

MINUTES

At the Full Council Meeting held in the Council Chamber, the Civic Centre, St Stephen's Place, Trowbridge on Tuesday 19th March 2019 at 19.00hrs.

Present:

Councillors: Bazan, Blackmore, Blakemore, Brice, Bryant, Cavill, Cooper, Drewett (In the Chair), Fuller, David Halik, Deb Halik, Kirk and Whiffen.

Officers: Mr L Allan and Mrs T Carpenter (Minutes)

Public & Press: 3 members of the public, 1 press

3197 **APOLOGIES**

RESOLVED to accept apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Beaver, Kemp, King, Oldrieve, Palmen and Payne.

The Town Clerk advised the council that as there had been no apologies or attendance recorded from Cllr Bateman-Gay in the last six months that she is therefore disqualified in accordance with the Standing Orders 6-month rule.

3198 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 15th January 2019 copies of which had previously been circulated with the agenda.

b) There were no matters arising there from.

3199 **MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

RESOLVED to receive reports, minutes and recommendations of Committees, as follows:

a) **Town Development Committee** meetings held on 29th January 2019, 19th February and 12th March 2019

There were no Questions to Councillor Whiffen.

b) **Leisure & Information Services Committee** meeting held on 26th February 2019.

Cllr Fuller reported the consternation expressed that this committee hadn't managed to keep to its budget. It was suggested that the accounts and budget should be split between commercially operated services and those delivered for free.

ACTION: Cllr Halik as Chair of this committee agreed this will be done and will become effective in the Budget 2020/21 as this year's budget has already been set. The Town Clerk will ensure that there is a report to the next meeting to outline this, with clear information in the report.

Cllr Kirk re-iterated his request within the budgeting reporting that when there is a substantial deficit, there should be a full summary of the explanation. The Town Clerk reported that this had also been discussed at the Policy & Resources committee meeting and that the relevant changes are already in the process of being made, with surplus or deficits being reported in the same way.

19.10 Cllr Cooper joined the meeting.

c) **Policy & Resources Committee** meeting held on 5th March 2019

Councillor Kirk noted the resolution on Minute no: 3064 Castle Place Multi Storey Car Park which read: **That the Town Council advises Wiltshire Council that the Town Council does not wish to pursue the potential of purchasing the Multi-Storey Car-Park.**

Councillor Kirk then proposed the following additional communication, resulting from this resolution, seconded by Cllr Cooper

Initials.....dated.....

Following the decision of the Town Council not to pursue the potential of purchasing the Multi-Storey Car-Park:

That the Town Council writes to APAM LTD informing them of our decision and requests that they reconsider their proposal to purchase the Multi-Storey Car-Park, as their purchase will exhaust the covenant, which has guaranteed free parking in the Multi-Storey for visitors and workers of our Town.

Cllr Kirk re-iterated that the Covenant should be held free for perpetuity, stating the Multi-storey car park is our biggest asset and should be protected at all cost.

Cllr Cavill suggested a compromise; that current spaces are available on the same basis as the Cinema i.e. three hours free, with top floor secured with a barrier for people who work in the area.

Cllr Kirk re-iterated that the Covenant can only be broken if Wiltshire Council sell the car park to APAM and proposed that as a council we approach APAM and ask them to reconsider the purchase.

Cllr Fuller reported that Wiltshire Council (WC) can't afford to maintain it without an income. The car park needs money being spent on it, and that the Multi Storey is really only there to meet the requirements of the shoppers. The alternative to WC selling is for the Town Council to take it and he didn't believe the people of Trowbridge can afford the cost, that it would be a burden, and the town council would need a loan. Cllr Fuller felt that the town council should not increase its loans year on year if not receiving an income. He summarised by saying that the Policy & Resources resolution is the correct one.

At Cllr Kirk's request a recorded vote took place on his amended resolution and a unanimous vote in favour was recorded. It was therefore

RESOLVED: That the Town Council writes to APAM LTD informing them of our decision and requests that they reconsider their proposal to purchase the Multi-Storey Car-Park, as their purchase will exhaust the covenant, which has guaranteed free parking in the Multi-Storey for visitors and workers of our Town.

3200 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest not already on the register.

3201 COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR

The Mayor's Engagement list was noted. The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor for standing in on 4 occasions. The Deputy Mayor reported that he had not attended the Roast restaurant!

The Mayor congratulated the Deputy Mayor on the receipt of his replacement new Chain of Office

The Chair then made the following announcements -

- Kevin Hartley's father has passed away. A condolence card is available for signing should you wish to do so.
- Following the close of this meeting tonight it would be much appreciated by the Civic Centre staff if the Council Chamber could be vacated as quickly as possible as they need to re-set the room for another event.

Initials.....dated.....

3202 **OPEN FORUM**

a) Katie Smith, Wiltshire Council, gave a presentation on their Health Trainer Service.

