



MINUTES OF WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 18th AUGUST 2014 AT 7PM IN THE CIVIC CENTRE

Present: Councillors R Claydon (Mayor), Chris Galbraith (Deputy), June Cordwell, John Cordwell, P Smith, T Luker, N Clement, P Barton, Clair Galbraith, K Collins, M Zimmer
In Attendance: Town Clerk Ms S Bailey. Public 1

T.4540 **Apologies** received and accepted from Cllrs L Harris & A Wilkinson

T.4541 **Youth Work** Mark Lovell, Chair of the Youth Liaison Group presented a document outlining achievements so far and discussed commissioning of Youth Work for 2014/15. Over 100 youths are registered aged 13-18 and 50 regularly attend Tuesday and Thursday sessions, with a youth forum also of 20. £11,000 was previously agreed to fulfill a year's sessions on current basis. SDC may fund the youth forum next year. About £7500 has been raised so far towards next year's provision with requests/grants submitted to other organisations as well as £1000 possibly from Kingswood PC. Charfield youths also use but the Parish Council does not contribute, neither does North Nibley. A decision is needed from this Council on whether to continue the provision based on current funds available thus scaling back service and then increasing if more funds are raised, or cutting short the provision when funds run out. It was considered that the best way forward is for Mark Lovell and the Mayor, with two Cllrs (John & June Cordwell) to meet shortly to draft an SLA between Youth and Community Services/WTC and WTC/Youth Liaison Group to present to the September meeting for approval using current funding, but to terminate the agreement at the same time as the SOSYP agreement expires next August /September in order that this Council has flexibility in deciding all future contracts and youth provision.

T.4542 **Declarations of Interest** Cllr John Cordwell as a KLB Governor ref WCSF

T.4543 **Public Forum** none

T.4544 **Chairman's Announcements** A written report was provided outlining poor Councillor attendance at the Wotton & District Community Recreational Trust meeting. The Police & Crime Commissioners visit to Wotton was successful in July, and a fruitful meeting was held with Chipping Clubroom Trustees regarding future management of the Clubroom by the Town Trust – the latter are holding a Trustee meeting this evening and September's meeting will see more specific decision/direction.

T.4545 **To approve the Minutes** of the meeting held on 21st July 2014. It was proposed by Cllr Chris Galbraith and seconded by Cllr June Cordwell and agreed 10 in favour 1 abstention to approve the Minutes after a minor amendment.

T.4546 **To note Minutes of Other Committees:** Minutes of Planning Committee of 30th June 2014; duly noted.

T.4547 **Accounts**

a) Litter bin at New Road. After a number of complaints about this wall mounted bin being too small and therefore frequently overflowing, it was proposed by Cllr K Collins and seconded by Cllr M Zimmer to replace with a larger bin at a cost of £125 + VAT, voted all in favour. SDC will cover the cost of installation and ongoing emptying/ maintenance. It was also suggested that the old bin at New Road could be retained for use elsewhere.

- b) To approve Cllr attendance at GAPTC Forward Plan training 10th Sept 2014 cost £45. It was proposed by Cllr P Smith and seconded by Cllr R Claydon and agreed by all to approve Cllr June Cordwell's attendance at this training.

Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, it was agreed to exclude members of the press & public and enter closed session to discuss award of contracts – 1 public member left the room

- c) To consider quotes for a new boiler at the Town Hall. Current boiler is 10 years old & no longer supported by the manufacturer (*backing paper report with two quotations obtained for a new boiler*). Discussions followed concerning type of boiler needed, the quotations and the state of the current boiler. The Clerk stated that the situation was urgent as the boiler was not reliable and that a grant application was also underway for a new boiler. Cllr Chris Galbraith proposed that the grant application go ahead but that advice is sought on acquiring a maintenance contract for the existing boiler and ascertain if spares are indeed available, seconded Cllr P Smith, voted all in favour.
- d) To consider quotations for buildings electrical inspection. Four quotations were acquired and discussed in detail. It was proposed by Cllr M Zimmer and seconded by Cllr K Collins and agreed by all that the quotation by Mike Turner Electrical Engineer & Contractor Ltd be awarded the contract for £943 + vat to provide electrical inspection and reports on the Town Hall and Civic Centre.

