

OPEN SESSION: There were no members of public present.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RINGWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Wednesday 29th November 2017 at 7.00pm

PRESENT: Cllr Tim Ward, Town Mayor
Cllr Philip Day, Deputy Mayor
Cllr Andrew Briers
Cllr Hilary Edge
Cllr Christine Ford
Cllr Jeremy Heron
Cllr Anne Murphy
Cllr Gloria O'Reilly
Cllr Tony Ring
Cllr Steve Rippon-Swaine
Cllr Michael Thierry
Cllr Christopher Treleaven
Cllr Angela Wiseman

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk
Mrs Jo Hurd, Deputy Town Clerk
Student Advisors, Katie Grubb

C/6068

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Town Clerk reported that apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Loose and Student Advisor Rachel Carr.

C/6069

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none declared at this time.

C/6070

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Meeting held on 25th October 2017, having been circulated, be approved and signed as a correct record.

C/6071

RECREATION, LEISURE AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Cllr Briers presented the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 1st November 2017.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Recreation, Leisure and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 1st November 2017 be received.

C/6072

PLANNING, TOWN & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr Treleaven presented the minutes of the Planning, Town & Environment Committee meeting held on 3rd November 2017.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Planning, Town & Environment Committee meeting held on 3rd November 2017 be received.

C/6073

POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Cllr Heron presented the minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee meeting held on 15th November 2017.

F/5510 – In response to a query about provision for repairs of Greenways and 92 Southampton Road, it was noted that this was for external repairs only, which weren't included in the tenancy agreements.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee meeting held on 15th November 2017 be received and the recommendation therein be approved.
- 2) That Cllrs Day, Murphy, O'Reilly and Treleven be appointed to the Staffing Committee.

C/6074

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE RECEIVED

The Town Mayor reported the following:

- 1) There had been an excellent turnout for the various Remembrance events in the town, and he thanked all Members who had been able to attend.
- 2) He had attended a training course run by the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk for "new" Members, and encouraged Members to inform the office if they would like this session to be repeated.
- 3) He congratulated the Events Committee for organisation of the Fireworks event, for which there had been a terrific turnout.

C/6075

REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCILLORS

Cllr Day outlined arrangements for the Christmas Market and Lights Switch-On event arranged for Saturday 2nd December, and the many organisations and businesses that were getting involved. It was noted that currently a small loss was expected, although the Town Council had agreed to underwrite the event using some of the profit raised from the Fireworks event.

Cllr Murphy had attended the Hampshire Association of Local Councils AGM.

Cllr Edge summarised various comments she had received from customers and warned people to be aware that there had been several burglaries, of both residential and commercial premises, in the town in the last week.

Cllr Rippon-Swaine had attended the Community First AGM and noted that the organisation's grant funding from both the County and District Councils had been heavily cut, although they were looking to keep front line services going.

Cllr O'Reilly had been unable to attend the last meeting of the Western Escarpment Conservation Area Steering Group, but summarised that the focus continued to be on preserving grass verges and keeping light to a minimum. She had also attended the Green conference in London.

Cllr Wiseman – was concerned about an increase in parking on the junction of Moortown Lane and Long Lane associated with football training and matches. It was also noted that vehicles were parked further along Moortown Lane in a layby where people were entering the pitches via a gap in the hedge. It was suggested that Cllr Loose be asked to speak to the Football Club in this respect, and that the further use of dragons’ teeth be considered.

Cllr Ring wished to put on record the Events Committee’s thanks to the Grounds Foreman for his “over and above” assistance with the Fireworks event. He reported that the Twinning Committee had arranged a visit to Pont Audemer in May 2018 and would be very pleased if any Members wished to attend.

Cllr Treleaven had attended the Meeting House Association AGM and praised their success in staging exhibitions and presentations of historic relevance to the town, and providing entertainment and a place for social gathering. He said they were to be congratulated on achieving their objectives following refurbishment. He also reported that there was now a family from Syria living in Ringwood who were doing well and were keen to get involved and meet new people.

Student Advisor Katie Grubb thanked Cllr Heron for attending the School’s Question Time event and extended an invitation to all Members to get involved with events at the School.

C/6076

REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

District Councillor Ford commented that she had been unable to attend meetings for several weeks following a fall at home.

District Councillor Heron reported that membership of the District Council’s Cabinet had been increased to 8. Cabinet was due to meet on 6 December and the Council Tax base proposed for Ringwood was 5257.3 – this would need to be taken into account when the Town Council’s 2018/19 budget was considered.

In response to a question, it was noted that the District Council was currently maintaining its Local Plan review timetable, although clear advice was still awaited from government on assessing housing need, air quality and flooding.

County Councillor Thierry reported that he was due to meet Cllr Rob Humby, the Executive Member for Transport and Environment on 18th December to discuss issues relating to Ringwood, Sopley and Ibsley. He asked Members to contact him if they had any issues they would like him to raise at this meeting.

C/6077

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Planning, Town & Environment	10.00am	Friday 1 st December 2017
Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces	7.00pm	Wednesday 6 th December 2017
Policy & Finance	7.00pm	Wednesday 13 th December 2017
Full Council	7.00pm	Wednesday 20 th December 2017

There being no further business, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 7.45pm.

APPROVED

20th December 2017

TOWN MAYOR