



TIDWORTH TOWN COUNCIL NOVEMBER 2024



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

| <p>Attended Cllr’s C Webb (CW) (in the Chair), H Jones (HJ), P Hedge (PH), R Gregory (RG), A White (AW), A Birch (AB), C Danso (CD), C Daborn (CDB), S Musikavanhu (SM), M Anim (MA), D Wright (DW), L Coleman (LC). C Lovell Town Clerk (CL) Cllr M Connolly – Wiltshire F Galvin</p> | | <p>24/145 1. Apologies Cllr B Pratt, Police, Cllr Pickernell (Wiltshire) Absent Cllr D 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 Act1972, members present must decide whether the reason(s) for a member's absence are accepted.</p> |
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| Item | Agenda Item | Action by |
| 24/146 | <p>2. Declaration of Interest (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/1464) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).</p> | |
| 24/147 | <p>3. General Public Questions WO1 Tomlinson advised it was business as usual at Garrison. He is busy with Remembrance. There have been issues with people breaking onto the astro turfs pitches in both Tidworth and Bulford and causing damage They have been using bolt croppers which is very expensive to repair. Solutions are being looked at but unfortunately if none of them are financially viable the facility will have to be permanently closed.</p> | |
| 24/148 | <p>4. Minutes of October 2024 meeting Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 1st October 2024 had been circulated. PH proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by HJ carried. No matters arising.</p> | |

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| <p>24/149</p> | <p>5. Wiltshire Councillors Report</p> <p>Cllr Connolly provided the following report:</p> <p>The application for the old police station has been approved to convert it into two residential properties.</p> <p>Dorset, Somerset, and Wiltshire Councils will submit expressions of interest in devolution, in response to a request from government, seeking to unlock greater powers and resources for the area.</p> <p>The leaders of the three councils have acknowledged the varying goals and priorities of their respective areas but believe there are important synergies to explore under one umbrella.</p> <p>Once formal proposals have been agreed with central government these will be communicated with residents and any options will be consulted on before being taken forward.</p> <p>Wiltshire Council is inviting people to attend interactive budget drop-in sessions and share their views on what the council should prioritise its money on in 2025/26.</p> <p>The interactive drop-in sessions are taking place on:</p> <p>Monday 7 October, 3.30pm - 6.30pm at Salisbury Library</p> <p>Thursday 10 October, 3.30pm - 6.30pm at Chippenham Library</p> <p>Monday 14 October, 3.30pm - 6.30pm at Trowbridge Library, County Hall.</p> <p>Wiltshire Council updated the significant progress so far towards its carbon neutral by 2030 pledge. Some of the highlights are:</p> <p>The council has reduced its Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 20,991 tCO₂e or 88% since 2014 when it first started to measure and report its greenhouse gas emissions. The council's emissions are now down to 2,767 tCO₂e, which means that it surpassed the target for 2023/24 which was 3,000 tonnes CO₂e.</p> <p>The council intends to switch all lighter vehicles to electric, as well as reducing number of vehicles and mileage where business need allows.</p> <p>The council has now completed its rooftop solar programme for council premises. The total installed solar panel capacity by the end of 2023/24 was 3,313 kWp (peak output) and the total electricity generated was 2,639,271 kWh, which is a 50% increase from the previous year. The avoided costs for the council of using this self-generated electricity in 2023/24 was nearly £650K despite electricity usage increasing.</p> <p>23 new electric buses will be coming to Salisbury.</p> <p>Wiltshire Council has secured real estate company Savills to market City Hall on the Council's behalf on a long lease.</p> <p>There has been interest from multiple parties in taking a long-term lease to operate the building.</p> <p>The road surfacing in several roads on the Zouch estate, Ashdown Terrace and Bourne Road are due to take place from 27 Oct to 5 Nov – depending on the weather.</p> <p>The WC Cabinet is considering the Local Plan 8th October at which it will</p> | |
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| | <p>recommend to Full Council, that the Plan be submitted to the Secretary of State for Housing and Local Communities for an independent planning inspectorate to review it. The changes in planning suggested by the new Government have just been consulted on but its timelines are out of kilter with the Local Plan which needs to proceed on its present course. The Plan does not provide site allocations of housing for Tidworth but does include the area East of Empress Way, Ludgershall to the A342 Hampshire border.</p> | |
| 24/150 | <p>6. Mayors Report Cllr Webb attended the area board on 7th October, there was no update on the street youth worker, but a bid has since been submitted and there is to be a meeting early December. 11th October 2024 she attended a meeting with D Kruger MP along with other chairs to discuss Op Lazurite. 26th October 2024 was the very well attended Halloween party and she thanked all who helped. All is in place for the Remembrance Service on Sunday, she asked for volunteers to lay the matting on Thursday and for stewards on the day.</p> | |
| 24/151 | <p>7. Committee Reports Community Services PH reported on a meeting held on 8th October 2024, minutes had been circulated and taken as read. PH proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by SM, carried. Grounds Maintenance Replacement Shrubs: Either side of the Bridge on Lahore Road and the Riverbank at the Civic Centre will be available for planting mid-November. Civic Centre – Building Perimeter Shrubs HJ proposed to pay Gavin Jones £6047.03 + Vat for a variety of low maintenance shrubs & bark, including labour, preparation and installation, seconded by PH, carried. Local Highways & Footpaths Improvement Group (LHFIG) TTC had met with Grish Lohani who is the new WC Highways Engineer. Requests for the Parish Steward – Next Visit 16 & 17 November 2024 HJ had met with the Parking Enforcement Officer the Officer mentioned that the taxi rank, does not appear to be used. It was recommended that TTC submits a Highways Request to WC for a change of use from the taxi rank to public short-term parking in keeping with the opposite side of the road. River Bourne Corridor The fencing on both sides of the river’s southern bridge, has been vandalised. Civic Centre Update. Electronic Blind – Tedworth Hall. An electronic blind would cost in the region of £2k including the separate installation of electrics. Therefore, quotes for a manual roller blind were sought.</p> | |

