

MINUTES of a meeting of WILTON TOWN COUNCIL held in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KINGSBURY SQUARE, WILTON on TUESDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2018 at 7.00pm

Present Cllr Peter Edge (Mayor of Wilton)
Cllr Ivan Seviour (Deputy Mayor of Wilton)
Cllr Trevor Batchelder
Cllr Charlotte Blackman
Cllr Pauline Church
Cllr Paula Johnston
Cllr Andrew Kinsey
Cllr Phil Matthews
Cllr Teresa Taylor
Cllr Sue van Leest

In Attendance Mrs Catherine Purves, Town Clerk. Mr Hugh Abel, Minute Secretary.

Also Present George Bruton, Keith Crockett, Zoe Cupit (Wilton Community Land Trust), John Harris, Mr & Mrs H J Moore, Neil Prigent (Wilton Community Land Trust), Terence Rosslyn Smith, Anne Jeal, Laura Twomey-Hunt

Public Session

Neil Prigent (*chairman of Wilton Community Land Trust*) and Zoe Cupit (*Manager of Wilton Community Land Trust*) – gave a presentation about the CLT, what it was, its aims, and what its plans for the next five years. The following questions and requests were posed by the CLT:

- i. The Council's view on the CLT's proposal to purchase of the Highways Depot for the use of community led housing in the Wilton Area
- ii. The Council's view on its strategy concerning affordable and social housing in Wilton with reference to the Wilton Vision document and its own Forward Plan” and that a such a strategy should be connected to the Neighbourhood Plan
- iii. For the Land Trust to be able to use the Council Offices for its monthly Directors Meeting
- iv. How the Town Council can help to support the Land Trust in a tangible way in the future.
- v. There was an open invitation for all Councillors to have a tour around Our Enterprise/Veterans Centre site at Erskine Park on The Avenue.

At the end of their talk, Councillors were invited to become members of Wilton CLT.

Keith Crockett – asked when repairs to the roof of the bus shelter in Randalls Croft Road would be carried out.

Cllr Edge – replied that the new panels had been ordered and repairs would take place as soon as possible.

Keith Crockett – expressed his sadness at news of the recent vandalism at the cemetery and asked if the Town Council had plans to lock the gates.

Keith Crockett – asked when the petition about the closure of Lloyds Bank’s Wilton branch would be presented to the bank’s management.

Cllr Edge – said that it would be presented at the end of February.

Laura Twomey-Hunt – told the meeting about the Greener Wilton Group, a voluntary initiative to make the Town more environmentally friendly. It wants to encourage local businesses to lead the way by using more recyclable or compostable food packaging, LED lights, and providing tap water for free.. The target is for at least 12 local retailers to sign up to this project.

Cllr Matthews – told the meeting that some customers patronising the recently opened Kebab shop in North Street were causing obstructions and traffic problems by parking on the double yellow lines. This has seen the existing daytime problem extend into the evening.

The Clerk – advised that the matter of parking on the double yellow lines and obstructing the passage of buses had been previously reported to Wiltshire Council, which was waiting for a response from Salisbury Reds on this matter as well as other issues.

Cllr Blackman – reported she had been advised that the flood lights in Old St Mary's Churchyard had developed a timing fault, thought to be caused by the recent power cut, which meant they were on all night.

Cllr Edge – advised that he had accepted with regret Cllr Becky Perry's resignation from the Town Council owing to her increased work commitments. The resulting Notice of a Casual Vacancy has been displayed. He also noted that it was the 100th anniversary of votes being given to all men aged 21 and over, and to women aged 30 and who were property owners in their own right.

