

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, 9th February 2010 at 7.00 p.m.

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

Councillors: Mrs S A Alexander
Mrs C Braidwood
P A Braidwood
A N Curry
H G C Gray
W Helm
Mrs J Hincks
D J Nash
Mrs B A Potter
Mrs M S Rickman
G M Selwyn

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

199.10 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor R Hughes (personal).

200.10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

201.10 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 12th January 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor, subject to the word "removal" being replaced with "removable" in the third paragraph of Minute No. 184.10.

Voting Record:	For - 13	Against - 0	Abstentions - 0
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202.10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Standing Order No. 68 refers)

No notification of questions was received.

203.10 MEMBER PARTICIPATION (Standing Orders 27 to 30 refer)

No notification of questions was received.

204.10 PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that the recently considered applications and decisions made under delegated authority to the Planning Committee, at meetings held on 21st January and 4th February 2010, be noted.

Voting Record:	For - 13	Against - 0	Abstentions - 0
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205.10 CORPORATE GROUP

Members received a report on a Meeting of the Corporate Group held on 2nd February 2010, which included an update on the NALC's Development Strategy and Business Plan 2010-2015, closed circuit television (update provided in confidential session – Minute No. 214.10 refers), Community Engagement Policy, Budget Holding Lead Professional Fund – Cotswold Hub and RBS financial software.

RESOLVED that: -

- a) the report be noted;
- b) the following revisions to the Community Engagement Policy, be approved: -

Section 2 Background, Paragraph 2.3

Insert text relating to Government guidance and statute

2.3 Our objective is to ensure that together with our partners we deliver social, economic and environmental well-being; taking into account any sustainable community strategy as published by Cotswold District Council and/or Gloucestershire County Council, 'and Government guidance and statute.'

Section 2 Background, Paragraph 2.7

Insert '(Section 10 refers)'

2.7 The power of well-being is the power of first resort and its broad application could have far reaching implications for the community; it is therefore important that the Town Council has in place an effective community engagement policy to ensure that in all it does there is effective two-way communication before, during and after any decision making process '(Section 10 refers).'

Addition of new section, Section 10 Decision Making Process

'10. Decision Making Process

10.1 Engagement is a fundamental part of any democratic decision making process.

10.2 Whilst there is delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer to act in respect of any matter which requires urgent attention (including some delegated authority to committees/groups), the majority of decisions are taken by the Council.

10.3 Decisions taken cover a wide range of subject areas including the annual budget, fees and charges for services, management of parks and open spaces and responding to local and national consultation documents.

10.4 For details of the decision making process, delegated authority and the remit of the Council's committees and groups please refer to the Council's 'Standing Orders' document available on-line and at the Customer Information Point.'

- c) that Council agrees to fulfill the role of fund administrator for the County Council's Budget Holding Lead Professional/Common Assessment Framework (children and young people) - Cotswold Hub, subject to agreeing an administrative fee/ additional information being made available;
- d) that the purchase of Omega Financial Director software from RBS be approved.

Voting Record:	For - 13	Against - 0	Abstentions - 0
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206.10 PROJECT GROUP

Members received the Notes of the Meeting of the Project Group held on 18th January 2010, which included recommendations relating to the Abbey Grounds and Four Acres.

RESOLVED that: -

- a) the Notes of the Project Group Meeting held on 18th January 2010, be noted;

- b) the fee, that a number of residents of Corinium Gate are charged for a gated access to the Abbey Grounds, be increased from 25p to £5 per annum and to be paid by Standing Order to reduce administration costs (the fee being for the protection of the Council should it decide to remove the access);
- c) permission be granted to the organiser of 'Give Us Back Our Game' events to use Four Acres Recreation Field during the summer of 2010.

Voting Record:	For - 13	Against - 0	Abstentions - 0
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207.10 SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS PAID 1ST TO 31ST JANUARY 2010

Members received a copy of the schedule of payments made during the period 1st to 31st January 2010.

RESOLVED that the payments for the period 1st to 31st January 2010 be approved and authorised.

Voting Record:	For - 13	Against - 0	Abstentions - 0
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208.10 BUDGET REPORT TO 31ST DECEMBER 2009

Members received the Budget Report for the period 1st April to 31st December 2009, including Notes for Guidance.

It was noted that the Chamber of Commerce had handed the management of the Advent Festival to the Town Council, along with funds previously raised. Concern was raised as to the resources/costs for undertaking the same in the future. It was noted that the task had been effectively covered on this occasion and festivals were an aspect of the Community Plan.

RESOLVED that the Budget Report for the period 1st April to 31st December 2009 be approved.

