

Witham Town Council

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MINUTES

Meeting of: **Town Council**

Date: **Monday, 10th July 2017**

Present:	Councillors	Mrs	J.	Williams	(Town Mayor)
			J.C.	Bayford	
			L.D.	Campbell	
			J.C.	Goodman	
			P.	Horner	
		Mrs	A.	Kilmartin	
			M.C. M	Lager	
		Mrs	S.C.	Lager	
		Mrs	J.M.	Money	
			T. A.	Pleasance	
			R.P.	Ramage	
			W.J.	Rose	
			P.M.	Ryland	
			R.	Williams	
			M.	Squire	(Town Clerk)
		Mrs	G.	Kennedy	(Committee Clerk)

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P.R. Barlow, Mrs J.A. Kempf and P.M. Ryland.

19. MINUTES

RESOLVED That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Town Council held 2nd and 15th May 2017 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

20. INTERESTS

Councillor L.D. Campbell declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute 23 – Town Team Website, as he used to be the Chairman of that Group.

Councillor Mrs J. Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute 23 – Town Team Website, as she used to be a member of that Group.

21. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No member of the press or public were present.

22. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk's Report on matters arising was received.

He explained that Councillor P. Horner had hosted a successful Town Mayor's Appeal presentation evening with each charity gratefully receiving £2,160.

He said that repairs to the chimney stack would commence on Monday, 24th July 2017.

RESOLVED That the report be received and information noted.

23. TOWN TEAM WEBSITE

Councillors L.D. Campbell and Mrs J. Williams had declared interests.

A report and a request from the Chamber of Commerce to take over the running of the Town Team website were received.

The Town Clerk said that he had sought further information regarding the proposal to use the website for the town centre retail and community arm of the Chamber. He said that they proposed to promote town centre retail and highlight local organisations and charities.

It was explained that the Town Council's funds had been used to set up the website, the registration would expire shortly so that it would either need to be renewed or it would go on the open market. The Town Clerk confirmed that there was no intention to assist with running costs for the website. It was important to ensure that the phrase 'Town Team' should not be used. Members were generally pleased that the website would be utilised but it was important that the Chamber of Commerce kept to its remit, (Members were uncertain whether charity and community organisations were part of this remit) and did not encroach upon the Town Council's dealings. After further discussion it was agreed that Councillor R.P. Ramage, as the Town Council's representative on Chamber of Commerce, would speak to them and explore further their plans.

RESOLVED That Councillor R.P. Ramage explores further with the Chamber of Commerce their plans regarding the registration of the website, the need to ensure that the words 'Town Team' and Town Council's logo, etc. are removed from the website and that the

Chamber keeps to its remit to promote town centre retail and highlight local organisations and charities.

24. TOWN MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS

Details of the Town Mayor's Engagements were received.

RESOLVED That the details be received and noted.

25. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) **Community Committee Meeting held 12th June 2017**

Minutes 1 – 13 (inclusive).

Councillor R. Williams, Chairman of the Community Committee, gave his Report en bloc.

Minute 9 – WW1 Commemorations Working Group

Members were reminded of the need to encourage sales and to support the 'Witham 1917' event to be held on Friday, 21st July 2017. The suggestion was made that Members could dress in WW1 uniform and leaflet the Town Centre.

Minute 12 – Buckingham Palace Garden Party

It was noted that as Councillor J.C. Goodman had more points than Councillor P. Horner, his nomination was submitted for consideration.

Minute 13 – Request from Witham Twinning Association

Members noted that the Twinning Association is organising a reception for the visitors from Waldbröl on Saturday, 16th September 2017 at the Royal British Legion Hall.

RESOLVED That the Report of the Community Committee be received and noted.

(b) **Environment Committee Meeting held 30th May 2017**

Minutes 1 – 16 (inclusive).

Councillor J.C. Goodman, Chairman of the Environment Committee, gave his Report en bloc.

RESOLVED That the Report be received.

(c) **Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held 26th June 2017**

Minutes 1 – 8 (inclusive).

Councillor M.C.M. Lager, Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, gave his Report en bloc.

RESOLVED That the Report be received.

26. TASK AND FINISH (REVENUE/COSTS/STRATEGY) GROUP

(a) The Terms of Reference for the Task and Finish (Revenue/Costs/Strategy) Group were received.

RESOLVED That the Terms of Reference for the Task and Finish (Revenue/Costs/Strategy) Group be approved and adopted.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

(b) The Notes from the Meeting of the Task and Finish (Revenue/Costs/Strategy) Group held 23rd June 2017 were received.

RESOLVED That the Notes be received and noted.

27. CHIPPING HILL WALL

A report was received.

RESOLVED That the report be received and noted.

28. COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED)

(a) **Environment Committee Meeting held 30th May 2017**

Minutes 17 and 18.

Councillor J.C. Goodman continued his Report en bloc.

RESOLVED That the Report of the Environment Committee be received.

(b) **Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held 26th June 2017**

Minute 9 (discussed above), 10 and 11.

Councillor M.C.M. Lager continued his Report en bloc.

RESOLVED That the Report of the Policy and Resources Committee be received.

29. PUBLIC DOMAIN

Members agreed that nothing discussed in Private Session should be moved into the Public Domain.

RESOLVED That nothing discussed in Private Session should be moved into the Public Domain.

There being no further business the Town Mayor closed the Meeting at 8.34 p.m.

Councillor Mrs J. Williams
Town Mayor

MS/GK/12.7.2017