

**Minutes of a meeting of Newbury Town Council**  
**Held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Place, Newbury**  
**On Monday 3 February 2020 at 7.30pm.**

**Present**

Councillors Phil Barnett; Jeff Beck; Martin Colston; Jo Day; Billy Drummond; Sue Farrant; Nigel Foot; Chris Foster; Jon Gage; Roger Hunneman; Olivia Lewis; Pam Lusby Taylor; David Marsh; Stephen Masters; Vaughan Miller; Andy Moore; Gary Norman; Elizabeth O'Keeffe (Town Mayor); Sarah Slack; Martha Vickers.

**Officer present**

Hugh Peacocke – Chief Executive Officer  
David Ingram – Community Services Manager  
Margaret Gore - Corporate Services Officer

**43. Apologies for absence**

Councillor: Erik Pattenden, Tony Vickers  
Absent: Councillor Jeff Cant

**44. Declarations of Interest**

The Chief Executive Officer declared that there is a dispensation for those Town Councillors who live in the Newbury Town Council area with respect to their discussion relating to the budget and setting the precept.

Councillors Phil Barnett, Jeff Beck, Billy Drummond, David Marsh, Stephen Masters, Andy Moore and Martha Vickers are also Members of West Berkshire Council, which is declared as a general interest on their behalf and a dispensation is in place to allow them to partake in discussions relating to West Berkshire District Council business

**45. Minutes**

**Proposed:** Councillor Jeff Beck

**Seconded:** Councillor Roger Hunneman

**Resolved:** That the minutes of a meeting of Newbury Town Council held on Monday 21 October 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.

**46. Questions and partitions from Members of the public**

There were no questions or petitions from members of the public.

**47. Members' questions and partitions**

Members question received from Councillor Phil Barnett:

“In view of many initiatives being proposed in this forthcoming budget, can you Madam Mayor join with me in congratulating the leader and the new administration with their positive approach to the requirements of the residents of Newbury?”

The Mayor responded by saying:

“Thank you, I would like to offer huge congratulations to the Council especially the Leader, Councillor Martin Colston and the Officers for all the work that has been done regarding the future projects to help the residents of Newbury.”

#### **48. Town Mayor’s Report**

The Town Mayor’s report was received and noted by the Committee.

The Mayor reiterated her comments regarding:

The Mayor’s Cadet

The tradition of appointing a Mayor’s Cadet was revived by the last Mayor and I have continued the tradition. Currently the cadet is provided by 211 Squadron Royal Airforce. The Squadron support and assist at Mayor Making and Remembrance Sunday. All of this should continue. We are also considering the Mayor appointing a cadet from the other services. A paper will be presented to Civic Pride, Arts and Leisure in due course. Currently the Council has no set policy.

Christ’s Hospital School

The Civic Manager has re-established a link with Christ’s Hospital School and the Wests Gift. I am working with the Civic Manager to arrange a small councillor’s group visit to the school later this month. Following this visit, we are hopeful that future visits may be able to take place, giving future Mayors the opportunity to visit the school.

I would like the Council to promote these opportunities for Newbury students and following the visit to the School a proposal will be taken to the Civic Pride, Arts and Leisure Committee.

#### **49. Leader’s Report**

The Leader’s report was received and noted by the Committee.

#### **50. Chief Executive Officer’s Report**

The Chief Executive Officer’s report was received and noted by the Council.

Councillor Sue Farrant asked: What are the next steps with regards to Dementia Awareness?

The Chief Executive responded that the Council was in contact with the trainer and will ask what more the Town Council can do to make all their properties Dementia friendly. There is also a plan to add some form of information on NTC e-mails and website. The CEO has also stated that he would be in contact with Newbury BID to ask if there is

anything more businesses of Newbury could do to help make the town a more Dementia Friendly place to visit.

**51. Council Strategy 2019 to 2024**

Members received a short presentation from the Leader, Councillor Martin Colston regarding the draft Strategy.

**Proposed:** Councillor Martin Colston

**Seconded:** Councillor Billy Drummond

**Resolved:** That the Council's Strategy 2019 to 2024 be approved.

**52. 2020/2021 Budget and Precept**

Members received a short presentation from the Chairperson, Councillor Martin Colston regarding the proposed budget and precept.

**52.1** Members noted that the Policy & Resources Committee resolved on 20 January to adopt a budget for 2020/2021, as shown at Appendix 6 and recommends that the Council sets an overall budget expenditure of £2,164,891

**52.2**

**Proposed:** Councillor Martin Colston

**Seconded:** Councillor Martha Vickers

**Resolved:** That the budget for Financial Year 2020/2021 be approved and to raise a precept of £1,107,171 for the year.

Councillor Jeff Beck voted against in view of the reduction in funds being allocated for Newbury Library and the level of increase in the precept.

**52.3**

**Proposed:** Councillor Sue Farrant

**Seconded:** Councillor Jeff Beck

**Resolved:** That a leaflet explaining to the public how the precept is to be used during 2020/2021 is produced, with that leaflet to be distributed to each household in Newbury and published on the Council's website.

The Mayor and Councillors Martha Vickers, David Marsh, Stephen Masters and Olivia Lewis thanked the Leader, Deputy Leader and Officers for putting together the budget.

**53. Committees**

The minutes of the following meetings were received and noted:

Planning & Highways	28 October 2019
Planning & Highways	18 November 2019
Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure	02 December 2019

Planning & Highways	09 December 2019
Community services	16 December 2019
Planning & Highways	06 January 2020
Policy & Resources	20 January 2020

#### **54. Schedule of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2020-21**

The information regarding the Schedule of Meetings 2020-21 was received and noted by the Council.

#### **55. Membership of the Planning and Highways Committee**

The Council noted that the membership of the Planning & Highways Committee should be reviewed to better reflect the ward structure in Newbury Parish, particularly for the East Fields ward

**Proposed:** Councillor Martin Colston

**Seconded:** Councillor Gary Norman

**Resolved:** That Councillor Billy Drummond be appointed to the Planning and Highways Committee for the remainder of this municipal year.

#### **56. The proposed Community Café in Victoria Park**

Members received and noted the update from Community Services Manager, Mr David Ingram regarding the Community Café in Victoria Park.

The Mayor thanked the Community Services Manager, for all the work done to get the Café project back on track.

#### **57. The Council's Carbon Reduction Plan**

Members received an update on the Council's Carbon Reduction Plan from the Chairperson for the Climate Change Working Group, Councillor Chris Foster.

The Mayor and Members of the Committee thanked Councillor Foster and the Working Group for the work done so far and hoped this work would encourage others to be involved in the Climate Conference.

#### **58. Link Councillor for Newbury College**

**Proposed:** Councillor Olivia Lewis

**Seconded:** Councillor Billy Drummond

**Resolved:** That Councillor Martin Colston be appointed Link Councillor to Newbury College.

**59. Membership of the PPE group, Patient and Public Engagement which is a Sub-Group of the Health and Wellbeing Board**

**Proposed:** Councillor Martin Colston

**Seconded:** Councillor Vaughan Miller

**Resolved:** That Councillor Martha Vickers be appointed to represent Newbury Town Council on the Patient and Public Engagement (PPE) Sub-Group.

**60. WORK PROGRAMME FOR FULL COUNCIL**

The work programme for Full Council was noted by the Committee.

**There being no further business, the Town Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8.21 pm.**

**Town Mayor**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_