

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

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

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

Also Present Lee Glyde, John Harris, Anne Jeal

Public Session

Lee Glyde – Outlined plans for the British Legion’s 90th anniversary pilgrimage taking place from 5th to 9th August 2018. It will recreate the pilgrimage of 1928 during which some 11,000 people, including 3,000 wives visited the battlefields of World War 1. There would be two representatives from every British Legion branch. Ypres, Mons and Loos would each be visited and the pilgrimage would end with a parade at the Menin Gate.

Cllr Matthews – expressed the view that he was sorry little was done to remember what happened in the Eastern theatre of WW1, in the Dardenelles for example.

Cllr Edge – expressed his sincere thanks to Cllrs Blackman and Matthews who had taken the manual gritters out in the centre of Wilton and helped to clear the town centre pavements in the recent snow event. It was the first time the gritters had been used and there had been many complimentary remarks from residents.

Wiltshire Councillor Pauline Church gave her report to the Town Council

- *Wilton Parkway* – 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* – It has been established that a new drainage system is needed. She will keep pressing for progress on this project, as she was aware a road closure would be required.
- *Flooding in Water Ditchampton* – Wilton Estate has now instructed its contractor to press ahead with the installation of an additional grip, which should be completed by the end of March.
- *Sheep Fair Field* – nothing further to report. She is still trying to find out the reasons for its "strategic asset" designation.
- *Lloyds Bank closure* – She and John Glen MP had met representatives of Lloyds Bank and had highlighted the commercial benefits of remaining open with the number of additional residents and businesses coming to Wilton. However, there seems little chance of the branch remaining open, as Lloyds had already submitted a planning application to remove the ATM and signs, and reinstate a window.
- *Planning Applications for 26 North Street/Webbs of Wilton* – these had been refused because they lie within the flood zone.

Cllr Matthews – noted that there was a greatly increased number of potholes on local roads.

Cllr Matthews – pointed out that recent press reports indicated a 6% to 7% increase in the abuse of children in Wiltshire.

Cllr Church – told the meeting that the figures came from an NSPCC report which had been made without reference to Wiltshire Council’s figures. She said that child abuse was never good news but it is good that people are aware of what is happening rather than letting it remain hidden.

Cllr Edge – told the meeting that it was planned to deliver the petition against the closure of Lloyds branch on Thursday, 8th March.

A G E N D A

Cllr Edge in the chair

35.18 To receive apologies

Cllr Trevor Batchelder apologised for his absence because he was away on holiday.

Resolved: to note.

36.18 Minutes

a. **Resolved:** that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 6th February 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record without amendment.

37.18 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

38.18 To consider any candidates present for co-option to fill the casual vacancy created by Cllr Becky Perry's resignation

The Clerk has been advised by Wiltshire Council that there has not been a call for a by-election, and so the Town Council is free to co-opt to fill the casual vacancy created by Cllr Perry's resignation. Interested parties were invited to contact the Town Clerk.

Cllr Edge advised those present that Cllr Van Leest had submitted her resignation from the Town Council which had also accepted with regret. This casual vacancy will also be advertised in the normal way.

39.18 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.

40.18 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.

Cllr Johnston – asked if the Town Council had a plan to deal with severe weather.

Cllr Matthews – told the meeting that the Town Council was not obliged to clear pavements or fill sandbags. These were functions simply carried out by community minded Members.

Cllr Edge – said that a civil emergency plan could be developed, incorporating the Flood Plan and a Severe Weather plan as well.

Resolved: to refer the matter to the F&GPC for consideration. **Action:** The Clerk

Cllr Johnston – suggested that the Town's Annual Meeting could be held in larger premises than the Council Chamber to attract more residents.

Cllr Edge – told the meeting that judging by attendances at previous Town Meetings this would not be necessary and would also commit the Council to an additional expense.

41.18 To receive reports from:

a. Wiltshire Association of Local Councils and Community First

Cllr Seviour reported that the Association's next meeting would be held in the following week.

b. The South West Wiltshire Area Board

Cllr Matthews reported that the recent emergency Board meeting had been asked for grant funding to remove the weir at Teffont Mill in order to help with fish migration.

c. Wilton Community Centre

Cllr Blackman thanked Cllrs Edge and Matthews for clearing the snow as it had helped with people attending the Centre.

d. Wilton and District Chamber of Commerce

Cllr Matthews reported that the Chamber was concerned about the number of empty retail premises in the town. Its next breakfast meeting including the AGM would be on 13th March.

