

CHIPPENHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Town Council held at the Town Hall, High Street, Chippenham on Wednesday 21 September 2011 at 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: Councillor DLB Powell (Chairman)
Councillors TC Bate, MC Coates, PR Darby, Mrs SA Gibson, R Jones,
Mrs EA Kennedy, ACG Noblet, MAC Packard, JA Phillips,
Mrs NM Phillips, Mrs M Pile, Ms S Veitch and WA Wood

OFFICERS

PRESENT: Mrs S Wilthew (Clerk & Chief Executive)
Mr C.N.A Williams (Head of Support Services)

PUBLIC

PRESENT: Mr J Clark, Chestnut Lodge, 39 Upper Seagry, Chippenham
Mrs J Clark, Chestnut Lodge, 39 Upper Seagry, Chippenham
Inspector M Schorah, Wiltshire Police, Chippenham

31. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs DB Allen, Mrs LK André, WJ Douglas, Mrs MM Fallon, Mrs MF Lloyd, Mrs SE Oakes, BS Patterson, RHP Purdon, JR Scragg, Mrs ME Stickland and Mrs JM Wood.

32. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declaration of interest as defined by the Code of Conduct in the current approved Standing Orders was received.

33. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no written or verbal questions from any member of the public.

34. CIVIC AWARD PRESENTATION

In accordance with previous authority, a presentation of a Civic Award was made to Mr John Clark for having the initiative to set up and manage the Chippenham River Festival.

Mr Clark replied to the presentation with thanks to all those who had assisted with the River Festival and a wish that the Town Council continues to be a supporter of it.

Members noted that Mrs Rachael Heather had received her award for work with St John's Ambulance at Civic Sunday on 04 September 2011.

35. WILTSHIRE POLICE

Inspector Martin Schorah was invited to address the meeting.

He confirmed that although he had only just taken up his appointment as the sector Inspector he knew Chippenham well having served as a Police Constable in the Town.

The most recent crime statistics showed that although crime in Chippenham had dropped by 10% overall, both robbery and criminal damage had increased. This was partly due to a revised method of recording which counted serial damage to 20 vehicles as 20 incidents, and not 1 as previously.

Imminent changes included one telephone number at local rate for all non emergency crimes (101) and some Towns losing dedicated out of hours response Officers with Neighbourhood Policing Teams, including PCSOs, taking a greater role.

However this did not apply to Chippenham, Salisbury, Swindon or Trowbridge all of which would be the base for the response Officers required to cover a larger area.

The Police Station in Chippenham needed rebuilding and once this had been confirmed the Officers and PCSOs would be relocated to Monkton Park for the duration of the work.

Inspector Schorah agreed to investigate how much the Police rely on the Town Council's CCTV system and confirmed that the "Vulnerable Person's Initiative provided support at home for those eligible.

In conclusion, Inspector Schorah confirmed that he would update the Town Council with the next available crime figures, and on the changes discussed.

RESOLVED that the formal thanks of the Town Council be recorded to Inspector Schorah.

36. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 20 July 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman subject to correction of the spelling of "Phillips" in Minute 25/11.

37. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the Agenda.

38. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (i) The death of former Mayor Douglas Cleverly was reported, and that a letter of condolence had been sent to Mrs Cleverly.

- (ii) The Mayor reported that he had attended the unveiling of a memorial plaque, fixed to the former home of Samuel Fludyer in Wood Street.
- (iii) Thanks were expressed to all those staff who had been responsible for organising the very successful Mega Zoo held in the Neeld Hall.
- (iv) Thanks were expressed to all who had contributed to the organising of the memorable River Festival held in August 2011.
- (v) The Mayor thanked all Members who supported Civic Sunday on 04 September 2011. Positive feedback had been received from other Wiltshire Mayors.
- (vi) The Mayor reported that he had attended the Sailing & Canoe Club Awards Evening. The Club has a thriving membership of 250.
- (vii) Thanks were expressed to all who had participated in the Half Marathon on 11 September 2011, particularly to the Head of Service Delivery who had taken part to raise money for the Mayor's Charity.
- (viii) The Mayor reported that he had attended the commissioning of the Street Pastors' Scheme. The team of volunteers will work closely with the Police in the town at weekends.

39. COMMITTEE MINUTES

(a) Strategy and Resources

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14 September 2011 having been proposed and duly seconded

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting be received and as far as necessary adopted.

(b) Amenities Committee

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 07 September 2011 having been proposed and duly seconded

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting be received and as far as necessary adopted subject only to a Recommendation regarding the Medium Term Financial Strategy which had already been determined by Strategy & Resources Committee under Minute 50/11.

(c) Planning and Environment

The Minutes of the following meetings were proposed and duly seconded:-

- Thursday 04 August 2011
- Thursday 25 August 2011
- Thursday 15 September 2011

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meetings be received and as far as necessary adopted.

40. COMMUNITY CAMPUS

On receiving a verbal report regarding the nomination made for Councillor JR Scragg to serve as the Town Council's representative (Min. 23/11)

RESOLVED that Councillor JA Phillips be appointed as substitute representative to serve on behalf of the Town Council.

41. MEMBERS' TRAINING SESSION

A report by the Clerk & Chief Executive was presented (copy in Minute Book).

RESOLVED that

- (i) The principle of a Members' Training Session was approved.
- (ii) The Clerk & Chief Executive was authorised to circulate alternative dates and determine a convenient date.

42. FAIRTRADE

A report by the Clerk & Chief Executive was presented (copy in Minute Book) and a verbal report given by Councillor M/s S Veitch.

On noting that the Town Council already met most of the required criteria

RESOLVED that the Town Council

- (i) Widely offers "Fairtrade" marked food and drink options internally and makes them available for internal meetings.
- (ii) Promotes the "Fairtrade" Mark wherever possible, using Fairtrade Foundation materials in refreshment areas and promoting the Fairtrade Towns initiative in internal communications and newsletters.

- (iii) Nominates a representative (Member and/or Officer) to sit on the Chippenham Fairtrade Campaign Group and supports ongoing work to promote Fairtrade.
- (iv) Engages in a media campaign led by the Chippenham Fairtrade Town Campaign Group to publicise the Fairtrade Towns Initiative.
- (v) Supports the Chippenham Fairtrade Town Campaign Group in urging local retailers to provide Fairtrade options for customers.
- (vi) Supports the Chippenham Fairtrade Campaign Group in urging local Businesses to offer Fairtrade options to their staff and promote the “Fairtrade” Mark internally.
- (vii) Assists the Chippenham Fairtrade Town Campaign Group in organising events and publicity during national Fairtrade Fortnight, the annual national campaign to promote sales of products with the “Fairtrade” Mark.

43. PRESS RELEASE

A member of the Press was present.

RESOLVED that a Press Release be issued on the following:-

- Overall reduction of crime in Chippenham in the most recent quarter
- Presentation of a Civic Award to Mr John Clark
- Renewed commitment by the Town Council to Fairtrade.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm

These Minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.