Staff or self referral

phone 0300 003 4566

or email health.trainers@wiltshire.gov.uk

WCOUNCIL.healthtrainers@nhs.net

Referral forms are also available

Katie encouraged councillors to direct any constituents to her department should they be interested.

b) Mr Brian Mitchell gave an historic explanation about the Multi Storey car park, stating that the developers had originally said they would give free parking if some of the park was given up.

3203 **POLICE MATTERS**

Inspector Andy Fee's report had been previously circulated with the Agenda and his apologies were accepted as he is currently on secondment. PC Charly Chilton's apologies were also received.

Firstly, Temp/Inspector James Williams thanked the town council for allowing the police to put a display in the town centre on Saturday. Cllr Kirk praised the event in the town centre, reporting it was a good interaction of cadets with the public and added a new dynamic. He suggested the police maintain a cadet influence.

Temp/Inspector Williams reported on

- Knife crime – 18% reduction – meeting on 16th April at The Civic to work towards a goal of reducing violence.
- Increase in shoplifting in town centre – it has been noted that when new managers start up in shops the reporting of incidences is not taking place. The police have identified some young people involved in low level crime.

Cllr Bryant reported on graffiti which is an increasing concern. Any update on apprehensions? The police have looked at CCTV but no identifications. Some cameras aren't operable and haven't been repaired. The Shires Management are aware. Temp/Inspector Williams reported he would need to check with the PCSOs as to whether the cameras in the multi storey are active cameras.

Temp/Inspector Williams was asked if the police monitor media sites such as Facebook - Spotted in Trowbridge, to which he replied they did not have enough staff, and requested that councillors forward by email anything untoward to him or PC Charly Chilton or phone 101. He confirmed the police are aware of the hunting knife incident.

Can cadets do litter picks as part of national clean up? Yes, if available on the date. Please contact PC Charly Chilton.

Some anti-Islamic stickers have appeared in the Park, yellow circle with black triangle in. Generation Identity. Please report any other sightings to the police.

3204 **PUBLIC TOILETS** (copy report attached)

The Town Clerk reported that Healthmatic – public toilet specialists, have replied to say they can include an option for 50p entry charge. They are also working with a few neighbouring towns. The town council will need to consider what opening and closing times. The refurbished toilets would act as a weekend option + The Civic. 10-7pm in particular on Sunday,

Initials.....dated.....

Cllr Kirk stated that as a County Town we shouldn't be without a public toilet provision.

Cllr Deb Halik noted this is a very lengthy process. The Town Clerk reported that he hoped to bring a quote in May to Full Council from Healthmatic.

RESOLVED That no further action is taken on the potential demolition or refurbishment/rebuilding of the public toilets in the Town Park until the results of discussions with other providers of publicly available toilets have been concluded and quotations received.

3205 REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

- **St James Trust** - Cllr David Halik reported that the grant funding application process is now underway – please check the website for details
- **Transforming Trowbridge** – Cllr Kirk reported that this group has now been dissolved.
- **Trowbridge/Leer Twinning Association** - The Mayor reported that 5 representatives from Leer will be visiting this weekend to participate in the Civic Dinner.

3206 MEDIA

RESOLVED to note the Press Release list, copies of which were previously circulated with the Agenda.

RESOLVED to make the following press releases/social media reports:

- a) **Multi Storey Car Park**
- b) **Plea to local builders for quotes to fix the Park toilets**

3207 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

NOTED the next meeting will be the Annual Council meeting on Tuesday 21st May 2019 in the Council Chamber, The Civic Centre, St Stephen's Place, Trowbridge.

The meeting closed at 20.15hrs.

Signed Date

FULL COUNCIL MEETING 19th MARCH 2019 ACTION LIST

ACTION	BY WHOM	DATE COMPLETED
<p>It was suggested that the accounts and budget should be split between commercially operated services and those delivered for free.</p> <p>ACTION: <i>Cllr Halik as Chair of LS committee agreed this will be done and will become effective in the Budget 2020/21 as this year's budget has already been set. The Town Clerk will ensure that there is a report to the next meeting to outline this, with clear information in the report.</i></p>	LA	
<p>RESOLVED <i>Following the decision of the Town Council not to pursue the potential of purchasing the Multi-Storey Car-Park: that the Town Council writes to APAM LTD informing them of our decision and requests that they reconsider their proposal to purchase the Multi-Storey Car-Park, as their purchase will exhaust the covenant, which has guaranteed free parking in the Multi-Storey for visitors and workers of our Town.</i></p>	LA	
<p>RESOLVED <i>That no further action is taken on the potential demolition or refurbishment/rebuilding of the public toilets in the Town Park until the results of discussions with other providers of publicly available toilets have been concluded and quotations received.</i></p>	All to note	
<p>RESOLVED <i>to make the following press release/social media reports:</i></p> <p>c) <i>Multi Storey Car Park</i></p> <p>d) <i>Plea to local builders for quotes to fix the Park toilets</i></p>	LA	