

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 March 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 (departed at 8.15 p.m.)

H G C Gray

W Helm

R Hughes

Mrs S A le Noury

D J Nash

Mrs B A Potter

G M Selwyn

Andrew Tubb - Chief Executive Officer

Clive Sherwood - Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Johan Newman - Executive Officer

217.10 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Mrs J Hincks (personal) and Councillor Mrs M Rickman (personal).

218.10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

219.10 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 9th February 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

220.10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Standing Order No. 68 refers)

No notification of questions was received.

221.10 MEMBER PARTICIPATION (Standing Orders 27 to 30 refer)

No notification of questions was received.

222.10 RESOLUTIONS MOVED ON NOTICE - STANDING ORDER NO. 20

The following proposed resolution was submitted by Councillor P Braidwood and was accordingly **RESOLVED** as follows: -

“This Council notes the powers given to it in Section 29 Subsection 6(b) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 to honour those people who have rendered eminent services to our community and to this Council and looks forward to a meeting where the first of such awards can be granted. This Council asks the Corporate Group to consider appropriate criteria for each honour and to report back to next Council.”

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

223.10 PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that the recently considered applications and decisions made under delegated authority to the Planning Committee, at meetings held on 18th February and 4th March 2010, be noted.

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

224.10 PROJECT GROUP

Members received the Notes of the Meeting of the Project Group held on 15th February 2010, which included information relating to the Abbey Grounds, Advent Festival and Winter Maintenance.

RESOLVED that the Notes of the Project Group Meeting held on 15th February 2010, be noted.

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

225.10 INTERNAL AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT GROUP

Members received the Notes of the Meeting of the Internal Audit and Risk Management Group held on 22nd February 2010.

RESOLVED that the Notes of the Meeting of the Internal Audit and Risk Management Group held on 22nd February 2010 be noted.

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

226.10 PERSONNEL GROUP

Members received the Notes of the Meeting of the Personnel Group held on 22nd February 2010, including a recommendation relating to staffing issues, which was considered in confidential session (Minute No. C239.10 refers) and a Car Loan and Lease Policy (Minute No. 227.10 refers).

RESOLVED that the Notes of the Meeting of the Personnel Group held on 22nd February 2010 be noted.

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

In accordance with Standing Order No. 19, there was no objection to the Car Loan and Lease Policy being taken as the next item.

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

227.10 CAR LOAN AND LEASE POLICY

Members received a report on the introduction of a new Car Loan and Lease Policy, which included clarification of essential and authorised car users, lease hire contract information and cost implications.

It was noted that there were some concerns as to the Tax implications of car leasing.

RESOLVED that: -

- a) **the Corporate Group be given delegated authority to consider and determine upon a request from an authorised car user for financial assistance to purchase a car on an individual basis and only in exceptional circumstances;**
- b) **a car lease scheme be established for essential and authorised car users;**

- c) **the scheme for essential car users to be borne by the Council for an appropriate range of cars in the region of £3,000 to £3,600, plus VAT, per annum (the cost being reduced by approximately £1,300 being the essential users lump sum and mileage allowance);**
- d) **a car lease scheme for authorised car users be borne by the individual subject to there being no cost to the Council.**

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| Voting Record: | For - 12 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 1 | | |

228.10 POLICE LIAISON PANEL

Members received the Notes of the Meeting of the Police Liaison Panel held on 23rd February 2010.

RESOLVED that the Notes of the Meeting of the Police Liaison Panel held on 23rd February 2010 be noted.

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 1 | | |

229.10 SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS PAID 1ST TO 28TH FEBRUARY 2010

Members received a copy of the schedule of payments made during the period 1st to 28th February 2010.

Attention was drawn to the following items: -

V. No. 402 - Southern Electric Contracting - £2820 for the removal of the Christmas lighting. Members were advised that the contractors were unable to take down a section of lights in Castle Street due to scaffolding being erected.

V. No. 401 - P A Kirby - £3337 for the rebuilding of a wall at St. Michael's Park. Members were advised that another section of wall had fallen at St. Michael's Park, in King Street and it would be repaired in the near future.

RESOLVED that the payments for the period 1st to 28th February 2010 be approved and authorised.

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

230.10 RECREATION AND ALLOTMENT CHARGES 2010/11

Members received the proposed recreation and allotment charges for 2010/11 and it was recommended that the charges remain as per the current year.

RESOLVED that there be no increase on recreation and allotment charges for 2010/11. The charges accordingly remain as per 2009/10 as follows: -

| St. Michael's Park | | | |
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| Tennis | | 4.00 | Per hour |
| Tennis (Concessionary Rate) | | 2.50 | Per hour |
| Lights | | 4.00 | Per hour |
| Croquet | | 4.00 | Per game |
| Golf (Adults) | | 1.60 | Per game |
| Golf (Children & Concessionary) | | .80 | Per game |
| Golf (Family Ticket - 2 Adults & 3 Children) | | 3.10 | Per game |
| Barbecue (inc. charcoal) | | 7.50 | |
| Kingshill Lane Sports Development Site | | | |
| Football | Senior | 50.00 | Per match |
| | Youth | 25.00 | |
| Allotments Rental | | | |
| City Bank & Chesterton Two Acres | | 15.00 | Per annum |
| Beeches | | 80.00 | Per annum |

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

231.10 OUR FUTURE CIRENCESTER

Members received a verbal update on the 'Our Future Cirencester' Community Plan from Councillor A Lichnowski, Chairman of the Steering Group.