Wiltshire Councillor Pauline Church gave her report to the Town Council

- *Wilton Parkway* – a first draft report from Wiltshire Council's contractors was presented to the recent stakeholders meeting and the final report is due in March. It will contain designs for the station itself and a breakdown of the scheme's costings.
- *Drains at Four Corners* – Wiltshire Council's newly appointed officer, Diane Ware, travelled through Wilton on 31st January and was able to see flooding at Four Corners at first hand. A new drainage system is needed and this is now moving into the planning stage with a CCTV survey to be undertaken. Cllr Church will continue to press for the issue to be included in this year's funding schedule.
- *Bus stops in The Avenue* – she is still pursuing this matter with Redrow.
- *Sheep Fair Field* – Cllr Church has established that the Sheep Fair Field is not in the current housing allocation plan. However, it is regarded by Wiltshire Council as being of strategic importance. She is trying to find out the reasons for this designation.
- *Carillion* – She confirmed that Wiltshire Council had no contact or contracts with Carillion at any level
- *Lloyds Bank closure* – She and John Glen MP will be meeting with representatives of Lloyds Bank on Friday 9th February about this matter.

Cllr Matthews – asked her to make sure that John Glen and Lloyds knew about the petition currently circulating in Wilton, as it reflected local concern and anger.

Cllr Matthews – asked if Wiltshire Councillors' allowances were adequate in view of recent news that 5 councillors had not paid their council tax.

A presentation was made to the Town Council of a charter and wooden casket which was a miniature replica of the wooden chest that stands in the Council Chamber. The presentation was made by Mr Hugh Moore whose father had previously owned these artefacts.

On behalf of the Town Council, the Mayor of Wilton, Cllr Edge, was pleased to accept the gifts.

A G E N D A

Cllr Edge in the chair

17.18 To receive apologies

None were received.

Resolved: to note.

18.18 Minutes

- a. **Resolved:** that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 2nd January 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record without amendment.

19.18 Declarations of Interest

a. To receive any Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers, and in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members.

None were received..

Resolved: to note

b. To consider any Dispensation Requests received by the Town Clerk and not previously considered. - None had been requested.

Resolved: to note

20.18 Exclusion of the press and public. To agree any items to be dealt with after the public, including the press, have been excluded under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and Local Government Act 1972 ss100.

Resolved: That there was no agenda item for which this provision needed to be exercised.

21.18 To consider any urgent business raised by the public in public discussion, and any other urgent matters or items of information from councillors, for referral to the appropriate committee.

Community Land Trust - items i., ii and iv to be referred to the Finance & General Purposes committee. Item iii. - it was agreed that the Directors could use the Council Chambers for their monthly meeting. Cllr Edge offered to distribute and collect membership forms and fees from councillors.

Cemetery vandalism - this matter would be referred to the Amenities & Planning Committee

Churchyard lights - this matter would be referred to the Amenities & Planning Committee, in the meantime Cllr Edge offered to inspect the lights.

22.18 To receive reports from:

a. Wiltshire Association of Local Councils and Community First

Cllr Seviour reported that the Association's budget was looking better with a surplus of some £15,000. This was largely due to additional councils becoming members, particularly in the Swindon area. It was anticipated that the subscriptions would rise by 3% and it is planned to recruit an administrative assistant. Further training is being offered for Data Protection and Freedom of Information.

b. The South West Wiltshire Area Board

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 7th February.

c. Wilton Community Centre

Cllr Blackman told the meeting that the Community Centre board was seeking to recruit some new trustees to fill vacancies on the board. The next meeting will be on Monday 12th February and Cllr Batchelder will be present to ask the Trustees about installation of a defibrillator unit at the Centre. Marion Powell had sent the Trustees a letter of thanks from the Wilton Christian Fellowship for the help and support given by the Centre to the Christmas Day lunch.

d. Wilton and District Chamber of Commerce

Cllr Matthews reported that the Chamber was seeking to expand its membership. It welcomes the establishment of the Business Hub at Wilton Hill and will invite those involved in the Hub to join the Chamber. The Chamber is currently looking to set up a working relationship with Salisbury Chamber of Commerce.

e. To receive and note an update about the Wilton Parkway Station project

There was nothing further to report. Cllr Batchelder asked about the funding for the project.

f. To receive an update from the Flood Warden for Water Ditchampton

A report is awaited from Water Ditchampton's Flood Warden who is presently indisposed, Cllr Batchelder told the meeting that he and Cllr Kinsey would continue work on the updating of Wilton's Flood Plan.

