

OPEN SESSION: There were no members of public present.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Wednesday 28th January 2009 at 7.00pm

Apologies

Prior to the meeting, the Town Clerk reported that apologies for absence had been received from Cllr N R G Clarke, Cllr L C Ford and Cllr Mrs M Urwin and Student Advisors Rachel Giles and Henry Barker.

Declarations of Interest

There were none declared at this time.

PRESENT: Cllr B H Terry (Town Mayor)
Cllr P Chambers
Cllr N J Chard
Cllr D Cole
Cllr J Heron
Cllr Mrs G O'Reilly
Cllr W S Rippon-Swaine
Cllr Mrs J Terry
Cllr Mrs A Wiseman
Cllr Mrs B Woodfield

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr T Simpson, Town Clerk
Mrs J Stannard, Deputy Town Clerk

C/4876 GRANT AID

The Town Mayor presented a certificate and cheque for £700 to Kirstie Davis, the new Artistic Director of Forest Forge Theatre Company, towards the cost of its Outreach Programme. Dr Miranda Whitehead (Vice-Chairman) was also present and thanked Members for their continued support of the Company.

C/4877 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 17th December 2008, having been circulated, be approved and signed as a correct record.

C/4878 PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr Steele presented the minutes of the Planning, Town & Environment Committee meeting held on 9th January 2009.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning, Town & Environment Committee meeting held on 9th January 2009 be received.

C/4879 RECREATION, LEISURE AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Cllr Chard presented the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 14th January 2009.

OS/5051 – Cllr Heron was disappointed that the Committee had agreed to proceed with the planting scheme for the roundabout. The Policy & Finance Committee had referred this back to Committee as members felt that it had little benefit to the community for the costs involved.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 14th January 2009 be received.

C/4880 POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Cllr Heron presented the minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee meeting held on 21st January 2009.

F/4349 – The Town Clerk reported that Cllr Clarke had confirmed that he would act as lead member on the production of a Town Design Statement.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee meeting held on 21st January 2009 be received and the recommendations at F/4346, F/4347, F/4348 and F/4349 be approved.

C/4881 COMMUNICATIONS TO BE RECEIVED

The Town Mayor reported the following:

- 1) A letter had been received from local residents living on Bickerley Road thanking the Town Council for its successful efforts to make the Carnival Fair on the Bickerley Green more tolerable for them in 2008. The Town Clerk added that this was as a result of the Carnival Committee arranging for the fairground operator to move the generators away from residential areas.
- 2) New Forest District Council had granted a premises licence to Ellingham & Ringwood Rugby Club, which had broadly satisfied objections put forward by the Town Council and brought it in line with conditions set out in the original Planning Permission for the building in Parsonage Barn Lane. Cllr Heron reported that the Club had not intended to operate outside of the conditions of the Planning Permission and had completed the licence application on the advice of the District Council's Licensing Services. However, they had agreed to amend their application at the Hearing and stated that they were keen to work with the community and would be advising all users of the Clubhouse to be sensitive to the surrounding residents.

C/4882 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

District Councillor Treleaven had submitted a written report, which was circulated to Members (*Annex 'A'*).

District Councillor Heron reported that, following a meeting with District Council officers, it had been agreed that the parking restrictions in the Market Place would be enforced. Advisory signs and new collapsible bollards would be erected and warning tickets issued initially. The issue of the missing bricks and cobbles, which had been replaced with tarmac, had also been raised and it was hoped that this would be addressed.

District Councillor Rippon-Swaine – reported that the New Forest Business Partnership would be holding a number of events to give advice to businesses on how to survive in a recession, one to be held in Ringwood on 18th February at the Elm Tree.

County Councillor Clarke – The Town Clerk reported on his behalf as it was not expected that he would be attending meetings before April. He had chaired a HAT meeting focussed on education and a meeting of Community First New Forest, which was looking at its Business Plan due to an increase in demand and the effect of the current economic climate.

C/4883

NO COLD CALLING INITIATIVE

Philip Mills, a Trading Standards Officer for Hampshire County Council, spoke to Members about his role in the Protecting Older People Team. This team was looking to raise awareness of doorstep crime amongst targeted groups, such as older adults and people living in social isolation. It was also working to educate these people to keep them safe and give them skills to use on the doorstep to avoid distraction burglary and rogue trading.

He explained the No Cold Calling Zone, one of which had been operating in the Cloughs Road area of Ringwood for 8 months. Prior to introducing the Zone, all residents had been consulted and had the opportunity to approve or oppose the initiative. They were given an information pack, which included a sticker to display indicating that they did not wish to be cold called. Signs were also erected at the entrances to the zone. With all of this in place, residents were empowered to say no to cold callers. An evaluation survey had recently been carried out to establish the effectiveness of the Zone. This showed that 65% of those who responded felt safer and 58% felt more confident since the introduction of the Zone.

Mr Mills concluded by inviting the Town Council to put forward other areas that may benefit from the introduction of a No Cold Calling Zone.

C/4884

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Planning, Town & Environment	2.00pm	Friday 30 th January 2009
Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces	7.00pm	Wednesday 4 th February 2009
Policy & Finance	7.00pm	Wednesday 18 th February 2009
Council	7.00pm	Wednesday 25 th February 2009
Planning, Town & Environment	2.00pm	Friday 27 th February 2009

There being no further business, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.00pm.

RECEIVED AND ADOPTED
27th February 2008

TOWN MAYOR