Voting Record:	For - 13	Against - 0	Abstentions - 0
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209.10 HR/ HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSULTANCY SERVICES

Following the consideration of three quotations received for HR/Health and Safety Consultancy Services by the Personnel Group, it was recommended to Council that the quotation received from Company No. 1 at £4,505.00 p.a. be accepted.

RESOLVED that the quotation received from Company No. 1 for HR/Health and Safety Consultancy Services at £4,505 be approved for commencement in April 2010.

Voting Record:	For - 13	Against - 0	Abstentions – 0
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210.10 OUR FUTURE CIRENCESTER

Members received a verbal update on 'Our Future Cirencester' Community Plan from the Chief Executive Officer and Councillor A Lichnowski, Chairman of the Steering Group, as follows: -

The Chief Executive Officer reported that a meeting to discuss the Green Strategy had taken place and he was delighted with the high calibre of membership. The group had looked at sites including City Bank and the amphitheatre and will be bringing forward a strategy, together with a plan of action, for consideration in the near future. Various funding streams had also been identified.

The youth work was coming along apace, with the establishment of the 'Ozone' at the New Brewery Arts. The Chief Executive Officer is working with Claire Bartlett, seconded from Fosseway Housing, to develop youth services and hoped to continue with a joined up approach by working with other youth service providers such as the County Council, Baptist Church (Cyber Café) and Churches Together.

The Steering Group is looking to the future and potential delivery vehicles for the Plan and a formal report will be presented in due course for consideration.

Councillor Lichnowski advised that the Green Strategy group included professionals in archaeology, trees and flooding and that 16 plus individuals had looked around City Bank on Sunday, 7th February to discuss various options for the site.

It was hoped that the Heritage Group would be re-established in the near future and was delighted that Councillor Mrs S Alexander had agreed to be Chairman. It was hoped that a history of Cirencester would be included in the new town guide and included on the new website.

It was noted that Tigz, the company that were organising an event in the Abbey Grounds, were unable to secure certain bands in time for this year's event, but it was hoped that an event could be organised in 2011.

The Business Working Group was still working hard and met on the second Tuesday of each month. Active participation was received from 'Parklife' (Love Lane premises organisation), which helped to encourage activities for the whole of the town. A new business database had been created and discussions had been held with the Cotswold Water Park for better coordination for tourism in Cirencester and encouraging cross flow.

RESOLVED that the reports be noted.

Voting Record:	For - 13	Against - 0	Abstentions - 0
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211.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Mayor

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

- 22nd January - Pantomime at Bingham Hall
- 24th January - Baptist Church at which a talk was given by Reverend Isaac, the founder of Street Pastors
- 27th January - Holocaust Memorial Day Service at the Parish Church
- 28th January - Local Transport Plan Consultation Event
- 30th January - Launch of the Face of Cirencester competition
- 9th February - Heritage Open Day Meeting

b) Chief Executive Officer/Town Clerk

19th January - Hosted a visit from a teacher from the Star College, which is an independent specialist college working with learners who have physical disabilities and associated learning difficulties. He advised that he, along with the Executive Officer, would be visiting the same and aimed to arrange meaningful work experience for students.

28th January - Local Transport Plan Consultation Event

28th January - Action Cirencester Meeting.

c) Town Councillors

Councillor A Lichnowski attended a Lecture on 'Meeting the Global Challenge' at the Royal Agricultural College on 15th January, the Holocaust Memorial Day Service on 27th January and an Army Presentation Team event on 2nd February.

Councillor H G C Gray attended the Holocaust Memorial Day Service on 27th January.

Councillor Mrs J Hincks attended the Pantomime at Bingham Hall on 22nd January and the Watermoor Community Group Meeting on 8th February.

Councillor G Selwyn attended the Pantomime at Bingham Hall on 22nd January, the Local Transport Plan Consultation event on 28th January and the Watermoor Community Group Meeting on 8th February. It was noted that the Watermoor subway would be painted by volunteers following generous donations towards the paint, etc.

Councillor D J Nash reported that he would be attending a meeting of the NALC Council at the end of March and encouraged members to give their comments on the NALC Development Strategy and Business Plan 2010-2015 to the Chief Executive Officer, so that he could make a cohesive response.

Councillor A N Curry attended the Local Transport Plan Consultation event on 28th January.

212.10 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)

None was received.

213.10 MATTERS IDENTIFIED FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

None were identified.

214.10 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.

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215.10 CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION/ JOINT WORKING

Item No. 3 – Closed Circuit Television of the Corporate Group’s report (Minute No. 205.10 refers) was taken and noted in confidential session due to it pertaining to legal and contractual issues.

RESOLVED that the report on Closed Circuit Television and joint working be noted.

Voting Record:	For - 13	Against - 0	Abstentions – 0
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The meeting closed at 7.58 p.m.

Councillor G T Adams

Mayor