

**TOWN COUNCIL
PRINCES RISBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL**

**INFORMAL REPORT OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 18th APRIL 2012 IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, WADES PARK,
PRINCES RISBOROUGH AT 7.00PM**

Welcome and Introductions by the Town Mayor and apologies for absence

The following councillors were present:

Cllr E Clifford (Chairman)

Cllrs W Streule, P Summerbell, P Williams, A Turner, G Hall, W Woolf
S Swanson, R Orsler, J Coombs & B Bendyshe-Brown

Sue Griffiths – Clerk and Kirsty Pope – Deputy Clerk

Caroline Page – Clerical Assistant

67 members of the public were present.

Apologies were received from Cllr D Green and A Rolfe.

Cllr Clifford introduced the members of the Town Council to the meeting and confirmed receipt of the Charity Accounts.

Chairman's Report

Cllr Clifford opened the meeting and thanked the parishioners for attending and paid tribute to the late Ivor Penny who passed away last week.

Cllr Clifford confirmed that the Citizen Awards would be awarded at the start of the meeting. This year two awards were presented to Mrs Rita Woodward and Mr Malcolm Maultby. Cllr Clifford paid tribute to Mrs Woodward who sadly passed away last week and thanked her family for collecting the award on her behalf.

Cllr Clifford asked each committee chairman to present their annual reports.

Finance Committee

Cllr Orsler presented the report. Cllr Orsler gave a detailed breakdown of the budgets for each committee and details of capital projects that the Town Council has budgeted for this year. Cllr Orsler confirmed that the precept for 12/13 has been kept the same as the previous year.

Maintenance & Public Relations Committee

Cllr Coombs presented the report and advised the meeting of the change to the committees and the merger of Maintenance and Town & Lighting. Cllr Coombs advised the meeting of the main responsibilities of the committee.

Cllr Coombs advised the meeting of the main responsibilities of the PR Committee including, Crosstalk Newsletter, Public Meetings and the website.

Cllr Coombs updated the meeting of the possibility of the town looking at a new Civic

Building. Cllr Coombs also updated the meeting with the planned changes to the location of the Fire Service and the implications to the community and that the Town Council was pursuing a meeting with them.

Planning Committee

Cllr Streule presented the report for the committee and advised the meeting that the Committee role was one of a consultee on all applications relating to properties or trees within the Town Council boundaries. Cllr Streule re-confirmed that the Park Mill Farm development has been refused. Cllr Streule advised the meeting of the need for a Local Neighborhood Plan, however this is a very expensive exercise but a project that planning will be looking at and consulting various other organizations within the town. Cllr Streule confirmed that the Market House is in need of an extensive restoration and that funding will be crucial to the project.

Parks/Garden Committee

Cllr Orsler presented the report and gave a summary of the progress made with the Parks/Gardens during the last 12 months and upgrades that are planned in for the 2012/13 year.

Thames Valley Police

Sgt. Andrew Deane introduced himself as the new Supervisor at Princes Risborough and updated the meeting with some background information about him. Sgt. Deane updated the meeting on latest crime figures and was pleased to confirm a decrease in numbers and general activities within the town. Sgt. Deane urged the residents to contact the police of any concerns they have around the Town and updated the meeting of forthcoming changes to the staff levels and increased police presence around the town.

Day Care Centre

Cllr Alan Turner updated the meeting on the progress made since saving the Day Care Centre and personally thanked the community for their efforts.

Town Clerk

Sue Griffiths updated the meeting with a summary of the work that is carried out by the office and the staff responsibilities and that the 3-tier system of the council i.e., BCC, WDC and PRTC. Sue confirmed to the meeting that various legislations that the Town Council must adhere to and that her experience with working at a bank has helped in this area i.e., HR, Health & Safety. Sue updated the meeting on the various income initiatives that the council has implemented or progressing.

Public Open Forum

A lot of questions were asked by the members of the public including; Proposed civic building, parking issues around the town, road repairs, planning, Crosstalk. It was also suggested that the meeting starts at 7.15 to allow for free parking in the Mount car park.

The Mayor thanked the public for attending and the meeting closed at 9.05pm