

PRINCES RISBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
Draft MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2017 AT THE PRINCES CENTRE,
CLIFFORD ROAD, PRINCES RISBOROUGH AT 7.00PM

PRESENT

Cllr M Walsh – Chairman
Cllrs P Summerbell, A Ball, A Turner, D Knights, I Pearce, G Hall, I McLauchlan, A Rolfe and N Davis
Susanne Griffiths – Clerk to the Town Council
Kirsty Pope – Deputy Clerk
3 members of the public

1. TO RECEIVE, NOTE AND AGREE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Town Clerk reported that apologies had been received from Cllrs J Coombs and J Roberts who were on holiday.
RESOLVED: To receive, note and accept the following apologies from Councillors J Coombs and J Roberts for non-attendance at the meeting.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED: To agree and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting on the 25th July 2017.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary declarations of interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.

4. A REPORT FROM THAMES VALLEY POLICE

Thames Valley Police reported on the following: -
Crime down by 30% since the last meeting (July 2017) a full breakdown of crimes for this period was supplied.
Shoplifting seems to be an issue at present and the police are holding meetings with stores to assist with prevention methods.
Speedwatch programme is still on going and the PSCO's continue to attend local meetings to raise awareness.
Cllr Hall raised concerns about bus stands and cars parked in this area illegally.

5. A REPORT FROM CLLR BENDYSHE-BROWN (BCC) ON MATTERS CONCERNING PRINCES RISBOROUGH

Cllr Bendyshe-Brown was unable to attend.

A REPORT FROM WYCOMBE DISTRICT CLLR A TURNER (WDC) ON MATTERS CONCERNING PRINCES RISBOROUGH

Cllr A Turner reported that the main issue currently dominating work at WDC is, preparation of the Local Plan, which in turn is of huge importance to Princes Risborough in particular. Until the Plan has been submitted for inspection the council is under pressure from developers trying to gain planning permissions for sites in the hope they can avoid having to make important infrastructure contributions.

The latest challenges have come from (a) Gladmans who are currently consulting residents on their latest proposal to build 300 houses off Mill Lane (the previous proposal which was refused by both WDC and at Appeal was for 140), a formal planning application is yet to be received. (b) Molins have approached WDC for talks on another application for the Sports Ground site – WDC have thus far rebuffed their approach.

The Draft Local Plan has now been agreed at Cabinet and will go before full Council on the 9th October, with the final formal public consultation beginning on the 16th October and running until the end of November. This will then mean that the Draft Plan can be submitted for inspection before the end of March 2018. This deadline is extremely important, as should it fail to meet it, the Government would make the council start again using their new formula for calculating our "objectively assessed housing need" which is designed to increase housing numbers even higher. Early calculations using the new formula have indicated that it would increase the numbers across the District by a further c.2,600 above those already planned for.

With regard to traffic related air quality issues it has been advised that whilst there are problems within High Wycombe and Marlow, Princes Risborough is well within official guidelines.

6. MATTERS ARISING NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA

Nothing raised

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Request from resident asking for the opportunity for work experience with the Maintenance Team

Resolved: for the Clerk to discuss the opportunity with the local resident and to offer work experience with the Town Council. SG

Email from resident regarding Town Plan & Flood Plane issue

Comments noted

Letter from WDC confirming that Greater and Little Kimble Parish Council has submitted an application to designate the area as a Neighborhood Area for the marking of a Neighborhood Development Plan

Comments noted and councillors aware that the consultation period is now open.

8. AUDITORS REPORT ON THE ANNUAL RETURN 2016/2017

The Auditors Certificate for the Annual Return year ended 31st March 2017 had been received. On the basis of the auditor's review, in their opinion the information contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commission's requirements and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

9. UPDATE ON THE LOCAL PLAN

The members were advised that WDC's draft plan has now been approved by cabinet and will be submitted to full cabinet in October for full approval. WDC will plan one or two local events for the residents, in order for them to send their comments to the Inspector.

Resolved: That a letter is sent to the relevant WDC cabinet members and officers to ask them for their plan on how they propose to make the residents aware of the events and that full information is also included in Crosstalk. MW/SG/KP

10. A PRESENTATION FROM THE ECONOMIC REGENERATION WORKING GROUP AND DECISION ON THE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

Cllr Pearce provided the members with an update from the working group and circulated a presentation of the plans relating to the Economic Regeneration project.

