MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19TH MAY 2016

PRESENT
Cllrs: M McDonald (Mayor), T Neville, B Duffy, T O’Neill, G Stockton, B Slater, J Ebbs, A Chesters

IN ATTENDANCE
Stephen Platt - Town Clerk
Barrie White – Whitchurch Herald (PRESS)

1. TO ELECT THE TOWN MAYOR
There were two nominations received for Mayor. Cllr O’Neill proposed Cllr McDonald; this was seconded by Cllr Duffy. The other proposal was from Cllr Ebbs who nominated himself; this was seconded by Cllr Chesters.
A vote was duly carried out, with Cllr McDonald receiving 5 votes, Cllr Ebbs received 3.
Cllr McDonald duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office for Mayor in the presence of the Clerk.

2. TO ELECT THE DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR
There were two nominations received for Deputy Mayor. Cllr O’Neill proposed Cllr Neville; this was seconded by Cllr Stockton. The other proposal was from Cllr Slater who nominated Cllr Duffy; this was seconded by Cllr Ebbs.
A vote was duly carried out, with Cllr Neville receiving 4 votes, Cllr Duffy received 4 votes.
Cllr McDonald having the casting vote used this vote to re-appoint Cllr Neville, who duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office for Deputy Mayor in the presence of the Clerk.

3. APOLOGIES
   Cllr Rigley – Out of Area
   Cllr Sinnott – Out of Area
   Cllr Stones – Illness
   Cllr Harris – Illness

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
   Cllr Stockton item 16 - Grants

5. MINUTES
   It was proposed by Cllr McDonald, with the agreed amendments and seconded by Cllr Stockton.
   It was **WTC/25/1617 RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 21ST APRIL 2016
   be signed as a true and accurate record thereof of the meeting.
6. MATTERS ARISING
Cllr Duffy proposed that she be allowed to send a letter (through the office) to CCG, SC and Owen Patterson MP expressing WTC’s concern about the possible closure of The Richmond House Surgery; this was seconded by Cllr McDonald. It was WTC/26/1617 RESOLVED to allow Cllr Duffy to write a letter to the various parties, to be distributed through the Clerk’s office.

7. OUTSTANDING FULL COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS
a. Awaiting amendments to the Residents letter – still awaiting the changes
b. Freehold – the Clerk informed Council that we are still awaiting the draft
c. Draft lease – the Clerk and Cllr Duffy will go through to amend
d. Marketing issues are on the June agenda
e. Bullring bulls – Cllr Ebbs has sent off for HLF (Heritage Lottery Funding) financial assistance
f. Bar presentation – the Clerk has been asked to send out the figures (confidentially) before the meeting it is due to be discussed on
g. Investment Opportunities – to be discussed at the next Finance meeting
h. Town Crier – this is on the next Finance meeting

The list referred to by Cllr Ebbs is to be discussed with the Clerk.

8. MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS
7th May 2016 – Start “Sandstone Trail Challenge 2016” in Jubilee Park
Opening of Mee-Fit Gym at Waymills Industrial Estate
Promotion of CRUL Relay for life at Rugby Club

14th May 2016 – Cheque presentation – Ethelston Cup, Civic Centre; to congratulate them on distributing £1,900 to local charitable causes

9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
No members of the public were present.

10. REPORT FROM MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS
Cllr Slater – Town Team; the next 3-4 year phase was discussed to update the Town Plan.
Cllr Duffy – Town Team
Cllr Stockton – CoT

11. MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES
Cllr O’Neill presented the Parks Committee minutes. It was proposed by Cllr O’Neill and seconded by Cllr Stockton. It was WTC/27/1617 RESOLVED to accept the Parks minutes.

12. APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS
This will be circulated outside of the Full Council meeting

13. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES
This will be circulated outside of the Full Council meeting

14. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO EVENTS
This will be circulated outside of the Full Council meeting
15. CORRESPONDENCE
The Clerk read out the received correspondence from
a. Zurich on the insurance renewal.
b. Marie Curie national event for raising funds for cancer research

Additional Correspondence:
Dot Moreland – Thank you to WTC for their involvement in the Easter Horse Parade from the British Driving Society members.
HM Queen – Warm wishes for a planned Civic Service at St Alkmunds Church in June, which al

16. GRANTS LIST
It was proposed by Cllr Chesters that the Grants list authorised by the Finance Committee on 29th April 2016 be accepted by Full Council, with the outstanding 3 applicants being considered upon receipt of the information being sought; this was seconded by Cllr McDonald. It was WTC/28/1617 RESOLVED to accept the Grants list.

17. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2015/2016
This was held over as not yet received

18. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT
This was held over as not yet received

19. ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT
This was held over as not yet received

20. TO RECEIVE THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR MONTH 1 (Copy already circulated)
It was pointed out by Cllr Chesters of items 205 and 206 within Month 1 need to be looked into; as well as wages and overtime is being monitored by the Clerk.
It was proposed by Cllr McDonald to accept months 12 (2015/16) and month 1 (2016/17); this was seconded by Cllr Neville. It was WTC/29/1617 RESOLVED to accept months 12 and 1.

21. TO ABOLISH THE COMMITTEE STRUCTURE
Cllr McDonald explained that items 12, 13 and 14 will take care of this item, but Cllr Ebbs stated that Working Groups should be set up to then report back to Full Council, as there shouldn’t be any committees.

22. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS
There was a brief discussion by Cllr McDonald on services from SC, this was to prepare awareness of an upcoming presentation from SC.

There being further business the meeting closed at 8.17pm

[Signature]
Date: 16th June 2016