Councillor Lichnowski advised that the Heritage Group would be meeting in the near future, with Councillor Mrs S Alexander as Chairman and it was noted that good progress was being made with regard to the history of Cirencester, which would be included in the new town guide and on the new website.

The Business Working Group was progressing well and was looking at linking the database that the recent student intern had collated to the Council's new website. The aim being that the Council's website was the primary website for Cirencester.

The Green Strategy Group was also progressing well and it was hoped that the strategy document would be completed in late autumn.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

232.10 COMMUNICATION AND WEBSITE DESIGN CONTRACT

The Chief Executive Officer reported that the dedicated server for the content management system for the new website was now in place and the office staff were now working on the framework and content.

With regard to the branding, it was **RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 section 1 extended by the Local Government Act 1972 section 100 that the matter be dealt with in confidential session.**

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

233.10 ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Mayor

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

25th February - Launch Party of Dr Ross Cutts' new dental surgery in The Old Post Office, which was a valuable networking opportunity.

6th March - The Royal Wessex Yeomanry Officers' Dinner at Allenby Barracks, Bovington - Prior to the dinner, the Mayor attended a lecture given by Lt Col Gus Fair who was the Commanding Officer of the Light Dragoons, leading the Battle Group in Task Force Helmand on the operation code named 'Panther's Claw'.

b) Chief Executive Officer/Town Clerk

17th February – SLCC National Executive Committee Meeting in London

25th February – Churn Partnership Meeting. The Group was currently developing partnerships and he would be presenting a report to Council in April.

26th/27th February – SLCC Conference at which he had make a presentation on developing Business Plans

2nd March – SLCC Management Committee

Councillor A Lichnowski attended a Gloucestershire Market Towns Forum Meeting on 10th February, a Market and Coastal Towns Meeting on 20th February and the Churn Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting on 25th February.

Councillor Mrs S A le Noury attended an Age Concern Meeting and it was noted that the organisation supported groups such as the Stroke Club and was optimistic for the future.

Councillor W Helm attended the Annual General Meeting of the Open Air swimming Pool Association who were extremely grateful for the Council's award of £5,000. He had also attended a meeting of the Cirencester Twinning Association and an item on its future would be on the Agenda for the next Council Meeting in April.

Councillor H G C Gray attended the opening of a new dental surgery at the Old Post Office in Castle Street on 25th February.

Councillor Mrs C Braidwood attended a meeting of the Beeches Community Group and on 25th February attended a meeting of the Cirencester Neighbourhood Partnership.

Councillor D J Nash attended a special meeting of CCVS and other voluntary organisations county wide to discuss the new contract for volunteer services. He also attended a CCVS Board Meeting on 17th February. Councillor Nash thanked Councillor P Braidwood for brokering a meeting with regard to the Market Place proposals and the consultation on the Local Transport Plan on 24th February at which he had raised a question and had gained the assurance of a Cabinet Member that the scheme would not be disadvantaged because of the premature withdrawal of the previous bid as part of CTEP.

Councillor Nash had also attended a NALC Finance Committee meeting on 1st March, on 3rd March had attended, along with Governors, staff and parents at Chesterton School, a presentation by Sgt John Skilling, from Gloucestershire

Constabulary, on potential dangers of IT abuse for children and Chesterton School Premises Committee meeting on 8th March.

Councillor P Braidwood reported that he had reiterated concerns as to the way the recent meeting on the Local Transport Plan in Cirencester was conducted by representatives of Gloucestershire County Council, particularly with regard to the issue of the Market Place Improvement Scheme.

Councillor G M Selwyn attended a meeting of the Cirencester Neighbourhood Partnership on 25th February, a meeting of the Watermoor Community Group on 8th March. He advised that the group would be litter picking at City Bank over the following weekend and were soon to be undertaking the re-painting of the subway.

Councillor Mrs B A Potter attended a Stratton School Governors Meeting on 8th March and noted that the school had gone from strength to strength and was a great place for the children.

Councillor Mrs S A Alexander attended the Cirencester Neighbourhood Partnership meeting on 25th February, a St Lawrence Trust meeting at which the accounts were presented and had had a meeting with Dr Andrea Pellegram with regard to the Our Future Cirencester Community Plan Heritage Working Group. The first meeting of which was to be held on 8th April and they had discussed appropriate invitees.

234.10 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 were received.

235.10 MATTERS IDENTIFIED FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

None were identified.

236.10 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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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

237.10 PERSONNEL

Item No. C20 was taken in confidential session due to it pertaining to contractual issues.

RESOLVED that the recommendation be approved.

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

238.10 COMMUNICATION AND WEBSITE DESIGN CONTRACT

Part of Item No. 16 was taken in confidential session due to it pertaining to contractual issues.

RESOLVED that approval be given to the Council's new branding.

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| Voting Record: | For - 13 | Against - 0 |
| Abstentions - 0 | | |

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.
Adams

Councillor G T

Mayor