The public re-entered the room

- e) To consider £200 from allotment spending for path improvements at Knapp Rd. The Chair of the Allotments Committee Cllr Clair Galbraith explained the need for this spending to allow an safer/even path to be established at the top of the allotments below the steep bank – the Association would provide the labour and some materials – the £200 would be for digger hire. It was proposed by Cllr T Luker and seconded by Cllr John Cordwell to approve £200 from the current year's allotment budget, agreed by all. A discussion followed concerning the need for maintaining earmarked allotment spending for water pipe works.
- f) Budget 2014/15. To note report of expenditure against budget. Noted.
- g) To approve the accounts for payment – sheet attached. It was proposed by Cllr Chris Galbraith and seconded by Cllr M Zimmer to approve these payments, agreed by all.

T.4548 **Grants and Donations** Grant request from Gloucestershire Army Cadet Force Charitable Trust for funding towards World War I Centenary visit to French battlefields. Attempts to clarify how many Wotton cadets would benefit from this exercise were unsuccessful. It was proposed by Cllr June Cordwell and seconded by Cllr T Luker that as the group runs successfully in the town benefitting a number of youths, that a response is made enclosing a grant application form stating that we would look favorably upon an application for capital equipment, agreed by all.

T.4549 **Local Action Group Funding** To discuss how Wotton can benefit from the LAG funding stream (*backing papers*). After much discussion of the document provided by Cllr June Cordwell from GMTF stating £1.7m is available for specific projects which benefit micro & small enterprises, rural tourism, rural services and supported cultural and heritage activity, various ideas were suggested. The Chamber of Trade needs to give input to also suggest how Wotton could best benefit from this funding stream. 70% of any funding must be spent on job creation and growth and 30% on other projects which support growth. Maximum grant will be 40% of project, with minimum £5000 bid. Ideas included (Cllr Chris Galbraith) upgrading the footpath from Marchesi Walk to Coombe pumping station to enable better disabled/cultural access, with Cotswold Warden volunteer labour providing

some of the matched 60% funding (would also contribute to rural tourism and provide local employment for the work itself), establishing coach parking (Cllr P Barton) at the base of Parklands to promote tourism, and a community venture (the Town Clerk) between the Scouts who need more accommodation and facilities and WCSF for the stone barn at New Rd to develop a joint community use facility for multi-use with associated parking and services/café, cost could be £500,000 and obtain PWLB favorable loan for balance (promote rural tourism re offsite parking, alternative use of rural sites for community development & sustainability, job creation for serviced site or cafe for security). Cllr June Cordwell to speak to absent Member A Wilkinson regarding Chamber of Trade suggestions. Cllr Cordwell also explained about the GMTF development fund available of £1500 and free technical assistance.

- T.4550 **Land at Holywell** - To arrange meeting to consider management plan for Holywell Leaze (*backing papers from July meeting*). It was agreed that his item should go to the next Footpaths Committee on 23rd September. It was noted that this meeting date clashes with Youth Liaison Group and therefore a change of date is needed.
- T.4551 **Youth Representative** – To consider temporary replacement for Cllr Barton's youth duties. Cllr Clair Galbraith offered to temporarily attend YLG meetings and also SOYSP.
- T.4552 **'No Ball Games' signs** To discuss whether to place 'No Ball Games' signs on Synwell Green & Symn Lane play area & if so what type & costs. Synwell Green – Cllr Clement spoke of the unsuitability of the open grassed site for ball games, close proximity to houses, cars, gas box with piping, and the history of the site eg vandalism. It was proposed by Cllr Chris Galbraith and seconded by Cllr P Barton to erect a 'no ball games' sign on the back of the noticeboard from Perspex A3 size, voted 10 in favour 1 abstention. Quotes to be obtained. Symn Lane play area – correspondence from nearby a resident was reviewed and the detrimental impact of the noise of balls against the garden walls, balls constantly kicked over/into the garden, and ball game unsuitability to other park users were noted. It was proposed to erect a 'no ball games' sign in the play area on the wall by Cllr P Smith and seconded by Cllr Clair Galbraith and agreed 10 in favour 1 abstention. It was noted that the resident had offered to pay £50 towards a sign. It was also noted for both sites that it is impossible to police these signs and that it would be up to the residents themselves to monitor and enforce.
- T.4553 **Bradley Green** To note complaints regarding the management of the Green and to decide whether to arrange a residents meeting to discuss the issues (*backing papers*). After discussion of the history of SDC apparently not managing the site as per the byelaws, it was agreed that SDC be advised that a residents meeting will not be called and that the Town Council has very little to offer in this matter. The complainant (who is from outside the area) is advised to contact SDC.
- T.4554 **Crataegus Tree, Chipping Green** This SDC recently planted tree, replacing a tree nearby which was mistakenly felled by SDC, has been planted above water pipes to a nearby property. It had been agreed to move it to the cemetery to replace an Ash that was to be felled, but following advice the latter tree was not felled. After much discussion, it was proposed by Cllr P Smith and seconded by Cllr M Zimmer to leave the tree in situ as it is unlikely to significantly affect any water pipes, voted 8 in favour, 1 abstention, 2 against.

