

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, 12th January 2010 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor G T Adams - Mayor
Councillor A Lichnowski - Deputy Mayor

Councillors: Mrs S A Alexander

P A Braidwood

A N Curry

W Helm

Mrs J Hincks

R Hughes

Mrs S A le Noury

D J Nash

Mrs M S Rickman

G M Selwyn

Andrew Tubb - Chief Executive Officer

Clive Sherwood - Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Johan Newman - Executive Officer

166.10 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Mrs C Braidwood (personal), H G C Gray (personal) and Mrs B A Potter (personal).

167.10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor G M Selwyn declared a personal interest in relation to Minute No. 172.10 - Grant Aid 2010/11, as his wife is an administrator for Cotswold Counselling.

168.10 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 10th November 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

169.10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Standing Order No. 68 refers)

Dr Paul Price gave prior notice that he would like to speak at the meeting and accordingly outlined his support for Council funding the Open Air Swimming Pool.

Dr Price stated that the Council had a golden opportunity to secure the future of pool, which is such a valuable and highly valued local amenity. The historic open air pool appeals to all age groups, particularly to school children during the summer holidays and provides for so many, endless hours of healthy enjoyment and is an economical day out, especially for those on a tight budget. The open air pool is such an appealing, accessible and enjoyable way of keeping fit.

The open air pool is a big attraction to holidaymakers in Cirencester, as well as attracting visitors from neighbouring towns, which provides customers to local shops, cafes and restaurants. The open air pool often operates at a loss threatening its financial viability and continued existence. £5,000 per annum funded by the Town Council, matched by £5,000 from St James's Place, would ensure that the pool would continue to open every summer.

Dr Price urged the Council to support the provision of an annual grant of £5,000 to support the open air pool and secure its future.

170.10 MEMBER PARTICIPATION (Standing Orders 27 to 30 refer)

No notification of questions was received.

In accordance with Standing Order No. 19, there was no objection to the Estimates 2010/11 and Grant Aid 2010/11 being taken as the next items.

171.10 ESTIMATES 2010/11

Further to discussion on funding for 2010/11, it was **RESOLVED that:** -

- a) **the 'Grants' headed budget be amended from £15,500 to £10,500;**
- b) **a separate new heading entitled 'Open Air Swimming Pool' be added with a figure of £5,000;**
- c) **the precept for 2010/11 of £668,485 be noted.**

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

172.10 GRANT AID 2010/11

Members considered the recommendation of the Corporate Group relating to the allocation and awarding of grant aid for 2010/11.

Councillor G M Selwyn declared a personal interest in relation to Cotswold Counselling, as his wife is an administrator for the same and took no part in the discussions.

After discussion and taking into account the resolutions made at Minute No. 171.10, it was **RESOLVED that: -**

a) **the Council allocates grants for 2010/11 as follows: -**

Citizens Advice Bureau £4,290

Cotswold Counselling £2,855

Cotswold Centre for Voluntary Services £2,855

(subject to the receipt of satisfactory financial accounts);

b) **the grant budget of £10,500 for 2010/11 be split with £10,000 being allocated to 'Community Support Organisations' as at a) above and £500 being allocated for other grants to be applied for in April 2010, as per existing arrangements.**

Voting Record:	For - 11	Against - 0	Abstentions - 0
Did Not Vote - 1			

173.10 PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that the recently considered applications and decisions made under delegated authority to the Planning Committee, at meetings held on 12th and 26th November and 10th December 2009 and 7th January 2010, be noted.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

174.10 CORPORATE GROUP

Members received the Notes of the Meeting of the Corporate Group held on 11th November 2009, which included a recommendation on grant aid, which was considered separately on the agenda.

RESOLVED that the Notes of the Corporate Group Meeting held on 11th November 2009, be noted.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

175.10 PROJECT GROUP

Members received the Notes of the Meeting of the Project Group held on 16th November 2009, which included information relating to the Abbey Grounds and the Chesterton Project.

RESOLVED that the Notes of the Project Group Meeting held on 16th November 2009, be noted.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

176.10 PERSONNEL GROUP

Members received the Notes of the Meeting of the Personnel Group held on 23rd November 2009, which included recommendations relating to the Long Service Awards Policy and the Car Loan Policy, which are identified separately on the agenda.