Cllr G Hall proposed to allocate a sum of £10,000 from CIL money towards the cost of the work required from the surveyor and planning consultant to start the project

Resolved: To allocate a sum of £10,000 from CIL money to progress the project. It was also requested that the Mayor make contact with the local Station Commander to brief him on the discussion held in public regarding the fire station. SG/MW

11. WHETHER TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN NETWORK RAIL AND PRINCES RISBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE PROPOSED UNDERPASS AT WADES PARK

The Memorandum of Understanding was circulated to all Councillors before the meeting. Cllr G Hall proposed that the Town Council sign the Memorandum of Understanding in its present form.

Resolved: that the Council sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

Cllr Turner requested that a letter of thanks is sent to Mr Stevens for his assistance with the work involved in this project. Agreed that the next issue of Crosstalk provides an update on this proposal. JM/KP

12. WHETHER TO APPROVE FOR THE CHAIRMAN AND CLERK TO AGREE ANY NON-MATERIAL CHANGES TO THE WORDING OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN NETWORK RAIL AND PRINCES RISBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE PROPOSED UNDERPASS AT WADES PARK

Resolved: to approve for both the Chairman and the Clerk to agree any non-material changes to the wording as stated above.

13. LOCAL AREA FORUM APPLICATION FOR A LAY-BY FOR THE RISBOROUGH AREA COMMUNITY BUS AND PROVIDE MATCH FUNDING OF 50% FOR THE CLEARWAY MARKINGS

A substantial amount of the LAF's budget is yet to be allocated this year. According to the delegated budget framework the LAF budget needs to be allocated by the end of September. No projects were identified.

14. THE FUTURE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES TO COUNCILLORS

Cllr A Ball proposed to review the payment of expenses to Councillors and link the payment to attendance at meetings. **The motion was not seconded and failed.**

Resolved: To continue with the current system for the payment of Councillor's expenses.

The Clerk is requested to investigate the possibility of introducing an attendance register.

SG

15. THE FUTURE TRANSFER OF LAND AGREEMENTS FOR PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

It was agreed by all present to defer this agenda item until the Councillors receive detailed information to enable them to make an informed decision.

16. WHETHER TO PROVIDE A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR A BID TO SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT’S HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

(Cllr Turner declared an interest and did not take part in the vote)

Cllr Walsh explained that WDC has carefully reviewed housing sites identified in its local plan where forward funding of infrastructure is needed to unlock housing development. The site they have identified as a priority is the Princes Risborough Expansion Area. If successful the HIF funding would enable the early delivery of vital access improvements.

Resolved: To provide a letter of support to W.D.C. for a bid to the Department of Communities and Local Government’s Housing Infrastructure Fund programme.

SG

17. WHETHER TO CONTINUE PROVIDING THE FUNDING FOR CCTV IN THE TOWN

Cllr Ball expressed his concerns to the members about the costs involved in funding the CCTV within the Town and felt the money would be better allocated to providing CCTV in the parks.

Cllr McLauchlan gave the members an overview of the recent CCTV reports sent to the office by WDC and agreed to email this to all members following the meeting. Cllr Turner provided the members with background information on the reasons for having CCTV in the town and was vehemently against any decision to stop funding the system.

It was suggested that a trip is organised for the new council members to visit the CCTV control room.

JM

Cllr A Ball proposed that the Town Council cease making payments to Wycombe District Council for the CCTV in the Town. **The motion was not seconded and failed.**

18. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

To discuss and decide on webcasting at meetings. (Cllr Hall)

To discuss and decide on generating a meetings attendance register for Councillors. (Cllr Hall)

19. TO PASS A RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION (12) OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 TO DECIDE ON A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE TOWN COMMITTEE FOR THE PREFERRED SUPPLIER FOR A STORAGE FACILITY FOR RISBOROUGH RANGERS

Cllr M Walsh proposed to pass a resolution to exclude the public and press in accordance with section (12) of the public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960. **All present agreed.**

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting of the Town Council will take place on Tuesday 28th November 2017 at 7.00pm in the Princes Centre, Clifford Road, Princes Risborough.

There being no further business to discuss the Meeting closed at 8.55m

Chairman..... Date.....