T.4555 **Clerk's Report** (*backing papers*) June/July/August administrative and building supervision activities considered together.

T.4556 **Correspondence** noted or action requested where specified:

- a) To note letter from CCLA concerning administrative changes to COIF fund management.
- b) To note letter from Wotton Community Sports Foundation concerning the intention to form a Joint Venture Company with KLB School.
- c) To note response from John Kay, Local Highways Manager regarding highways maintenance procedures.
- d) To note email announcing that the Minerals Local Plan Site Options and Draft Policy Framework is available to view and for comment until 18th August 2014.
- e) To note email regarding parking problems around Symn Lane Clinic: email has been forwarded to the County Council.
- f) To note permission from SDC to fell the 5 Italian Alders in the Civic Centre car park. The work will take place mid September to comply with regulations for the bird-nesting season.
- g) To note letter of response regarding concerns raised about Symn Lane Play Area.
- h) To note email complimenting the signage for the Cotswold Way in Wotton.
- i) To consider request from WCSF for placement of a noticeboard in town. Ideas are possibly using the Women's Institute board already in situ in the High St or place a new one on the wall at the Swimming Pool. Planning permission or listed building consent may be needed depending on where it is placed. Clerk to respond.

Brochures/Newsletters for information only and circulated:

Caring Matters, Summer 2014, Recovery (Damage Management Magazine)
Summer 2014, Young Gloucestershire Annual Review 2013/14, Countryside Voice
Summer 2014

T.4557 **Reports from Councillors**

County Council – detailed report for July & August circulated in advance

District Council – reports for July & August circulated in advance

Footpaths Committee - will meet in September

Special Purposes Committee – not met

Allotments Committee – report circulated in advance; also to note that Cllr Clair Galbraith & Admin Officer Mrs D Hyam had attended very useful allotment training

Youth Liaison Group – Cllr Cordwell raised £134 from Town Hall Teas for youth funding and thanked two specific Cllrs for support, but commented that support generally from this Council had been poor and that future youth facilities needed to be supported in order to survive.

Town Regeneration Partnership – to meet in September

Sports Foundation - no meetings but JV with KLB sport facilities noted above

T.4558 **Town Affairs**

Cllr Chris Galbraith – commented that the bench at Rushmire Hill offered a good view if hedges could be cut and suggested he speak to the farmer regarding a hedge trim

Cllr P Smith – enquired about responses from bench position at Long St. We are awaiting replies. One building is empty & not replying, and Cllr June Cordwell offered to speak to manager of TSB for other bench. Also complained about Slimming World posters all around town.

Cllr K Collins – complained about lack of representation from the Town Council on the main Swimming Pool committee. Clerk to request a meeting.

Cllr N Clement – advised he would attend Synwell Playing Fields Committee meeting on Wednesday evening; he was asked to enquire correct amount of football income received.

Cllr P Barton – concerned about the actual need for CCTV cameras at Parklands.

Cllr T Luker – requested another car park working group meeting.

Cllr M Zimmer – enquired if everyone was happy with standard of Amey's works in Wotton & said he considered works to be haphazard & responsive rather than planned ahead.

Cllr Chris Galbraith – Chair of Planning Committee took the chair for the following item.

T.4559 **Planning Application** – response needed before next Planning Committee
S.14/1205/FUL – Wotton Farm Shop, Bradley Road GL12 7DT. Stationing of a mobile home for an agricultural worker. After discussion of the history of the site and the recent dwelling application, it was proposed by Cllr R Claydon and seconded by Cllr Clair Galbraith to make no comment on this application, however, if the officer is actually minded to grant permission, then the Town Council would wish to see all the conditions applied as specified/suggested in the applicant's letter, agreed 10 in favour 1 abstention.

Meeting concluded at 9:45pm

Signed Date
Chairman & Town Mayor