

20 September 2022

To: Councillors Phil Barnett, Jeff Beck, Martin Colston, Jo Day, Billy Drummond, Sue Farrant, Nigel Foot, Chris Foster, Jon Gage, Stuart Gourley, Roger Hunneman, Olivia Lewis, Pam Lusby-Taylor, David Marsh, Stephen Masters, Vaughan Miller, Andy Moore, Gary Norman, (Town Mayor), Elizabeth O’Keeffe, Erik Pattenden, Sarah Slack, Martha Vickers and Tony Vickers.

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend a meeting of **Newbury Town Council** to be held in **The Council Chamber, Town Hall, Newbury on Monday 26 September, 2022 at 7.30 pm.**

The meeting will be streamed on Zoom via the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84206644564?pwd=ZEd2K0lBU3hibkw5WFpTOWtCRnoydz09&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 842 0664 4564

Passcode: 342389

The meeting is open to the press and public.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Peacocke
Chief Executive Officer

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

Chief Executive Officer

2. Declarations of Interest

Town Mayor/ Chief Executive Officer

To receive any declarations of interest relating to business to be conducted in this meeting and confirmation of any relevant dispensations.

3. Minutes (Appendix 1)

Town Mayor

To approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 8 August 2022.

4. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Town Mayor

To move: That under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential financial business to be transacted.

5. Grounds Maintenance Contract

Town Mayor

To select the preferred Contractor for the 2023 onward Newbury Town Council Grounds Maintenance Contract

**Minutes of The Meeting of Newbury Town Council
Held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Newbury,
at 7.30 pm on Monday 8 August 2022.**

Present

Councillors Phil Barnett, Jo Day, Billy Drummond, Sue Farrant, Nigel Foot, Chris Foster, Jon Gage, Roger Hunneman, Pam Lusby-Taylor, David Marsh, Stephen Masters, Vaughan Miller, Gary Norman (Town Mayor) and Sarah Slack.

Officers in Attendance

Hugh Peacocke – Chief Executive Officer
David Ingram, Community Services Manager

20. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Councillors Martin Colston, Stuart Gourley, Elizabeth O’Keeffe, Erik Pattenden, Martha Vickers.

Absent

Councillors Jeff Beck, Olivia Lewis, Andy Moore and Tony Vickers.

21. Declarations of interest and dispensations

Councillors Phil Barnett, Billy Drummond, David Marsh and Stephen Masters 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 Council business.

22. Minutes of the meeting of Newbury Town Council held on Monday 27 June 2022

Proposed: Councillor Billy Drummond

Seconded: Councillor Sue Farrant

Resolved: To approve the minutes of the meeting of Newbury Town Council held on Monday 27 June 2022 as a true record of the meeting.

23. Questions and Petitions from Members of the Public

Question received from Mr. Allan Mercado:

“A large extensive fair now occupies the most used, attractive area of Victoria Park, namely the sailing pond, children’s swings and water splash area. It has made access to these facilities impossible.

What fee has been asked of the fair’s owners for this facility. The fair will occupy the park for 3 weeks till August 23rd.”

Mayor’s response:

“The fee received by the Council from Hebborn’s fair, for the use of Victoria Park from 1 August to 21 August was £3,250.

The fair does not prevent access to any of the Council's facilities in the Park. The Council feels that the fair complements the facilities in that part of the Park. Indeed, our experience has been that the fair is popular with the public and an added attraction in the Park."

24. **Members' Questions and Petitions**

Question received from Councillor Phil Barnett:

"In view of the cyber-crime operating freely in society today, is this Town Council going to register to be part of the Government's national cyber security pilots for local town councils?"

Mayor's response:

"This Council has taken significant steps to ensure that our IT systems are secure, and that good cyber security practice is maintained. We have achieved this by working closely with our IT contractors, Technique, and will continue to do so in order to make sure the Council keeps up with the most contemporary cyber security practices. We also have cyber protection insurance in place, in the event of any losses to the Council arising from cyber-crime.

In terms of participating in a Government run Cyber Security Pilot for Local Councils, NTC would investigate the costs and benefits of participating in such a scheme when presented with the information about what it would involve before deciding upon whether to join or not. If participation comes with an associated cost, the Council will have to see if the funds are available in the NTC budget.

However, the Council would welcome the chance to consider any invitation to join such a pilot scheme."

25. **Community United (Appendix 2)**

The meeting considered a request from Community United for financial support for 'One Community Cricket & Family Fun Day 2022', an event they planned to hold at Falklands Cricket Club on 25 September 2022. Community United estimated that the cost of running the event would be £6,000. As the event was registered on The Good Exchange, any funding from the Council would be matched by them. The meeting noted that the Council's budget for 2022/23, included £3,000 towards 'Diversity & Inclusivity'.

Proposed: Councillor Nigel Foot

Seconded: Councillor Stephen Masters

That the Council contributes £2,500 to The Good exchange towards the Community United event.

Amendment:

Proposed: Councillor Sue Farrant

Seconded: Councillor Roger Hunneman

That the Council contributes £2,000 to The Good exchange towards the Community United event.

The Mayor called for a vote on the amendment which was defeated by the Mayor's casting vote.

The Mayor called for a vote on the proposal to contribute £2,500 to The Good exchange towards the Community United event and this was approved on the casting vote of the Mayor.

26. Notice of Motion received form Councillor Sarah Slack

Proposed: Councillor Sarah Slack

Seconded: Councillor Chris Foster

Resolved: Newbury Town Council urges West Berkshire Council to increase the tree canopy cover in our town centre as a matter of urgency, bearing in mind West Berkshire Council, like Newbury Town Council, has declared a Climate Emergency.

It was agreed to request WGBC to convene a meeting with the Town council and The Newbury BID to discuss how this matter might be progressed.

27. Affixing of the Council's Seal

Proposed: Councillor Sarah Slack

Seconded: Councillor Chris Foster

Resolved: That the Council's seal be affixed to the sublet agreement from Living Saucha Ltd. to Plum and grain of the Town Hall, in Suite 1 of the Town Hall.

28. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Proposed: Councillor Roger Hunneman

Seconded: Councillor Stephen Masters

Resolved: That under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential financial business to be transacted.

29. The proposed Community Café in Victoria Park

The meeting received a verbal update from Mr. Chris Burnell, Aero Consultancy, on the tendering process for the Community Café in Victoria Park. Mr. XXXX told the meeting that because of prevailing conditions in the construction market that the interested contractors did not meet the Council's deadline on Friday 5 August and no valid tenders had been received. He recommended that the Council extend the deadline for the receipt of valid tenders as he was hopeful that at least 2 bids would be made for this contract.

Proposed: Councillor Sarah Slack

Seconded: Councillor Chris Foster

Resolved: That the Council extends the deadline for the receipt of valid tenders for the construction of the Community Café in Victoria Park to a date no later than 11 October 2022.

There being no further business, the Town Mayor declared the meeting closed at 8.13 pm.

Town Mayor: _____

Date: _____

DRAFT