

# **CIRENCESTER TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of a Meeting of Council held in The Bingham Gallery, Bingham House, 1 Dyer Street, Cirencester, at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

**PRESENT:** Councillor N E Whereat – Mayor  
Councillor Mrs S A Alexander – Deputy Mayor

**Councillors:** G T Adams  
R Bourne  
Mrs M T Eccles  
Dr P A Hedges (7.08 p.m. arrival)  
J B Leicester  
D J Nash  
Mrs B A Potter  
Mrs M S Rickman

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

A Prayer was read by the Mayor.

## **124.07 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors B D Hudson, J D Leigh, R G Lock and Mrs R A Leicester.

## **125.07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Clerk drew Members' attention to the requirements of the Code of Conduct and having taken advice from the Monitoring Officer, informed Members that they should enter into all debates with an open mind. If they have made comments publicly or to the press that would indicate the way in which they are going to vote, then such Member is advised to declare a prejudicial interest and leave the meeting for the agenda item in question.

## **126.07 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2006 and the Special Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2006 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor subject to Minute Nos. C114.07 and C115.07 to be considered under confidential matters.**

## **127.7 FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Finance Committee held on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2006 be approved as a correct record subject to Minute No. C120.07 to be considered under confidential matters.**

## **128.07 PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**RESOLVED that the availability of recently considered applications and decisions be noted. (These files being available for inspection both in the Council Office during the working week and at Council Meetings.)**

## **129.7 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reported that he had visited the Cirencester Hospital and a number of the nursing homes in the town on Christmas Day. He also had pleasure in attending several carol services over the Christmas period and he had also attended Christmas Day lunch at the Watermoor Church Hall organised by DISC.

The Mayor thanked the office and grounds staff for all the extra work that they had undertaken during the Deputy Clerk's absence on sick leave in 2006.

## **130.07 QUESTION TIME FOR ELECTORS**

None were received.

## **131.07 QUESTION TIME FOR MEMBERS**

None were received.

## **132.07 RESOLUTIONS MOVED ON NOTICE – STANDING ORDER NO. 19**

None were received.

## **133.07 GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

No questions were asked of this authority.

## **134.07 COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL**

No questions were asked of this authority.

## **135.07 ACCOUNTS – ANNUAL RETURN**

The Clerk introduced the new form of Annual Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006, as approved at the Special Council Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2006, subject to the amendments that appeared in Section 1 (a copy of which is appended to the signed Minutes).

**RESOLVED that the amended Annual Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006, be approved and ratified by particular reference to Section 1.**

## **136.7 ACCOUNTS – ESTIMATES 2007/8**

The Members received an updated draft of the Estimates for 2007/8, totalling £547,920 for consideration.

The Clerk advised that he had had a meeting with representatives of Gloucestershire Constabulary regarding the Town Council supporting the enhancement of policing in Cirencester. He reported that this was very enthusiastically received and that the legalities of the same were being investigated. It was noted that the service would be supported by a clear audit trail and would be of benefit to the people of Cirencester.

**RESOLVED that £22,500 be identified in the budget for 2007/8 to support the enhancement of policing in Cirencester, subject to a clear audit trail.**

Members then considered the budget for the Christmas Lighting in the town. It was noted that the Town Council supported the erection/dismantling of the

same at an approximate cost of £10,000. It was also noted that the current lights were outdated and that the support by the Town Council should not continue indefinitely as a burden on the Council Tax payer. Members were aware that discussions were being held with the Chamber of Commerce to identify a proper lighting scheme for the future.

**RESOLVED that £10,000 be identified in the budget for 2007/8 subject to the formation of a working group to consider the way forward following the election of the new Council in May 2007.**

**RESOLVED that the precept be set at £552,920.00 for the year 2007/8.**

**137.07 PARKING STRATEGY**

Members were aware that the Cotswold District Council was currently developing a Parking Strategy and believed that the Town Council should develop its view on how it would like to see the parking run in the town as part of the strategy.

**RESOLVED that a Working Party be formed comprising Councillors G T Adams, R Bourne, Mrs M T Eccles and Mrs B A Potter, together with the Clerk, to consider the Town Council's objectives and report the same to Council in February 2007.**

**138.07 REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES**

Councillor G T Adams advised that the Cirencester Open Air Swimming Pool Association's Annual General Meeting was taking place on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2007 at 7.30 p.m. at the Parish Centre.

The Clerk reminded Members to advise him if they had not heard anything from the organisation(s) on which they were a representative for the purposes of addressing the future appointment of Council representatives.

**139.07 MATTERS IDENTIFIED FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS**

Norman Arch – To receive a report from The Vivat Trust.

**PART TWO**  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

**C140.07 COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**C141.07 FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**

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 8.20 p.m.

Councillor N E Whereat  
Mayor