

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF NEWBURY TOWN COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, MARKET PLACE, NEWBURY
ON MONDAY 30 OCTOBER 2017 AT 7.30PM.**

PRESENT

Councillors Howard Bairstow; Jeff Beck; Jo Day; Lynne Doherty; Adrian Edwards; Miles Evans; David Fenn (Town Mayor); David Fish; James Frederickson; John Gardner; Dave Goff; Sarah Greenall; Mike Johnston (from 7.37pm); Elizabeth O’Keeffe; Margo Payne; Anthony Pick; Andrew Steel; Tony Stretton and Julian Swift-Hook.

OFFICERS PRESENT

Hugh Peacocke – CEO
Tony Hiller – Corporate Service Officer

22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Jeanette Clifford, Arthur Johnson, Kuldip Singh Kang and Martha Vickers.

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chief Executive Officer declared that Councillors Howard Bairstow, Jeff Beck, Adrian Edwards, James Frederickson, Dave Goff, Mike Johnston and Anthony Pick 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.

24. MINUTES

PROPOSED: Councillor Adrian Edwards
SECONDED: Councillor Anthony Pick

RESOLVED: That the minutes of a meeting of Newbury Town Council held on Monday 26 June 2017, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.

25. QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions or petitions

26. MEMBERS’ QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

There were no questions or petitions

27. CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU

The members received an update from Jan Rothwell, CEO of West Berkshire Citizens' Advice Bureau. The presentation highlighted the work done by the Bureau in Newbury and she thanked the Council for their continued support. After answering several questions from the Councillors the Mayor of Newbury, Councillor David Fenn thanked Jan for her time and presentation and wished the CAB the best for the future.

28. TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Town Mayor gave his periodic report, a copy of which was published with the agenda.

29. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader gave his periodic report, a copy of which was published with the agenda.

After his report, the Leader conveyed a message of thanks and commendation to the staff of the Council.

30. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Chief Executive Officer presented his report, a copy of which was published with the agenda.

31. COMMITTEES

The Minutes of the following meetings were received:

Grants Sub-Committee	28 June 2017
Policy & Resources	17 July 2017
Planning & Highways	31 July 2017
Planning & Highways	21 Aug 2017
Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure	04 Sept 2017
Planning & Highways	11 Sept 2017
Services	25 Sept 2017
Planning & Highways	02 Oct 2017
Policy & Resources (Draft)	16 Oct 2017

32. THE TOWN COUNCIL STRATEGY

PROPOSED: Councillor Miles Evans

SECONDED: Councillor Adrian Edwards

RESOLVED: That the Review of the Town Council Strategy 2017-2020 as attached at Agenda appendix 5b be approved and adopted.

33. LOCAL DEMOCRACY WORKING GROUP

The Members received an update from Councillor James Fredrickson, Chairman of the Local Democracy Working Group. Councillor Fredrickson passed on his personal thanks to all involved with the three week event.

The Mayor of Newbury, Councillor David Fenn passed on his personal thanks to the Local Democracy Working Group and Council Staff involved in the various events.

34. BUDGET FOR 2018/19

The Members noted the schedule for the preparation of the Council's budget for 2018/19 and were invited to make the Leader of the Council and the Responsible Financial Officer aware of any particular projects that they would like included in the budget for 2018/19.

35. VARIATIONS TO THE COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS

PROPOSED: Councillor Adrian Edwards

SECONDED: Councillor Miles Evans

RESOLVED: That the amendments to Standing Orders 6 and 18 as shown on Agenda Appendix 7 are agreed.

PROPOSED: Councillor Julian Swift-Hook

SECONDED: Councillor John Gardner

RESOLVED: That the proposed amendment to Standing Order 30 as shown on Agenda Appendix 7 is deferred to a further meeting

36. APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODY

The meeting heard that Councillor Jo Day had stepped down from her role as a Trustee on the board of the West Berkshire Citizens' Advice Bureau and the Council had been invited to make a nomination to replace her. Councillor Adrian Edwards passed a vote of thanks to Councillor Jo Day for all her work over 10 years as a trustee on the Board.

Councillor Margo Payne

PROPOSED: Councillor Adrian Edwards

SECONDED: Councillor Miles Evans

Councillor Martha Vickers

PROPOSED: Councillor Elizabeth O'Keeffe

SECONDED: Councillor Julian Swift-Hook

Councillor Payne received 15 votes, Councillor Vickers received 3 votes.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Margo Payne be nominated to the board of trustees of the Citizens Advice Bureau.

37. CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO PARISH ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

After a short discussion, Members were advised that if they wished to submit comments to the Local Government Boundary Commission, the individual Member should respond on their own merit.

38. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

PROPOSED: Councillor Adrian Edwards

SECONDED: Councillor Elizabeth O'Keeffe

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 nature of the business to be transacted.

39. PROPOSED CAFÉ AT VICTORIA PARK

The meeting considered a report from the Community Services Manager detailing the latest costs for the proposed café in Victoria Park and the funding arrangements for same.

PROPOSED: Councillor David Fish

SECONDED: Councillor Adrian Edwards

RESOLVED: To earmark £22,452 from Capital receipts and a further £54,419 in general reserves to provide the necessary funds to meet the costs for the construction of the cafe in Victoria Park.

Councillors Julian Swift-Hook and John Gardner voted against the proposal and Councillor Tony Stretton abstained.

Following the resolution, the Leader of the Council said that the progression of this project was to be given the highest priority.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE TOWN MAYOR DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:55 PM

TOWN MAYOR