

WESTBURY TOWN COUNCIL

AT THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE LAVERTON, BRATTON ROAD, WESTBURY ON MONDAY, 7th SEPTEMBER 2009 AT 7.00 PM.

PRESENT: Cllr Mrs S Ezra (Chairman).

Cllrs S Andrews, W Braid, M Cuthbert-Murray, P Brown, Mrs G Denison-Pender (7.20 pm – 8.30 pm), R Hawker, M Hawkins, D Jones, Mrs C Mitchell, F Morland, W D Tout and D Windess.

Also in attendance: Seven members of the public.

T.2086 PUBLIC FORUM:

Mr P Biggs:

- Continued parking of vehicles on paved areas in the Market Place.
- Agenda item 9. - Public Forum.

Cllr Mrs Ezra reported that the Town Centre Viability Group is currently obtaining costings for the supply and installation of either heavy planters or additional bollards to prevent cars parking on the paved areas in the Market Place. The Group's recommendation will go to the next Highways, Planning & Development Committee.

T.2087 ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE:

Cllrs A Berrisford, C Finbow and D Hulin – personal.
Wiltshire Councillor D Jenkins – personal.

T.2088 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllr P Brown - Agenda item 13 (personal & prejudicial) – Chairman of Westbury Heritage Society
Cllr R Hawker - Agenda item 13 (personal) – Town Council's representative on the Westbury Heritage Society
Cllrs W Braid, R Hawker and D Windess – Agenda item 11 (personal) – members of the Leigh Park Residents Association.
Cllr M Cuthbert-Murray stated his intention to leave the room at Agenda item 10, as he was the subject of this item.

All Members with a personal and prejudicial interest withdrew from the meeting at the appropriate time.

T.2089 MINUTES. Following amendment, the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 6th July 2009 and the Extraordinary Town Council Meeting held on the 17th August 2009 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

It was further agreed to amend the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 6th July 2009 with the addition of the following:

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“Cllr Mrs Ezra refused the request made by Mr B Evans to be allowed to continue speaking in the Public Forum beyond the allotted five minutes by utilising his wife’s five minutes (Mrs Evans was in attendance at the meeting, but had not indicated prior to the commencement of the Public Form that she wished her views to be expressed by her husband). Cllr Mrs Ezra made this decision, as in her role as Chairman, she considered this request to be contrary to Standing Orders and a misuse of the Public Forum.”

T.2090 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES.** Nil.

T.2091 **POLICE REPORT.** The Clerk gave the Police’s apologies for being unable to attend due to the requirements of the service, but they will endeavour to attend the next Town Council meeting.

T.2092 **WILTSHIRE COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS.** Cllr R Hawker reported on Cllr F Morland’s success in the recent by-election for Southwick, which now brings the total number of independent Wiltshire Councillors to eight.

T.2093 **MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.** The following Minutes were received and noted.

Interim Highways, Planning & Development Committee	-	06.07.09
Highways, Planning & Development Committee	-	20.07.09
Highways, Planning & Development Committee	-	17.08.09
General Purposes Committee	-	03.08.09

T.2094 **MATTERS ARISING.** Nil.

T.2095 **PUBLIC FORM.** Cllr S Andrews presented the report and recommendations of the Working Group.

It was resolved to thank the Working Group for their sterling work, and to ask the Group to give further consideration to the following:

- time limits of either five or three minutes for individual speakers;
- holding the public forum within the body of the meeting when standing orders will apply;
- giving members of the public the facility to chose whether they wish to speak at the beginning of the meeting, or at a particular item(s).

T.2096 **TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATION ON WESTBURY & DISTRICT PUBWATCH.** Members noted the letter from Westbury & District Pub Watch informing this Council of their decision to terminate Cllr M Cuthbert-Murray’s position as the Town Council representative on this group.

The Clerk reported he had acknowledged this letter, and in addition, had invited Mr Michael Jackson (Chairman) to attend the meeting, and at the same time had requested a copy of their constitution.

Members considered Cllr W D Tout's written resolution not to replace Cllr Cuthbert-Murray on this group, and further to remove Westbury & District Pub Watch from the Town Council's list of represented and recognised outside bodies.

In conclusion, it was resolved to respond to the letter received from the Westbury & District Pub Watch, and to decline their invitation to appoint a replacement representative. Furthermore, to repeat the request that they demonstrate they are properly constituted in order that the Town Council may reconsider appointing a representative in the future.

T.2097 LEIGH PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (LPCA). Cllr P Brown was appointed to represent the Town Council.

T.2098 WESTBURY AREA COMMUNITY BOARD. It was resolved to refuse to accept Cllr Hawkins's resignation as Town Council representative on the Westbury Area Community Board (WACB), and that the Town Council writes to the WACB manager informing of the points made, regarding the availability of agendas and the subsequent problems encountered by town and parish councils in formulating opinion for presentation at WACB meetings.

T.2099 WESTBURY VISITOR CENTRE. It was agreed to respond to the Heritage Society's request for extended grant funding of £7,000.00 per annum, indicating the Town Council's continuing support, but requesting an explanation of how the grant fits into its funding.

T.2100 CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE:

Post Office Ltd. The Clerk reported on the re-opening of the Sub-Post Office at the Co-op Supermarket on 24th September 2009.

T.2101 THE LAVERTON INSTITUTE TRUST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE. Cllr S Andrews reported that the Committee will be presenting proposals for the immediate refurbishment works to the old Snooker Hall, and also proposals for the long term at an Extraordinary Town Council Meeting on Monday, 26th October 2009.

T.2102 TOWN CENTRE VIABILITY GROUP. Cllr Mrs Ezra informed that a meeting will be held on 15th September 2009.

T.2103 BA13 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP. In Cllr Mrs Denison-Pender's absence, it was resolved to suspend Standing Orders to allow Rev J Burke to make a report to the meeting.

Initially, the partnership will be trying to address the difficult issues of how to involve the parish councils. A provisional date has been set for the 14th October at 7.30 pm, and it is hoped to find a venue in the vicinity of Westbury. This meeting will look at updating the Community Plan, and the various transport issues affecting the different parts of the area. Members are currently working to develop the Steering Group to include the parishes, but have only just received the initial funding from Wiltshire Council to engage administrative support. Rev Burke expressed his thanks to those who had given assistance.

- T.2104 WESTBURY TOURISM GROUP.** Meeting to be re-arranged shortly.
- T.2105 COMMUNICATIONS BY THE TOWN MAYOR.** Nil.
- T.2106 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS.** On report by the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer it was unanimously resolved to approve the List of Payments made since the last meeting, or to be made, and to confirm the action of the Clerk, the Mayor and one other member in signing the necessary orders for payment and Bank Transfers as follows:-
- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|------------|
| 3 rd August 2009 | - | £9,174.65 |
| 7 th September 2009 | - | £24,739.12 |
- T.2107 SUGGESTED BUDGET BIDS 2010/2011.** The Clerk reminded Members that any bids need to be submitted and approved initially to the appropriate committee.
- Cllr Hawker asked the Clerk if he could investigate the updating of the 'Vision for Westbury' and submit this as a bid to the appropriate committee.
- T.2108 It was resolved that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the public and press be temporarily excluded and instructed to withdraw.**
- T.2109 STAFFING MATTERS. (Part II Item)**
- T.2110** It was resolved to return to open Council.

9.20 pm