He also reported that work needs to start on removing silt from the ditch at Water Ditchampton for which licenses have been obtained. It is planned to organise a residents meeting to take this matter further. Wilton Estate are prepared to assist with the removal of spoil from the ditch, and has cleared the silt trap at the top of The Hollows. It will do this when requested to do so by the Flood Warden.

g. To receive a report from the Community Events organiser on the Christmas Lighting event 2017

A detailed report on the 2017 has been received from Gary Nunn together with suggestions for the future. It was agreed that the report and its recommendations needed further discussion, at the Town Team meeting in the first instance.

Resolved: to note these reports

23.18 To receive and ratify minutes of:

a. The Staffing Committee meeting held on 30th November 2017

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Staffing Committee Meeting held on 30th November 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record

b. The Amenities & Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 16th January 2018

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Amenities and Planning Committee Meeting held on 16th January 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

c. The Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Tuesday 23rd January 2018

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 23rd January 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record without amendment.

d. The Staffing Committee meeting held on 31st January 2018

Resolved: that approval of the Minutes of the Amenities and Planning Committee Meeting held on 31st January 2018 be deferred to the March Full Council meeting

24.18 To receive the minutes of the Town Team Working Group

The minutes of the Town Team Working Group held on Thursday 18th January 2018 were received.

Resolved: to note

25.18 Finance

a. A schedule of accounts in the sum of £43,179.65 dated 6th February 2018 was considered for payment.

Resolved: to approve for payment a schedule of accounts totalling £43,179.65 dated 6th February 2018.

b. To resolve to contribute £665.00 towards the cost of a second defibrillator

The F&GP committee had noted the unexpected repayment of £665.00 to the Town Council by Wiltshire Council in respect of the overpayment of business rates on the public toilets. It has suggested that a similar sum be used as the Town Council's contribution towards the purchase of a second defibrillator. (The funds will need to be formally transferred from the Public Toilets cost centre to the Grants & Donations cost centre).

Resolved: to contribute £665.00 towards the cost of a second defibrillator and effect the necessary transfer. **Action:** The Clerk

26.18 Neighbourhood Plan

a. To resolve that the Neighbourhood Plan boundary be amended to be the same as the Wilton Parish Boundary

It has been confirmed that it is now possible for the Neighbourhood Plan boundary to include the Wilton Hill and Erskine Park developments, (previously excluded because they were considered to be part of the Salisbury Community Area housing allocation requirement) All that is required is a Town Council resolution to that effect, and a simple application form to be completed and sent to Wiltshire Council. This would formally re-designate the Neighbourhood Plan boundary.

Resolved: that the Neighbourhood Plan boundary be amended to be the same as and co-terminus with the Wilton Civil Parish Boundary. **Action:** The Clerk

b. To resolve to re-launch the Steering Group for the Neighbourhood Plan

Following the re-designation of the Neighbourhood Plan boundary, the Wiltshire Council Link Officer has been invited to attend February's Town Team meeting at 7.30pm on Thursday 15th February in the Council Chamber to bring all interested councillors and community groups up to date with the latest information on Neighbourhood Planning, and to help relaunch the Steering Group which will compile the Plan.

Resolved: to re-launch the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

27.18 Asset Transfers - Sheep Fair Field

It was suggested that the matter of the Sheep Fair field be referred back to the A&P Committee. *Cllr Church* – expressed the view that the Council should wait until the outcome of enquiries to Wiltshire Council is known.

Cllr Johnston – suggested that the future of the field should give incentive to progressing with Wilton's Neighbourhood Plan

Resolved: that further research be done into the implications of applying to make the Field a formal community Open Space.

28.18 To consider a response to the Environment Agency's proposals for a bund at Castle Meadow

The EA's proposals were originally contained in a letter dated 29th August 2017 and originally considered by F&GP in September 2017.