RESOLVED that the Notes of the Meeting of the Personnel Group held on 23rd November 2009 be noted.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

177.10 POLICE LIAISON PANEL

Members received the Notes of the Meeting of the Police Liaison Panel held on 1st December 2009, which included an expenditure update and community safety initiatives.

It was noted that Les Haines, the Principal Community Safety Officer at Cotswold District Council, had retired at the end of December 2009 and that the Chief Executive Officer would be writing a letter of thanks for all his support to the Town Council during his time at Cotswold District Council.

RESOLVED that the Notes of the Meeting of the Police Liaison Panel held on 1st December 2009, be noted.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

**178.10
2009**

SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS PAID 1ST NOVEMBER TO 31ST DECEMBER

Members received a copy of the schedule of payments made during the period
1st November to 31st December 2009.

RESOLVED that the payments for the period 1st November to 31st December 2009 be approved and authorised.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

179.10

LONG SERVICE AWARDS POLICY

Members received a Long Service Awards Policy, as recommended by the Personnel Group.

RESOLVED that the Long Service Awards Policy be approved and implemented.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

180.10

CAR LOAN POLICY

The consideration of the Council's Car Loan Policy was deferred to a future meeting of Council.

181.10 OUR FUTURE CIRENCESTER

Members received a report on 'Our Future Cirencester', which included an update on the Cirencester Living History projects, the Green Strategy and Cirencester Local information.

The Chief Executive Officer outlined the projects for a new town guide, town map, 'Way Teller' and the involvement of schools.

Councillor A Lichnowski, Chairman of the Steering Group, reported that the 'Sustainable Cirencester?' Seminar held at the Organic Farm Shop at Abbey Home Farm, Cirencester, on 21st November 2009 was attended by over 50 people, who have committed to moving forward. He also reported that the Business Working Group meeting held on 12th January was well represented by the business community and they were discussing tourism. The Green Spaces Working Group was due to meet in the near future and any suggestions on contacts to take this project forward would be appreciated. It was accordingly noted that the Churn Project was separate from the Watermoor Community Group and also that the newly formed Beeches Community Group could be added to those contacted.

RESOLVED that the reports be noted.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

182.10 COMMUNICATIONS AND WEBSITE DESIGN PROJECT

The Chief Executive Officer advised Members that the contract for the above project had been awarded to the local company 'Foundation' and that a press release would be issued in the near future.

He outlined some of the services that the company would provide as follows:-

To develop a new brand and logo

To develop a new website

To develop a new format for Newsletters

To provide a PR service for 12 months

To provide marketing advice, training and support for staff during the project

To provide training for the use of the Website's Content Management System

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

183.10 GLOUCESTERSHIRE LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN

Members received a letter from Councillor Mark Hawthorne, Gloucestershire County Council Cabinet Member for the Environment, with regard to the above consultation.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that this was an opportunity for Members to lobby Gloucestershire County Council to include the Market Place Improvement Scheme in the next edition of the Local Transport Plan. He advised that the Scheme was seen by some as just a public realm scheme to make it look better and does not tick all the boxes for a Government funded scheme; the Scheme is, however, worthy of inclusion as it would deliver a more vibrant town, sustainable living, improve community safety and would also link into the wider 20 mph zone.

The Chief Executive Officer accordingly encouraged Members to support the Scheme by completing the consultation response document, as the more feedback the better chance the scheme had for inclusion in the Plan.

RESOLVED that the consultation be noted.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

184.10 PROVISION OF A TRANSPORT INFORMATION HUB IN CIRENCESTER

Members received a report on the provision of a transport information hub in Cirencester. The hub would provide a single point of information which would include a public transport network map, locations of bus stops, bus timetables and integrated whole journey timetables.

The preferred location being adjacent to the Parish Church and the commuted sum that the Council would receive from the Gloucestershire County Council had been identified as £5,000.

It was noted that any new sign should be removable so that it could be removed for events such as the Remembrance Day service.

RESOLVED that the Council give approval for a joint working approach with Gloucestershire County Council in the provision of transport information hub in Cirencester.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

185.10 DISC - NOMINATION OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

It was noted that the Council had received a request for a Council representative to attend the organisational meetings of DISC (Disabled Information and Support in the Cotswolds) and a representative was accordingly sought.

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs J Hincks represent the Council at future meetings of DISC.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

186.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Mayor

The Mayor was delighted to report that the former Councillor and Mayor, Mr Norman Whereat, had been awarded an MBE. Mr Whereat was a stalwart champion for the Cirencester Hospital and League of Friends and the Mayor would be writing to him to extend the Council's congratulations.

