONS MOVED ON NOTICE – STANDING ORDER NO. 19

None were received.

19.06 GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

No questions were asked of this authority.

20.06 COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL

No questions were asked of this authority.

21.6 NORMAN ARCH COTTAGE

Members received and noted a report from the Clerk (a copy of which is appended to the signed Minutes) relating to the sale of the Norman Arch.

The Clerk referred Members to No. 1.8 of his report and confirmed that there was no suggestion that Mr Chester Master or members of his family had communicated to the Wilts and Gloucestershire Standard on this matter.

Members were circulated with five letters that had been received objecting to the sale.

The Clerk stated that it was wholly appropriate for the Members to have the opportunity to re-consider their decision made in January 2005 to market the property on the basis of his report and the communications received.

After a lengthy discussion, it was **RESOLVED that:** -

- a) **the Council confirms its decision made on 24th January 2005 to market the property known as the Norman Arch Cottage;**
- b) **the Clerk request the Council's agent to forward details of the sale to The Landmark Trust and any other like organisations.**

The Mayor thanked the Clerk for his report and presented his appreciation to the members of the public who have taken an interest in the property.

22.06 RURAL WHITE PAPER AND MARKET TOWNS HEALTHCHECK

The Clerk advised that this item had become stagnant but that it would be on the Agenda for the forthcoming Project Board Meeting on 20th June 2005.

Councillor Mrs Alexander stated that the information provided by the Councillors on the Ward Audits would be fed into the Healthcheck but that she was disappointed to advise that she was only in possession of information from three Members including herself.

23.06 KINGSHILL LANE SPORTS DEVELOPMENT SITE – SKATEBOARDING

Councillor Mrs M T Eccles advised Members that a meeting had been held on 5th May 2005 regarding the above. Councillor Mrs Eccles stated that the Ramp Users Group had reconvened and that there were 6 over 18's who would be prepared to give up their time to supervise at the site but not at all times. It had been suggested that all users of the site would be required to provide a signed consent form from their parents/guardians stating that they were aware of any risks involved in using the facilities.

Councillor Mrs Eccles commented that Council would need to decide whether it is prepared to provide the facilities without the previously offered supervision and management plan being in place.

The Clerk referred to a discussion with Councillor Ms Clifton of Cam Parish Council who had founded the skateboarding facility in Cam. The Clerk also stated that Cam's facility was completely unsupervised, however, Neighbourhood Wardens and PCSO's attended the site from time to time.

Members noted that an assessment of risk was required and that an extra insurance premium of approximately £1,200 would need to be taken into account.

The Deputy Clerk stated that the Council had not yet received approved designs for the skateboarding equipment required and that he would be very apprehensive about opening the site in the winter months. The Deputy Clerk also stated that the company who would be providing the equipment would also provide the safety notices.

Councillor Mrs Eccles requested that the issue of supervision and increased insurance be considered at the next meeting of the Finance Committee on 12th July 2005.

24.6 SCOUT HUT, COTSWOLD AVENUE, CIRENCESTER

Members noted the letter received from the 1st Cirencester Scout Group, dated 12th May 2005, requesting confirmation from the Council that the lease would be extended.

The Clerk advised that the lease was not due for renewal until 2010 and that the Scout Group had expended a lot of time and effort in the upkeep of the premises.

A Member referred to improvements to the Amphitheatre area and asked whether this issue should be taken into account.

RESOLVED that the Clerk advise the 1st Cirencester Scout Group that no immediate plans for development of the site had been identified but that the Clerk should enter into discussions with the Group on the proposed terms of the new lease.

25.6 AMENITY LAND AT ROSEWAY

Members received and noted a report from the Clerk relating to the disposal of amenity land at Roseway, Siddington Road, Cirencester (a copy of which is appended to the signed Minutes).

RESOLVED that this Council authorises the execution by the Town Council of the Joint Venture Agreement (and all subsequent documentation relating to this transaction) between the adjoining landowner, the Town Council and the Company in respect of land at Roseway and Rosedale, Siddington Road, Cirencester.

26.06 REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

The Clerk asked Members to advise the office if Members do not receive any communication from the organisations on which they sit as a Council representative.

Councillor R Bourne advised that he had attended meetings of the Swimming Pool and Twinning Associations but has received no correspondence from the Gloucestershire Trust for Nature Conservation.

Councillor D J Nash advised that he had received documentation from the Cotswold Council for Voluntary Service, which had identified that the organisation was in a very serious position due to the same running at a loss. Further information would be provided when available.

Councillor G T Adams advised that the statistics of the Victim Support Gloucestershire were available for Members on the notice board.

Councillor Mrs S A Alexander advised that she had attended a meeting of the Cirencester Temperance Trust, the details of which were available on the notice board and commented that the meetings only took place twice a year.

Councillor Mrs R A Leicester advised that a Corn Hall Meeting was to take place on 12th July 2005 and that the repairs to the same were not as extensive as would have been wished.

Councillor Mrs M T Eccles advised that she had represented the Town Council at a Briefing regarding the Fairford Air Tattoo.

27.06 MATTERS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Councillor Mrs M T Eccles identified that she would like the subject of the Kingshill Lane Sports Development Site – Skateboarding Facilities to be considered at the next meeting of the Finance Committee (see Minute No. 23.06).

Councillor D J Nash requested that the issue of grass cuttings be placed on the agenda for the Environment Committee in September.

The Council adjourned for 10 minutes before the confidential session.

Council reconvened.

PART TWO **CONFIDENTIAL**

C28.06 MINUTES **C29.06 KINGSHILL LANE SPORTS DEVELOPMENT SITE**

See Confidential Minute Book.

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest, that the public and press be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

The meeting closed at 9.20 p.m.

Councillor N E Whereat
Mayor