An acknowledgement was sent to the EA, residents' views and opinions were sought, and a meeting held with EA representatives in January. The councillors who attended were not happy with the proposals as outlined in the EA's letter, and were concerned that no other options had been considered.

The councillors who attended did not support the bund as currently proposed by the EA

Other options were discussed:

1. A brick/concrete wall along the fence line
2. A bund running alongside the river
3. A mixture of bund and wall - a bund running from the top corner to the pavilion, then a wall to the rear (or rear wall) of the pavilion, a bund again from the pavilion to and along the fence line across the gateway to the bottom corner of the Felt Mill site, and finally a wall along the side of the Felt Mill to Flouse hole.

The EA officers were asked to cost these options, plus the cost of a bund behind the pavilion as an alternative option to the wall, to avoid the change of levels at the front of the pavilion. The EA officers were also asked to obtain technical analysis of the impact on the water levels elsewhere in the town of all four proposals.

The EA officers were also asked to explore whether the Town Council could build the brick wall at Crow Lane, using the TC's own contractor and built to the EA's specification. Councillors felt this should be progressed as a matter of urgency, irrespective of the Castle Meadow proposals. They understood that the EA had not undertaken any analysis of the impact of the wall, as there was no funding available for this particular project.

It was noted that at the meeting with EA officers on 17th January:-

- The officers were not prepared to leave maps showing the scheme for Castle Meadow.
- There were no contours shown on their maps
- There was no indication of the depth of flood water anticipated.

Members concerns focused on:-

- The effect of the proposed bund on Wilton's cricket and football facilities.
- The lack of progress and planning for the protective flood wall in Crow Lane.

Resolved: to advise the EA that the bund as proposed was not acceptable to the Wilton Town Council, to request that the four alternatives be considered, and that the construction of the wall in Crow Lane be regarded as a priority. **Action:** The Clerk

29.18 To resolve to decline the invitation from Salisbury City Council to contribute towards the development of the new cemetery to be located at the top of The Avenue

Following analysis of the rate of occupation, and the potential number of available grave and cremation plots in Wilton Cemetery, both Council committees feel that there is enough provision for the next 20/25 years, and that there is no need for the Town Council to make a financial contribution, however modest, to this new cemetery.

Resolved: That the Town Council endorses the two committees' proposals, and to decline the invitation to contribute towards the new cemetery at The Avenue. **Action:** The Clerk

30.18 To consider a response to Planning Application 18/00239/FUL - proposed new cemetery with vehicular access from The Avenue on land north-west of The Avenue, Salisbury.

Resolved: to support.

31.18 Chairman's Report.

Cllr Edge reported on his Mayoral activities during January

- Thanked all Members who assisted with the work in clearing the attic above the Council chamber.
- He had attended the funeral of a former Mayor of Wilton, Eileen Casley
- He reported that the Carnival Committee proposed to hold the 2018 Wilton Carnival on 6th, 7th and 8th July
- He gave notice that he planned to organise a Family Cycle Day as a Mayoral event on the last Sunday in May. It would be about 11 miles long and would follow the pattern of the Rotary Club Cycle days last held in 2005.

Resolved: to note

32.18 Town Clerk's Report

The Town Clerk reported on the following:-

- *Wiltshire Flood Ops Group meeting* - this has been postponed to Wednesday 21st February at 10.00am in Dinton Village Hall.
- *Office Closure* – the Clerk will be attending the SLCC Practitioners Conference on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd February
- *Office Closure* – the Clerk will be attending the first Community Governance study day on Friday 2nd March
- *Market Towns meeting* - the next meeting takes place on Thursday 1st March at Malmesbury Town Council
- *Wilton Spring Newsletter* –Members were asked to submit items and articles for inclusion in the Council's Spring Newsletter by 17th February.

33.18 To confirm the date of the next meeting of the Full Council as Tuesday March 6th 2018 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber

Resolved: to confirm this date.

34.18 To close the meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.54 pm.

Members of the Council considered the foregoing matters in consideration of their duties: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability); Crime and Disorder; health and Safety, and Human Rights.