PH proposed to pay Lex (Andres) Blinds £345 + Vat for the installation of a roller blind, seconded by HJ, carried.

Quotes are being sought for repairs to the sound boards in the Perham Suite, a decoration rail in Tedworth Hall and additional tables and chairs.

Cemetery/Mortuary Chapel/Playparks and Skate Park – no major issues.

Winter Preparations Road signs, tabards, salt etc from Wiltshire Council were collected on 10th October.

Budget - Budget for 2025/26 was discussed and recommendation made to Leadership.

Community Engagement LC reported on a meeting held on 22nd October 2024, minutes had been circulated and taken as read. **CDB proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by RG, carried.**

Events

Mortuary Chapel Open Day 21st September 2024 - The event was well attended.

Halloween 26th October 2024 - Decorations have arrived. Approximately 80 tickets already issued.

Remembrance – 10th November 2024 - Meeting to be arranged with all involved.

Christmas – 7th December 2024 Volunteers needed. 15 stalls already booked and paid for.

WI and Holy Trinity church will be attending.

VE Day 8th May 2025/ VJ Day 15th August 2025 - The beacon is back at the Civic Centre; RG is going to make a new name plate for it.

The idea of a fish and chip supper was discussed.

A quote will be obtained for the Caledonian Pipers.

Budget - Budget for 2025/26 was discussed and recommendation made to Leadership.

Tidworth Times - The most recently edition had been well received.

The next edition is planned for the new year.

Litter Pick -Dates to be agreed.

Staffing - HJ reported on a meeting held on 8th October 2024, minutes had been circulated and taken as read. **CW proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by PH, carried.**

Personnel - Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the following agenda items will be closed to the public due to its confidential nature.

SM proposed that the following items are closed, seconded by DW, carried.

Recruitment

Facilities Management

Cleaning Civic Centre.

Leadership HJ reported on a meeting held on 29th October 2024, minutes had been circulated and taken as read. **CW proposed that they were a true and accurate record, seconded by PH, carried.**

Budget -Each committee had made their recommendation for 2025/26, and Leadership budget and Reserves had been reviewed.

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| | <p>This is to be deferred to December 2024 as the accountant has made some amendments.</p> <p>Interim Internal Audit - The Internal Audit report did not raise any issues. However, it is recommended that the Mayors Charity Account is closed as it is not a statutory function. The funds should be transferred to a registered charity before 31st March 2025.</p> <p>LC proposed that TTC should follow the Auditors advice and close the Mayors Charity Account, moving forward TTC will investigate that the incoming Mayor nominate a local charity each year, seconded by HJ, carried.</p> <p>Personnel -Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the following agenda items will be closed to the public due to its confidential nature. HJ proposed that the following items are closed, seconded by PH, carried. Recruitment Salaries 2025/26 Additional hours</p> <p>Investment -The Clerk had circulated interest rates and recommendation for re-investment in November 2024. PH proposed that £900,000 currently invested with CCLA remains. The Close Brother investment due to mature on 23rd November at a value of £739,176 with an additional £62798.36 – total £800,000 is reinvested this Close Brothers for a 1 year term at a fixed rate of 4.8%, seconded by HJ.</p> | |
| 24/152 | <p>8. Co-options One application had been received from Mr Ahern. As he was unable to attend the meeting CW proposed that the co-option is deferred to December 2024 meeting, seconded by LC, carried.</p> | |
| 24/153 | <p>9. S137 Requests None received</p> | |
| 24/154 | <p>10. Annual Governance and Accountability Report (AGAR) Had been circulated, the Town Clerk explained that the two comments made had since been dealt with. CW proposed that the AGAR for 2023/24 is noted that the members have read and are satisfied, seconded by HJ, carried.</p> | |
| 24/156 | <p>11. Correspondence and Updates Neighbourhood Policing Team report had been circulated.</p> | |
| 24/157 | <p>13. Bills for Payment Bills for payment totalling £56,931.89 had been circulated. PH proposed Bills for Payment totalling £56,931.89 seconded by AB, carried. AW will do the quarterly bank reconciliation.</p> | |
| 24/158 | <p>14. Date of next meeting 3rd December 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 8.10pm.

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