The Mayor outlined events that he had attended as follows: -

10 th November	60 th Anniversary of Cirencester Housing Society at Ingleside House
11 th November memoriam	War Memorial for the 2 minute's silence in
11 th November	Gloucestershire Farm Shops display of produce at Royal Agricultural College

14 th November	A dinner to celebrate the 70 th Anniversary of the Phoenix Company
18 th November	Cotswold Counselling's Annual General Meeting
28 th November	Presentation/interview on the role of the Town Council on Corinium Radio, along with the Chief Executive Officer
29 th November	Advent Festival
2 nd December	Mayor's Reception at Ingleside House, at which attendees included representatives from local churches, surgeries, solicitors, farmers' market, Chamber of Commerce, Wessex Yeomanry, Cotswold District Council and the Civic Society
4 th December	Cantores Concert in the Parish Church
12 th December	Memorial Concert for Tim Jennings at the Parish Church
19 th December	Lunchtime Concert held by the Corinium Players Guitar Ensemble
25 th December	Christmas Lunch for any homeless, lonely, disabled or single parent families, held at Watermoor Church Hall and organised by DISC, to which many businesses and organisations had contributed

b) Chief Executive Officer/Town Clerk

The Chief Executive Officer outlined events that he had attended as follows: -

11 th November	Book Launch by Paul Cooper of 'Give us Back Our Game'
18 th November	Cotswold Counselling's Annual General Meeting
28 th November	Corinium Radio presentation/interview along with the Mayor
29 th November	Advent Festival
2 nd December	Mayor's Reception
4 th December	Cirencester Legal Association Lunch
7 th December	GAPTC/SLCC Networking Lunch
11 th December	NALC Networking Lunch
11 th January	BBC Radio Gloucestershire interview

c) Town Councillors

Councillor Mrs S A Alexander attended a meeting of the C & S A Bowly Almshouse Charity.

Councillor A N Curry attended the 'Sustainable Cirencester?' Seminar on 21st November.

Councillor D J Nash attended two meetings of the Cotswold Council for Voluntary Service, a meeting of the NALC Larger Local Councils Committee at which he had been re-elected and was duly congratulated. Councillor Nash also advised that he had been elected to serve on the National Council and had attended the first meeting on 20th December - he hoped to achieve more for Cirencester through this organisation.

Councillor G Selwyn attended two meetings of the Watermoor Community Group.

Councillor Mrs J Hincks attended the 'Sustainable Cirencester?' event on 21st November and the Annual General Meeting of the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.

Councillor A Lichnowski attended the Remembrance Service on 9th November, a meeting of the Soroptimists on 18th November, the 'Community Land Trusts - What are they and would they work for us?' seminar on 27th November, interviewed on Corinium Radio with regard to sustainability and attended the Advent Festival Reception on 29th November, 'Designing Environments to Encourage Physical Activity' Conference on 30th November, the Mayor's Reception on 2nd December, a Chamber of Commerce event on 9th December and a meeting for the Holocaust Memorial Day (27th January) on 11th January.

187.10 CORRESPONDENCE

a) Council Information Sheet;

Members noted the Council Information Sheet, which was circulated at the meeting.

b) Any other correspondence received in accordance with Standing Order 68g)

- The letter received from Mr C Maggs, Volunteer Business Advisor, Cirencester Open Air Swimming Pool, dated 1st December 2009, was duly noted.

- Emails received from Ms C Svensson, Mr D Lonergan and Ms Skinner, with regard to the Open Air Swimming Pool, were duly noted.

Members also noted that a further 73 emails had been received in support of funding the Open Air Swimming Pool.

188.10 MATTERS IDENTIFIED FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

The following items were identified for discussion at the next meeting: -

- a) Ward Grants
- b) Gritting of Footpaths

189.10 EXEMPT INFORMATION

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.

190.10 COMMUNICATIONS AND WEBSITE DESIGN PROJECT

Agenda C24 was taken and noted in confidential session due to it pertaining to contractual issues.

Members considered the Scope of Work document for the Communications and Website Design project.

RESOLVED that the Scope of Work document for the Communications and Website Design Project be approved.

Voting Record:	For - 12	Against - 0
Abstentions - 0		

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.
Adams

Councillor G T

Mayor