

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

THE MAYOR
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Minutes of the **Full Council Meeting** held on Tuesday 6th May 2014 at 7.00pm in the Corn Exchange Complex, Hungerford.

Present: Cllrs Crane, M Wilson, Benneyworth, Holmes, Farrell, Hudson, Thompson, A Wilson, Small, C Podger, Brookman, Whiting and Leach

Also present: Tony Bartlett (photographer) and Virginia Crane (Mayoress)

Police were not present. A child was impaled on railings and rescued by Air Ambulance. **Action:** Clerk to find out further information and circulate. Are safety improvements needed?

Cllr Crane reported that he had met with M Edwards who was sending HTC some info on a traffic survey that we may investigate. The Mayor thanked those that attended his Reception. He attended the Hocktide lunch which was very good. He has met with the RBL and Jack Williams to discuss how HTC will commemorate the start of WW1 of which 76 soldiers were lost from Hungerford. The names of the soldiers that died each month will be read out in the respective Full Council meeting. A majority of Mayors met for lunch with Keith Chopping. It is important to maintain connections with other Mayors. Cllr Crane thanked all on the council for helping to gain the towns confidence. Cllr Thompson said the Mayors 3 year service had been exemplary. Cllr Benneyworth said it was an end of an era and presented Cllr Crane with a Past Mayor's badge.

- 1. Election of Mayor** – Cllr Crane proposed Cllr Dennis Benneyworth as Mayor, seconded by Cllr Roger Thompson, all in favour.
- 2. Election of Deputy Mayor** – Cllr Crane proposed Cllr Roger Thompson as Deputy Mayor, seconded by Cllr Holmes, all in favour.
- 3. Election of Chair of Finance and General Purposes** – Cllr Benneyworth proposed Cllr Bumbieris as Chair of F&GP, seconded by Cllr Wilson, all in favour.
- 4. Apologies for absence:** Cllr Harding, Bumbieris, and District Councillors
- 5. Declarations of interest:** None
- 6. Approval of Minutes of the Full Council meeting on 7th April 2014 and Extraordinary Part 2 Minutes of 10th March 2014** – Cllr Crane proposed minutes of 7th April 2014 as a true record, seconded by Cllr Benneyworth, all in favour. Cllr Benneyworth proposed Extraordinary Part 2 Minutes of 10th March, seconded by Cllr Crane, one abstention, rest in favour.
- 7. Outgoing Mayor's Report** – Taken earlier
- 8. District Councillor's Reports** – District Councillors not present.
- 9. Committee reports (no more than 3 minutes per report)**
E&P – Cllr M Wilson – The application for 2 cottages to the rear of the Lamb resulted in a site visit and HTC objecting and a refusal from WBC. HTC had no objections to the Co-op application for changes to the exit but this was refused by WBC. HTC have supported the Sovereign Fairfields application but requested a traffic survey and that delivery times need to be considered. HTC objected to the 21 Mores Place application following a site visit. WBC has not made a decision on these yet.
T&E– Cllr Crane – There has been no meeting however Cllr Crane has been in touch with Thames Valley LEP which is important regards the railway regeneration project. Cllr Crane is proposing a meeting with

ADP to discuss how the training academy can add weight to the Thames Valley application A meeting will be reconvened with the publisher to consider printing a new town guide.

H&T – Cllr Roger Thompson – Marks have appeared on the footways marking stones to be replaced and work has begun. The relationship with WBC was discussed at H&T. Cllr Crane believes the Mayor should have direct access to meet with Heads at WBC. It is useful to have the District Cllrs attend the H&T meeting.

R&A – Cllr Benneyworth couldn't attend the last meeting which was chaired by Cllr Bumbieris. A site meeting is being arranged regarding a boundary dispute and the owner advised. The TFMC reported £900 of savings made by consolidating services. They have obtained some new enquiries for use of the field.

F&GP – Cllr Bumbieris (not present) – A new tractor mower has been purchased.

10. Finance - Cllr Bumbieris (not present) –

a) Propose authorisation of cheque run payments. Cheque run £99462.31 incl. VAT. Cllr Benneyworth proposed the cheque run, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour

b) Propose year to date accounts (carried out every month) – Cllr Benneyworth proposed the accounts, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour.

c) Propose audit review – The RFO has put together a spreadsheet. Cllrs are responsible for auditing the internal controls. The review was proposed by Cllr Benneyworth, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour.

11. Propose actions following receipt of tenders for Church St Public Toilets – Details of the quotation provided by a new cleaning contractor compared to the terms offered by WBC to continue the cleaning of the Public toilets from October were circulated. The standard of cleaning was discussed and the need to sign a form once the cleaning is carried out. **Action** – Clerk to approach the company that put in tender to discuss their figures. Contact Kintbury PC also.

12. Propose agreement of the Tennis Courts lease – Cllr Benneyworth proposed agreement of the Tennis Courts lease, to be signed by the Mayor and Clerk, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour. **Action:** Clerk to check if a letter of authority is needed to be drafted to delegate use of the tennis courts to the Community Centre as was done before with the buildings.

13. Triangle Field – Progress report - Cllr Benneyworth – The drainage easement has been agreed with Sovereign but is yet to be approved by the WBC lawyer. It went to Sarah House 10 days ago.

14. Any other Reports (3 minutes each) not to include any proposals- all councillors - Croft Field – Cllr Small reported that a survey is needed on the Croft Field building. He has one quote for £700 for a full survey. The last survey was done 10 years ago. This could be updated at a cheaper cost although he would not recommend it. Cllr Small advised a rent valuation is needed also. There is the threat that WBC will sell the land but taking on the building could cost a significant amount of money. The building is used several times a week by the Town Band. It is extremely cold inside. It has future potential for use also as a holiday club or for childrens parties. A large part of the building is used as a store for canoes. Consider as a community fundraising project and see what grants are available. **Action:** Need to find out what arrangements are in place for use of the building at present. Contact C Broughton and the Nursery.

Playgrounds – Cllr A Wilson is arranging a site visit with various companies. Cllr Farrell is expecting 2 quotes in by 19th May. Cllr A Wilson advised she is stepping down from the council from tonight. Cllr Crane thanked Cllr A Wilson for her time on the council and all her ideas.

Meeting closed 8.10pm