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

There was nothing further to report.

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

No further news.

g. Our Wilton Project – the Wilton Community Land Trust has received a grant of £15,000 towards its joint "Men's Shed" project with Our Wilton. Our Wilton itself had launched a new fund raising project for fitting out the veterans' flats. Cllrs Batchelder, Edge and Kinsey had visited the site to learn more about the overall project and to inspect progress.

Resolved: to note these reports

42.18 To receive and ratify minutes of:

a. The Amenities & Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 20th February 2018

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Amenities and Planning Committee Meeting held on 20th February 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

a. The Staffing Committee meeting held on 21st February 2018

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Staffing Committee Meeting held on 21st February 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record

c. The Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on Tuesday 27th February 2018

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 27th February 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record without amendment.

43.18 To receive the minutes of the Town Team Working Group

There had been no meeting since the last Full Council meeting.

Resolved: to note

44.18 Finance

a. To resolve to confirm and authorise a schedule of accounts in the sum of £8,100.09

Resolved: to approve for payment a schedule of accounts totalling £8,100.09 dated 6th March 2018.

45.18 To appoint a replacement member to the Staffing Committee as a result of Cllr Van Leest's resignation

It was noted that Committee members are appointed by Full Council, and one is needed to replace Cllr Van Leest. Cllr Blackman was nominated to sit on the Staffing Committee.

46.18 To receive nominations only for Mayor Elect for 2018/2019

Cllr Edge was nominated by Cllr Matthews.
No other nominations were received.

47.18 To receive nominations only for Deputy Mayor Elect for 2018/2019

Cllr Seviour was nominated by Cllr Edge.
No other nominations were received.

48.18 To consider a response to a Planning Application received from Wiltshire Council: 18/01389/LBC - removal of external signage and an external ATM, and the reinstatement of a window at Lloyds Bank, 1 Silver St, Wilton. Resolved: to make no comment

49.18 To adopt a Time Off In Lieu policy, as recommended by the Staffing Committee Resolved: to adopt this policy as submitted by the Staffing Committee.

50.18 To adopt a Lone Workers Policy, as recommended by the Staffing Committee Resolved: to adopt this policy as submitted by the Staffing Committee.

51.18 To review the role of the Town Team

The Town Team is a working group of the Town Council. It has no powers to act in its own right, and cannot spend taxpayers funds, but is a very useful discussion forum attended by representatives of a wide range of local organisations, including Town Councillors. It refers its ideas for projects etc back to the Town Council for action. After further discussion it was agreed that the Town Team should be asked to advise the Town Council how it sees its role.

Resolved: That the Town Team continues in its present format and role, unless it formally advises the Town Council that it wishes to change.

52.18 Chairman's Report.

Cllr Edge reported on his Mayoral activities during February
Resolved: to note

53.18 Town Clerk's Report

The Town Clerk reported on the following:-

- *Attendance at the Society of Local Council Clerks Practitioners Conference* – The Clerk attended this at Kenilworth, where there were workshops on Conflict Management, how webinars work, running a public building, an introduction to project management, Data Protection and an update on discipline and grievance procedures. We also listened to presentations on Delivery Innovation in the Local Council sector, and on Meeting the Housing Challenge in Rural Areas.
- *Cranbourne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty* - will be holding its annual Planning & Transport Seminar on Tuesday 20th March.
- *Wilton & District Business Chamber* - the Breakfast AGM will be held on Tuesday 13th March at 8.00am at the Bird & Carter Farm Shop.
- *Office closure* - the office will be closed on Friday 16th March when the Clerk will be attending an SLCC branch meeting in Trowbridge.
- *Firsdon Parish Council* – the Clerk told the meeting that she had been appointed as Parish Clerk to Firsdon Parish Council and her appointment would commence on 1st April.

54.18 To confirm the date of the Annual Town Meeting as Tuesday 3rd April 2018 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber

Resolved: to confirm this date

55.18 To confirm the date of the next meeting of the Full Council as Tuesday 3rd April 2018 at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber

Resolved: to confirm this date.

56.18 To close the meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20 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.