



TIDWORTH TOWN COUNCIL MARCH 2024



Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 5th March 2024 at Tidworth Civic Centre, Wylve Road at 7pm.

<p>Attended Cllr's H Jones (HJ) (in the Chair), P Hedge (PH), A White (AW), M Connolly (MC), R Gregory (RG), ABirch (AB), T Jones (TJ), L Coleman (LC), D Wright (DW), C Danso (CD), S Muskinvanu (SM)</p> <p>C Lovell Town Clerk (CL) WO1 Clarke – TNB Garrison PCSO C Perry F Galvin B Pratt C Dabourn Ranjana Gurung plus 2</p>		<p>24/029 1. Apologies Cllr C Webb, Cllr M Anim, Cllr Moore, Cllr Pickernell</p> <p>Absent: Cllr Kofitia Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a record to be kept of the members present and that this record form part of the minutes of the meeting. Members who cannot attend a meeting should tender apologies to the Town Clerk as it is usual for the grounds upon which apologies are tendered also to be recorded. Under Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are accepted.</p>
Item	Agenda Item	Action by
24/030	<p>2. Declaration of Interest None (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/1464) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).</p>	
24/031	<p>3. General Public Questions WO1 Clarke reported that the Army are currently preparing for the largest exercise to take place in the Europe in the last decade of up to 20,000 troops. The new housing structure is under review. Following on from Mr Carey winning the Community Award for litter picking and overgrowth cutting, WO1 Clarke send troops to remove the Heras fencing which was entangled to enable him to continue with the good work he does. PCSO Perry reported that the main issue at the moment is anti-social behaviour. It is a small group of 5-6 individuals who have been asked along to the Police Station to sign behaviour contracts. Rural crime wise there has be hare coursing and a burnt-out vehicle. Speed Watch was carried at the old Police Station and 16 vehicles were clocked breaking the speed limit. There have been thefts of alcohol from Tesco and Lidl, but this is believed to be done by organised gangs. Litter has been an issue on the Esso field car park, this seems to have increased since some vehicles have been parking there of an evening. They are not</p>	

	<p>causing a disturbance but the increase in litter is not welcome. WO1 Clarke will investigate the installation of bins.</p> <p>Herself and PC Kinge attended the Over 60's meeting and been doing school patrols.</p> <p>Mr Galvin informed her that there was vandalism including discriminative graffiti at St Mary's Church, now she is aware this area will be patrolled.</p> <p>She is keen to set up and support a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.</p> <p>The 'Sunday Drop in' session at the Civic Centre was well attended.</p> <p>Rev Tim Laundon came along to make the members aware of Loneliness and Isolation committee which has been set up, he will report back once established.</p>	
24/032	<p>4. Minutes of February 2024 meeting</p> <p>Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 6th February 2024 had been circulated.</p> <p>PH proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by RG carried. - No matters arising.</p>	
24/034	<p>5. Wiltshire Councillors Report</p> <p>Cllr Connolly reported the following Wiltshire Council (WC) will commence food waste collections from 1 Aug 27, when the new waste contract comes into operation.</p> <p>WC did raise its precept by 4.99% at its meeting of 20 February. Unlike other Councils, including Somerset and Hampshire, WC is not making cuts to services and is investing. Much of its work in recent years and going forward is investing in prevention, particularly in social services, so that people can be independent for longer and save the Council money at the same time. Leisure centres and highways are seeing significant investment.</p> <p>On highways, WC is investing an additional £10M over the next two years on pothole filling and resurfacing and an additional £1M for gully clearances.</p> <p>WC won an award for its work in tackling fly-tipping. In 2023 the number of incidents of fly tipping reduced and the number of successful prosecutions has increased.</p> <p>WC is on target to be carbon neutral by 2030. It has reduced its carbon footprint by 85% from its 2014 emissions. It has committed £10.4M to its buildings carbon reduction programme. Solar together has seen over 1100 private residential properties having solar panels fitted.</p> <p>TTC's precept was below the average for Town and Parishes across the county, which was 8%.</p>	
24/035	<p>6. Mayors Report – In her absence Cllr Webb provided the following report:</p> <p>There have continued to be a number of settling in issues at the Civic Centre which although mostly minor have kept the staff very busy.</p> <p>There are a number of maintenance issues which are being dealt with by Neilcott's Defect Reporting Service.</p>	

