

CIRENCESTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of Council held in the Bingham Gallery and Conference Suite, Bingham House, No. 1 Dyer Street, Cirencester, on Tuesday, 10th June 2008 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs S A Alexander - Mayor

Councillors: Mrs C Braidwood
P A Braidwood
A N Curry
H G C Gray
W Helm
Mrs J Hincks
R Hughes
A Lichnowski
Mrs S A le Noury
Mrs M S Rickman

Andrew Tubb - Chief Executive Officer
Clive Sherwood - Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Johan Newman - Executive Officer

One minute's silence was given in memory of Councillor G T Adams's daughter, Elena, who had recently passed away.

24.09 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors G T Adams - Deputy Mayor (personal), D J Nash (personal), Mrs B A Potter (personal) and Ms K M Yarrow (personal).

25.09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor R Hughes declared a personal interest in relation to the Chesterton Community Project item as he is a committee member of the Project (Minute 33.09).

26.09 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on Tuesday, 13th May 2008 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

27.9 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs S A Alexander, attended the following: -

- Attended, with the Chief Executive Officer, all schools in the town
- 8th May - Friends of the Parish Church meeting
- 9th May - C & S A Bowly's Almshouse Charity Annual Lunch
- 11th May - Churn Family Fun Day
- 20th - 22nd May - NALC Annual Conference
- 6th June - Opening of the new facilities at Cirencester Cricket Club

28.09 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No notification of questions were received.

29.09 MEMBER PARTICIPATION

No questions relating to the business of the Council were raised.

30.09 PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that the recently considered applications and decisions, under delegated authority, of the Planning Committee made at meetings held on 8th and 22nd May 2008 be noted.

31.09 OUR FUTURE CIRENCESTER - MARKET AND COASTAL TOWNS INITIATIVE

Members received a report relating to the approval of the draft Community Plan and Action Plan and to consider a partnership bid for funding towards the Market Place Improvements.

The Chief Executive Officer reported that Action Cirencester, Civic Society and Chamber of Commerce had identified that they wished to work in partnership with the Town Council and submit a joint bid to Cotswold District Council from the Council Priorities Fund following the District's receipt of £513,854.

Councillor Lichnowski reported that a meeting to finalise the Community Plan and Action Plan for submission to the Market and Coastal Association by 27th June was to be held on 23rd June. Members were asked to submit any proposed amendments within seven days.

He also drew attention to the Community Plan and Action Plan and referred to minor amendments/additions, which had been made.

It was noted that the prioritisation of the projects had not been identified in the Plan as this would be considered by the Steering Group at a later date.

RESOLVED that: -

- a) **the draft Community Plan and Action be approved for submission to the Market and Coastal Towns Association;**
- b) **the Town Council works in partnership with Action Cirencester, Civic Society and Chamber of Commerce to prepare a bid for funding towards the Market Place Improvement Scheme.**

32.09 GRANT AID 2008/9 - WARD PROJECTS

Members received a report on a grant aid request from 'Give us Back our Game' football scheme. Coaching sessions for children up to the age of 11 would be held at Four Acres during the summer holiday for the total cost of £1,440 and was part of the Cotswold District Council's "Summer off the Streets Campaign".

A grant of £600 was requested from the Town Council and it was recommended that £150 gifted from the Crazee Castles Ltd's recent event at St. Michael's Park and £90 from each of the Ward Grant funds be used to fund the grant.

Members were concerned that the application form did not provide enough information in relation to the coaches remuneration/expenses and accounts.

RESOLVED that a grant of £600 be awarded in principle, (£150 gifted from Crazee Castles Ltd and £90 from each of the Ward Grant funds) subject to information relating to the applicant's accounts being provided.

33.09 CHESTERTON COMMUNITY PROJECT

Members received the Chesterton Community Project's Constitution for consideration and endorsement.

RESOLVED that the Constitution be deferred to a future Council Meeting to give Members time to study the same.

34.09 TWINNING WITH ITZEHOE - 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Members received a report on the associated costs relating to the twinning visit from Itzehoe to Cirencester in April 2008. The total expenditure amounted to £2,729.23.

Members congratulated all those involved in making the visit such a memorable occasion and particular thanks was given to the Principal at the Royal Agricultural College for organising a tour and providing lunch.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

35.09 BUDGET SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2008

Members received the budget summary, together with explanatory notes, for the year ended 31st March 2008.

The Deputy Chief Executive and Responsible Finance Officer, Clive Sherwood, outlined the summary and highlighted the close comparison between budget expenditure to the Estimates.

Mr Sherwood was commended for the accuracy of the Estimates and **RESOLVED that the budget summary for the year ended 31st March 2008 be noted and approved.**

36.09 SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS PAID 1ST TO 31ST MAY 2008

Members received a copy of the Schedule of Accounts paid for the period 1st to 31st May 2008.

It was noted that Voucher Nos. 77 and 78 referred to works at the Queen Elizabeth Railway Cutting. A local Scout group had contacted the Council to improve an area at the railway cutting and had accordingly provided the labour, with the Town Council providing the topsoil and shrubs. Members commended the scout group for this initiative and asked that a letter be written to Mrs S Price, who had organised the initiative.

RESOLVED that the payments for the period 1st to 31st May 2008 be approved and authorised.

37.09 REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

Councillor Mrs S A Alexander attended a meeting of the C and S A Bowly's Almshouse meeting on 7th May, at which issues relating to building maintenance, rents and investments were discussed.

Councillor Mrs Alexander also referred to the NALC Annual Conference, which she had attended with Councillor D J Nash. She confirmed that Councillor Nash had raised the question of capping of town and parish councils to the Secretary of State, Hazel Blears MP. It was noted that the capping issue was a major concern at the conference and hoped that the same would not be pursued by the Government.

Councillor A Lichnowski reported that he had attended a meeting of Gloucestershire First and various Market and Coastal Towns Initiative meetings.

Councillors Mrs C Braidwood, P Braidwood and Mrs J Hincks had attended a Community Emergency Planning meeting at Cotswold District Council on 28th May 2008 (an information sheet was circulated at the meeting).

Councillor Mrs S A le Noury attended a meeting of Age Concern, at which concerns continued in relation to the closure of Akeman Court and the search for a suitable alternative location.

38.09 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Petition received from Mr Hill in accordance with Standing Order 68g)
It was noted that a petition had been received from Mr Hill relating to the City Bank Recreation Area. The Chief Executive Officer advised that the area was identified in a number of plans and that issues would be addressed.
- b) Council Information Sheet
Members noted the Council Information Sheet, which was circulated at the meeting.
- c) Any other correspondence received in accordance with Standing Order 68g)
None were received.

39.09 MATTERS IDENTIFIED FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Community Emergency Planning

Access to Services for the Elderly

40.09 EXEMPT INFORMATION - PERSONNEL GROUP

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 section 1 extended by the Local Government Act 1972 section 100.

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

41.09 OPEN SESSION - PERSONNEL GROUP

Agenda Item No. 17 was taken in confidential session due to it relating to personnel matters.

RESOLVED that the appeal be not upheld.