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COUNCIL

website: [www.whitchurchcouncil.uk](http://www.whitchurchcouncil.uk)

# Whitchurch Town Council

Civic Centre  
Whitchurch  
SY13 1AX



High Street  
Shropshire  
tel. 01948 665761  
email: [clerk@whitchurchcouncil.uk](mailto:clerk@whitchurchcouncil.uk)

## EXTRAORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES OF MEETING FOR EXTRAORDINARY FULL COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016 AT 12PM (MIDDAY)

#### PRESENT

Cllrs: M McDonald (Mayor), B Duffy, T Neville, T O'Neill, G Stockton, J Sinnott and A Chesters

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Stephen Platt - Town Clerk

Barrie White – Whitchurch Herald (PRESS)

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Cllr Rigley – Prior appointment

Cllr Slater – Work commitment

Cllr Stones – Prior appointment

Cllr Ebbs – Prior appointment

Cllr Harris – Work commitment

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary interests from Cllrs Chesters, Stockton, Neville, Duffy and O'Neill

#### 3. MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Chesters, seconded by Cllr Neville. It was **WTC/67/1516 RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on **17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015** be signed as a true and accurate record thereof of the meeting.

#### 4. MATTERS ARISING

None

#### 5. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**St Alkmunds Parish Council:** Cllr McDonald attended the Service of Nine Lessons & Carols on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

**Whitchurch Herald (Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2015):** The Mayor, Cllr McDonald did the Mayor's Christmas message.

**Whitchurch Hospital (Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015):** Attended a Christmas Day visit with LOF.

**New Year's Day Horse Parade (Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016):** Cllr McDonald received the annual Horse Parade in Whitchurch.

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2016:** The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Neville, opened the newly relocated Lornahouse in Green End. Many thanks went to Cllr Neville (from the Mayor Cllr McDonald) for stepping in for the Mayor for this civic duty.

Cllr McDonald would personally like to thank Cllrs Neville, O'Neill and Stockton for their help over the Christmas period; their help was gratefully received.

## **6. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

None

## **7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of the public present.

## **8. TO RECEIVE THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR MONTH 9 (Copy already circulated)**

The Accounts for Month 9 were proposed by Cllr Chesters as being in a good state. This was seconded by Cllr Neville. It was **WTC/68/1516 RESOLVED** to accept the Month 9 Finances.

## **9. PRECEPT 2016/17**

The Clerk read out the taxbase figure received from Shropshire County Council, and the figure work that was being considered by Whitchurch Town Council Cllrs for the forthcoming 2016/17 year. The accepted figure for the precept 2016/17 considered by Cllrs was £448,402.

The discussed figure (£448,402) was proposed by Cllr Chesters; this was seconded by Cllr Neville. It was **WTC/69/1516 RESOLVED** to accept the precept figure of £448,402 and present this requirement to Shropshire County Council before the deadline of Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016.

A quote was issued out by the Mayor, Cllr McDonald, "Whitchurch Town Council is committed to maintaining essential services for the residents of the town. We strive for efficiency savings, whilst looking to reduce costs wherever possible. We appreciate, too, the ongoing financial constraints on people within the town - in a similar way that the Town Council have had pressures on funding over which we have very little control. With this in mind we have ensured that our 2016/7 precept request represents a 0% increase for a typical Band D property (the standard 'measure' for precept requests). In real terms this represents a very slight increase in income due to an increase in properties within our catchment area, without impacting on family finances. It also ensures that we continue to provide the best services we are able to for our local communities".

## **10. DEVELOPMENT ON PEAR TREE LANE**

The Clerk read out the received correspondence regarding the Pear Tree Lane development. It was suggested by Cllr McDonald (Mayor) that he would write to Mike Butler with the following "we agreed to 'note' your comments but also believe that alternative access is being discussed as part of the planning process - please let me know if that is not the case!! Unfortunately the matter is something not under our direct control but please be assured that we can certainly influence on your behalf and will do so if you feel further intervention is necessary".

## **11. REPORT FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

Cllr Stockton gave the Clerk a resume of recent meetings with outside organisations.

Cllr Stockton attended the **Big Conversation (18<sup>th</sup> January 2016)** at Shirehall, Shrewsbury.

Also attended by Cllr Stockton was the **Joint Cemetery Board (JCB) (13<sup>th</sup> January 2016)**.  
The last of the recent meetings attended by Cllr Stockton was **St Chad's (27<sup>th</sup> January 2016)**.

Cllr O'Neill attended a recent **Beechtree Community Centre** meeting (**19<sup>th</sup> January 2016**).

## **12. MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES**

- **Civic**

Cllr Sinnott gave an apology for a recent incident, and this was subsequently noted. Cllr Sinnott went on to present the Minutes that contained the extra section concerning the recent meeting involving public participation over the leasehold/freehold discussions. It was proposed by Cllr Sinnott, seconded by Cllr Neville; it was **WTC/70/1516/RESOLVED** to agree the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015.

## **13. CORRESPONDENCE**

- Police requesting information about an incident – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016
- Police requesting information about an incident – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015

## **14. TOWN TEAM REQUEST**

The Clerk explained the reasoning for this request from the Town Team.

It was proposed by Cllr McDonald and seconded by Cllr O'Neill that Cllr Stockton be the WTC (Whitchurch Town Council) representative. It was **WTC/71/1516/RESOLVED** to allow Cllr Stockton to represent WTC on the Town Team.

**There being further business the meeting closed at 12:55pm**

Chairman.....

Date.....