	<p>Ezra's Coffee and Dine had their inspection by Wiltshire County Council on 26th February and although they passed on all their practices it was pointed out that there was no hand washing sink in the café demise.</p> <p>Unfortunately, although the commercial café was an intrinsic part of the Civic Centre's original design and plans, the architects missed the statutory requirement for a separate hand basin. We have 60 days from the date of the inspection to rectify the problem.</p> <p>The Project Managers are in the final stages of their negotiations with Neilcott as to the exact amount of the final payments which need to be made.</p> <p>The wet weather has again resulted in a number of flood warnings for North Tidworth.</p> <p>The Environment Agency reported after the flood earlier this year, (the first in 20 years), that the cause of the flood was purely the already waterlogged land combined with an unprecedented amount of rainfall on the day in question.</p> <p>Wiltshire's Discretionary Gully Service is due to visit imminently but the rotation is only once every 3 years. Our criteria is low due to there being a 30 mph speed limit in place. The theory seems to be that if vehicles are only travelling slowly there should be little damaging wash.</p> <p>The advice from WC is that all residents and business should take any necessary steps to protect their own properties.</p> <p>TTC's only obligation is as far as is possible in the prevailing circumstances to protect the infrastructure. Of course, once we have done whatever we can utilise remaining assets to assist residents in priority order.</p> <p>The timing of the January flood was difficult because the warning came in on the 23rd of December and our contractor was not able to provide sandbags over the Christmas and New year period when most businesses had closed down. Gavin Jones did however react very quickly after the holidays and provided 100 bags which were to be accessed upon contact from TTC or the Flood Warden. The idea was that if the bags were needed someone from the Council could keep a check on who was taking them and when supplies became low, we could re-order.</p> <p>However, what actually happened was that previously affected residents learnt the sandbags were ready and unbeknown to TTC arranged access to them and distributed all 100. Of course, we were happy that those people which had not arranged their own precautions were able to access bags, and neighbours were able to help each other, but we had no idea the stock had gone until it was see outside premises and we learnt that the entire supply had been depleted. This then resulted in a delay in ordering new stock which we had wished to avoid as it left a gap should another emergency have arisen.</p> <p>The Community Awards were presented at a well-attended ceremony at the Civic Centre on the evening of 28th February,</p>	
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	<p>This year we had asked the Cover Girlz to perform to add a little glitz to the occasion and they started the event off.</p> <p>We had joined together with the Garrison to make this an inclusive occasion by asking the Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Rupert Whitelegge to present a special award to his chosen nominee out of those nominated by the public. We are grateful to Col. Ru for his support and involvement. This was the first Community event at the new Civic Centre.</p> <p>I am grateful to all those councillors who were able to take the time to volunteer to help us on this occasion and would repeat the request that as many of you as possible volunteer on future occasions as we do need help given the size of the building.</p>	
24/036	<p>7. Committee Reports</p> <p>Community Services PH reported on a meeting held on 13th February 2024, minutes had been circulated and taken as read. PH proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by SM, carried.</p> <p>Zero Waste – Storage - There has been no response from the Zouch Market landlords, nor Beacon House, in looking for premises for Cllr Anim to use. Cllr Anim has been given the number for Pinnacle.</p> <p>TTC Beacon - The new sign has been designed and is in production.</p> <p>Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) - Two Speed Indicator Devices have been purchased and received. One SID to be installed on Pennings Road (replacing the old interactive sign), and one along Bulford Road.</p> <p>Requests for Waiting Restrictions - Work continues to be delayed regarding the painting of double yellow lines along Station Road, St Georges Road, and Pennings Road. Wiltshire Highways have been asked to expedite the lines on Station Road and Pennings Road without further delay. The consultants and “legals” are in place so there is no reason for this delay, and parked vehicles in both locations are obstructive and dangerous.</p> <p>Highway/footpaths</p> <p>PH proposed TTC to pay 25% (about £250) towards the cost of a new pedestrian sign, going north before the Rourke’s Drift Roundabout, seconded by HJ, carried.</p> <p>River Bourne Corridor - Dog Poo bins remain in place and being used effectively.</p> <p>Civic Centre – Gavin Jones to quote for a low-level hedge around the patio, cafe area, to help protect the glass.</p> <p>PH proposed to pay £489.87 + Vat for 2 x grit bin for the car park, and the back café patio area, seconded by LC and carried.</p> <p>There was Fire Training for the Councillors and the Police on Wednesday 21st February 2024.</p> <p>Skatepark</p> <p>PH proposed TTC to pay 25% towards a safety bar/barrier at the exit of the skatepark leading onto Meerut Road, seconded by TJ, and carried.</p> <p>Afternote: this will be approximately £500.00.</p>	

