

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CIVIC PRIDE, ARTS & LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD IN
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, MARKET PLACE, NEWBURY ON
MONDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7.30PM**

PRESENT

Councillors Howard Bairstow; Jeanette Clifford; Jo Day; Dave Goff; Margo Payne (Chairperson); Anthony Pick; Kuldip Singh Kang; Julian Swift-Hook.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Joyce Lewis, Civic Manager and Margaret Gore, Corporate Services Officer.

43. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors David Fish; Sarah Greenall; Arthur Johnson.

Absent: Tony Stretton.

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillors Howard Bairstow, Jeanette Clifford, Dave Goff and Anthony Pick declared that they 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.

45. MINUTES

PROPOSED: Councillor Anthony Pick

SECONDED: Councillor Dave Goff

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Committee held on Monday 5 September 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairperson with the following amendment:

- Councillor Jo Day be removed from the list of those Members present.

46. QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mr Allan Mercado asked the following question:

“At the Annual Town Meeting held on the 25th March 2013 the Chief Executive Officer confirmed that the Town Councils financial contributions to the BID who have complete responsibility for the Town’s Christmas decorations would be £16000. Has there been any need to increase this figure and if so by how much?”

The Chairpersons response was:

“This is the last year of our agreement with The BID and the amount paid this year was £16,000.”

Mr Mercado asked the following supplementary question:

At the Annual Town Meeting of 25 March 2013 Mr Mercado asked the following question

Mr Allan Mercado asked if there had been any consideration of his suggestion to light the canal side walk for Christmas, particularly in view of the plans for the Winter Wonderland in Victoria Park. The Chief Executive Officer stated that as the BID were now responsible for the Xmas lights, and that there is a Town Council representative on the BID Christmas & Events working group, that the Town Council representative would be asked to raise the suggestion with the BID.

Mr Mercado felt this would be a colourful entrance for the coming Café Project.”

The Chairperson responded by saying:

The BID are responsible for the Christmas lights, however Newbury Town Council does have a representative on the Working Group. I will happily research this and reply to your supplementary question in due course.

47. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

There were none.

48. NEWBURY ART TRAIL STEERING GROUP

The minutes of the Newbury Art Trail Steering Group were received and noted by the Committee.

49. WORLD WARS WORKING GROUP

The minutes of the World Wars Working Group meeting held on 26 October 2016 were received and noted by the Committee.

It was noted that a letter of thanks was sent to both Phil Wood and Jane Burrell for all their efforts for this working group including the organisation of the series of talks as agreed at the last meeting of this committee.

A report regarding the WW1 Exhibition 2016 was received and noted by the Committee.

The Chairperson, Councillor Margo Payne thanked Councillor Jo Day for her amazing efforts with the support of Joyce Lewis, Civic Manager and also thanked all Members who supported the event. Councillor Payne also indicated that this committee looks forward to receiving plans for the events taking place in 2017.

The Vice-Chairperson, Councillor Jo Day, thanked all who participated and made contributions. Special thanks were given to Phil Woods and Jane Burrell for their outstanding contribution and special thanks to Civic Manager, Joyce Lewis.

50. NEWBURY IN BLOOM

The minutes of the Newbury in Bloom Working Group meetings held on 7 September and 2 November 2016 were received and noted by the Committee.

The Chairperson, Councillor Margo Payne thanked Councillor Sarah Greenall and her team for organising a lovely presentation evening.

Resolved: That NIB will continue in 2017 with an increase to budget to take into account the additional categories being introduced as a forerunner to future entry into Britain in Bloom.

51. TWIN TOWN REUNION

The report regarding the Twin Town Reunion was received and noted by the Committee.

52. 20th ANNIVERSARY OF NEWBURY TOWN COUNCIL IN MAY 2017

The minutes of the NTC 20th Anniversary Working Group meeting held on 4 October 2016 were received and noted by the Committee.

53. FAIRTRADE TOWN STEERING GROUP

The information was received and noted by the Committee.

54. TOWN HALL OPEN EVENING IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK

Members received a verbal report from the Civic Manager, Mrs Joyce Lewis, regarding the Town Hall Open Evening on Friday 9 September 2016. A copy of this can be found at Appendix 1 to these minutes.

The Chairperson, Councillor Margo Payne thanked Councillors for their help stewarding this event and suggested that a whole day be considered for this event next year.

55. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2016

The information was received and noted by the Committee.

The Chairperson, Councillor Margo Payne thanked the Civic Manager, Joyce Lewis for all her hard work, there was a large crowd which was well organised.

The Vice-Chairperson, Councillor Jo Day stated that there was a couple in the crowd who could not see the proceedings from their location and due to hearing difficulties were not able to hear the proceedings either. It was suggested that consideration be given to having someone signing to the crowd from a high vantage point.

56. BID CHRISTMAS PLANS

The information was received and noted by the Committee.

57. CIVIC PRIDE, ARTS & LEISURE BUDGET 2017/18

Information regarding all monies spent from the 2016/17 budget were received and noted by the Committee.

PROPOSED: Councillor Margo Payne

SECONDED: Councillor Anthony Pick

RESOLVED: That the CPA&L Committee Fund be reduced from £2,000 to £1,000.

PROPOSED: Councillor Kuldip Singh Kang

SECONDED: Councillor Anthony Pick

RESOLVED: That any remaining funds at the end of 2016/17 municipal year be ring-fenced for ongoing project use.

The Chairperson, Councillor Margo Payne, suggested that money from the Environmental Improvements Scheme be used for an annual Community Clean similar to that organised for Clean for the Queen.

58. HMS TIGRIS MEMORIAL SERVICE, 26 FEBRUARY 2017

PROPOSED: Councillor Jeanette Clifford

SECONDED: Councillor Julian Swift-Hook

RESOLVED: That this council support a Civic procession for this 75th Anniversary service.

59. DISCUSSION OF PAST AND POTENTIAL FUTURE EVENTS

- a) The information relating to previous events as detailed on the agenda was received and noted by the Committee.
- b) The information relating to Future events as listed below were received and noted by the Committee:
 - There were none.

60. CIVIC EVENTS

- a) The information provided by the Civic Manager was received and noted by the Committee.
- b) The information relating to future Civic Events as detailed on the agenda was received and noted by the Committee.
- c) The following suggestions were made:
 - It was suggested that a Community Clean be organised annually. Councillors will be asked to look for areas in their own wards that need to be focused on making the clean for 2017/2018 Ward specific.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRPERSON DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.03PM.

CHAIRPERSON

**TOWN HALL OPEN EVENING IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK
Verbal report from The Civic Manager, Councillor Joyce Lewis**

Heritage Open Evening – 9 September 2016

On Friday 9 September we opened up the Town Hall for 4 hours as part of the national Heritage Week event.

Displays on the Town Halls history were available to view together with information on the regalia, paintings and other items we exhibit in the Town Hall.

Volunteers stewarded during the evening and refreshments were available.

We received 40 visitors into the Town Hall to view to building and the exhibits. A number of those visitors left comments in the visitor's book including:-

- Impressive
- Worked in the building 40 years ago, nice to see it again
- Most interesting, I've been meaning to look around for years.
- Informative guide
- Super impressive
- Beautiful layout, enchanting
- Fascinating and well-presented information

A successful and well received evening