Community Engagement LC reported on a meeting held on 20th February 2024, minutes had been circulated and taken as read. **RG proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by AW, carried.**

Events

PH proposed a budget of £500 for a PA system+mixer for use at our events, seconded by MC, carried.

Skate Park Jam 27th July 2024

Banner at a cost of £69.44 for the banner

St John's ambulance at a cost of £306.72

Toilets at a cost of £564.00

Bins at a cost of £110.00

AW proposed the above expenditure, seconded by PH, carried.

Open Air Cinema 24th August 2024

Screen Hire and 2 films at a cost of £3,567.20

Toilets at a cost of £1,020.00

Bins at a cost of £110.00

RG proposed the above expenditure, seconded by LC carried.

Christmas 7th December 2024

Rides

Formula 1 track ride

Lifting jets

Balloon ride

Activity play centre

At a cost of £2,640.00

Princess and Grinch performer at a cost of £450.00

Reindeer at a cost of £1,450.00

MC proposed the above expenditure, seconded by PH, carried, 1 against.

Civic Centre Opening

A budget of up to £200 for the pedestal and posy of flowers, seconded by LC, carried.

Cast Bronze Plaque at a cost of £713.95

Brass Band at a cost of £1,250.00

String Quartet at a cost of £1,450.00

Catering at a cost of £1,100.00

Unveiling easel at a cost of £250.00

PH proposed the above expenditure, seconded by LC, carried, 1 abstention.

Easter Disco

Posters to be distributed soon.

D Day

Flagpole to be researched.

Tea Dance for over 80's was discussed.

Halloween

Provisional date 26th October 2024.

Remembrance

Sunday 10th November 2024.

Litter Pick

To be discussed at next meeting.

	<p>Tidworth Times In production. Councillors are urged to contribute.</p> <p>Tidworth Festival Plans are coming together. March's Committee meeting to be held on 12th March 2024.</p>	
24/037	<p>8. Co-options None received.</p>	
24/038	<p>9. S137 Requests Two applications had been received and circulated. Tidworth Nepalese Community A request of £1000.00 to cover cost of social activities for the elderly members, such as lunch clubs, summer trips. SM proposed that a S137 grant of £1000.00 is awarded, seconded by TJ, carried. Castledown FM A request of £4478.00 had been requested. This is less than the £5000.00 awarded in October 2022. The engagement with the radio station has increased with members and staff being regular visitors and CDFM attending TTC events. RG proposed that a S137 grant of £4478.00 is awarded, seconded by PH, carried.</p>	
24/039	<p>10. Correspondence and Updates None</p>	
24/040	<p>11. Bills for Payment Bills for payment totalling £183,409.41 had been circulated. AW proposed Bills for Payment totalling £183,409.41 seconded by SM carried. CL reported that this will start to reduce significantly in the upcoming months as the final bills for the Civic Centre build are being paid.</p>	
24/041	<p>12. Date of next meeting 2nd April 2024 Agenda items to be submitted to the Clerk 7 days before the meeting</p>	

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 8.00pm.

Agreed as a true record..... C Webb, Chair

Date: