

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE MARKET HOUSE, HIGH STREET, TRING ON MONDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillors: S. Hearn
J. Bowden
Mrs O. Conway
H. Grace
Mrs P. Hearn
M. Hicks
P. Hills
N. Nutkins
Mrs R. Ransley
C. Townsend
G. Wilkins

Also Present: Mr M. Curry, Town Clerk

1 member of the public

17928. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr N. Hollinghurst (prior appointment)

RESOLVED: That the Council accept the apologies for the reasons given.

17929. TO MAKE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr S. Hearn disclosed a prejudicial interest in item 17943 as trustee of Tring Together.

17930. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 20th JULY 2015 AND THE EXTRA-ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14TH SEPTEMBER 2015

RESOLVED: To accept the Minutes and for the Mayor to sign them.

17931. MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES

Those matters not covered by items on the agenda:

- Following minor amendments for comments received from Members, the Council's response to the Site Allocations Pre-submission Focused Changes 2015 Consultation was sent to Dacorum Borough Council
- Dacorum Borough Council has agreed to provide £6,000 for the upgrading of the Christmas Lighting Infrastructure. This is not for additional lights. This will be an item on the agenda of the Town Plan & Infrastructure Committee Meeting next week
- Cllr Wilkins has obtained a Christmas Tree and work is in hand to prepare for its installation

17932. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE TOWN MAYOR MAY DESIRE TO LAY BEFORE THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Functions that were attended in the civic role as Mayor:

31st Jul- 'Thank you' Reception from the Mayor of Dacorum

- 25th Aug - "Love your neighbourhood" Community Centre open day
- 6th Sep - Wendover Arm Trust – Open day and prize draw
- 11th Sep – Lockers Park School – opening of Pre-prep school
- 16th Sep – Rennie Grove AGM
- 17th Sep – Award of Dacorum Community Champion to John Savage
- 19th Sep – Allotment Society Social
- 20th Sep – Longfield Road Playscheme

The Clerk reported the receipt of the following correspondence:

- The Standard Officer, Dacorum Borough Council, has notified the Town Council that it will no longer be necessary for the Principle Authority to grant dispensations for members to take part in precept & budget discussions
- The Police & Crime Commissioner's Local Crime Report August 2015
- Hertfordshire County Council – details by postcode phases of the Superfast Broadband rollout
- Hertfordshire County Council – notice of the LED Street Lighting replacement programme
- Hertfordshire Sports & Physical Activity Partnership – Update & Annual Report

17933. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS:

- (i) Hertfordshire County Council's "Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan – Initial Consultation Document"
- (ii) Department for Culture Media and Sport's "A New Strategy for Sport: Consultation Paper"

The Clerk was asked to review (i) for any reverences to fracking.

17934. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Standing orders were suspended by **resolution** at 7:45 to allow members of the public present to speak.

A neighbour and relative of the applicant (Planning application 4/03002/15/RET) spoke in support of the application explaining:

- The original purpose of the fence was to secure the dogs
- The design of the fence had been chosen to enhance the area
- The open plan concept of the development when constructed was now out-of-date
- The majority of local residents supported the application
- Examples of fences were to be found in the neighbourhood

Standing orders were resumed by **resolution** at 7:51

17935. QUEEN ELIZABETH II – THE LONGEST REIGNING MONARCH

It has been the practice of previous Councils to commemorate significant royal events with a letter of congratulation.

RESOLVED: To send a letter of congratulations to Her Majesty on becoming the longest reigning monarch.

17936. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Council considered planning applications which had been referred by Dacorum Borough Council for observation of this authority. It was decided to request the Local Planning Authority to take the following comments into consideration when determining the under-mentioned applications.

PLAN REF. NO.

- 4/03103/15/LDP Garage conversion at 17 Brookfield Close, Tring HP23 4ED for Mr A Rigby
- For information only:* the Council noted this application
- 4/03061/15/FHA Garage conversion at Shire House, West Leith, Tring HP23 6JR for Mrs M Balfour
- The Council recommended no objection to this application
- 4/03002/15/RET Retention of timber picket fencing and two trellis fences surrounding boundary at 21 Bulbourne Court, Tring HP23 4TP for Mr Hamilton-Heward & Ms E Ramirez
- The Council recommended refusal of this application on the grounds that it is out of keeping in an area where the original concept of the neighbourhood was an open area. The dominance of the trellis is especially so.
- 4/03768/15/FUL Use of land for garden and erection of close boarded fence on land adjacent the Old Forge, 54 High Street, Tring for Mrs J. Bishop
- The Council recommended no objection to this application
- 4/03758/15/FUL & 4/03759/15/LBC Change of use from A2 to A1/A3/A5 Clement House, 23 High Street, Tring HP23 5AH for Hedgerley Properties Ltd
- The Council recommended no objection to this application
- 4/03083/15/FHA Single storey side extension and loft conversion 3 Evans Way, Tring HP23 5UJ for Mr & Mrs A. Worthington
- The Council recommended refusal of this application on the grounds that it is out of keeping. The houses in this small neighbourhood have traditional tiled roofs featuring dormers, gables etc. The large flat roof of the side extension right to the boundary fence is at odds with the rest of the property and the others in the vicinity.

**LIST OF DECISIONS BY DACORUM BOROUGH COUNCIL IN
RESPECT OF RECENT PLANNING
APPLICATIONS**

The Council noted the following decisions by Dacorum Borough Council.

PLAN REF. NO.

4/02296/15/FHA	Permission refused for a loft conversion including roof enlargement at 5 Eggleton Drive, Tring HP23 5AJ for Mr C Wall
4/02720/15/TCA	Permission granted for works to tree at 3 Mansion Drive, Tring HP23 5BD for Mr M Gillen
4/02627/15/FHA	Permission granted for a part single, part two storey side and rear extension at 4 Parsonage Close, Tring HP23 4AU for Mr and Mrs Rabbini
4/02744/15/FUL	Withdrawn - conversion of two existing dwellings to one dwelling, single storey rear and front extensions; alterations to windows and doors, new rooflights and flue at 1 Old Weavers Place, Albert Street, Tring HP23 6DH for Mr and Mrs McCloskey
4/02701/15/LDP	For Information Only: Withdrawn - loft conversion with addition of rear dormer at 48 Morefields, Tring HP23 5EU for Mr & Mrs W & S McCorkell

RESOLVED: To note the planning decisions of Dacorum Borough Council

17937. TEMPORARY TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS

No orders received

17938. STANDING COMMITTEES

The minutes of the following meetings were considered:

- (i) Planning Committee held on 7th September 2015
- (ii) Allotments & Environment Committee held on 7th September 2015

RESOLVED: To receive and adopt the minutes listed above

17939. 'MEET YOUR COUNCIL'

Members reviewed enquiries received at the Council's 'Meet Your Council' event held on Friday 11th September 2015:

- Concern at the litter on Church Square & cigarette butts in the bus shelter
- Parking in Plaiters Close
- The condition of the pavement at the rear of the Miswell Lane shops
- The parking of delivery vans in the High Street
- The practice of putting cones in a High Street parking bay

- That there is no ticket machine in the Forge Car Park near the disabled parking bays
- The state of the High Street block paving and especially the noise from drains because of its collapse
- The poor state of the road in Parsonage Close

Cllrs Mrs P. Hearn & M. Hicks are lobbying Hertfordshire County Council's Deputy Chief Executive with regard to the High Street block paving and drainage. Cllr Townsend highlighted the need for Hertfordshire County Council's highway repair contract to include conditions to respond to Town & Parish Councils.

17940. OUTSIDE BODIES

Members gave reports of meetings attended when representing the Council:

Cllr Hicks	Attended the "Love your neighbourhood" & Allotment Society Social events. He was pleased to see the range of ages represented at the latter. Here were 40+ attendees
Cllr Wilkins	Reported on two meetings of the Tring & District Local History & Museum Society – the Charter will be on display on the 27 th /28 th November and the 4 th /5 th December; the Heritage Trail will be launched on the 10 th October; after a fall in numbers when the markets moved to Church Square advertising in Forge car park had restored numbers. He also went to the Allotment Society Social
Cllr C. Townsend	Visited the Longfield Road Playscheme
Cllr Mrs Ransley	Also attended the "Love your neighbourhood" event and was pleased at its success event was funded by Dacorum
Cllr J. Bowden	Explained that the "Love your neighbourhood" was funded by Dacorum Borough Council and it was hoped that it would become an annual event
Cllr Mrs Conway	Attended the "Love your neighbourhood" event
Cllr Mrs Hearn	Brought Members' attention to the Apple Day on 4 th October 2015 and Alderman Townsend evoking his rights to drive sheep down the High Street

17941. TO AMEND THE COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATION AT TRING SPORTS FORUM

RESOLVED: To change the Council's representative on Tring Sports Forum from Cllr Mrs P. Hearn to Cllr H. Grace

17942. TRING YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

The Council received the minutes of Youth Town Council meeting held on the 15th July 2015.

RESOLVED: To note the Minutes

17943. GRANT APPLICATIONS

The following grant applications were considered:

- (i) Tring in Transition – Eco-fayre

RESOLVED: To award a grant to Tring in Transition of £700 towards the costs of the Eco-fayre under S.137 of the LGA 1972

Cllr S. Hearn left the Chamber at 8:45 pm. Cllr M. Hicks took the Chair

(ii) Tring Together – Research

RESOLVED: To award a grant to Tring Together of £1,000 towards the costs of the researching the provision of a community hub under S.133 of the LGA 1972

(iii) Tring Together - Christmas Festival

RESOLVED: To award a grant to Tring Together of £1,000 towards the costs of the Christmas Fayre under S.145 (1) (a) of the LGA 1972

Cllr S. Hearn returned to the Chamber at 8:50 pm and resumed the Chair

17944. TO CONSIDER THE CLERK'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND TO CERTIFY THE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Members considered the Clerks report and schedule of payments circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: To confirm and certify the schedule of payments as presented

17945. THE INTRODUCTION OF PAYMENTS BY DIRECT DEBIT

The Clerk explained that payment by direct debit had now been enabled by recent legislation. The payments would appear on the monthly schedule as usual. Authority for the payments would be renewed each year.

RESOLVED: To authorise payment by direct debit to the organisations listed on the schedule presented to Members

17946. TO CONSIDER A DRAFT TREASURY & INVESTMENT POLICY

The Clerk explained that the draft circulated had been sourced from the Internal Auditor, who had recommended that the Council have such a policy in place.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Townsend and the Clerk revise the draft for further consideration

17947. TO RECEIVE THE ANNUAL RETURN FOLLOWING SCRUTINY BY THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

The Clerk presented to Council the Annual Return signed by the external auditor BDO LLP with no matters causing concern.

A minor issued was raised with respect to the fact that the year-end figures for the year ended 31st March 2014 had been restated. The restatement was done correctly.

RESOLVED: (i) That the Annual Return has been approved and accepted by the Council

- (ii) That the minor issue raised be noted with the fact that the restatement was undertaken on the advice of the new internal auditor, which differed from the previous supplier

17948. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC & PRESS

RESOLVED: To hear item 22 with the press and public excluded on the basis given in the agenda to hear matters that are of a confidential nature

17949. CHARTER 700 – TOWN GATEWAY SIGNS

The Clerk took Members through the quotations received to provide the gateway signs and the relative merits of the specifications. The funding available through the Heritage Lottery was also explained. The Clerk and Town Warden had visited Sign of the Times to see the quality of their product. Their recommendation was that the quotation from Sign of the Times represented best value.

RESOLVED: To accept the quotation from Sign of the Times for the provision of three gateway signs under S.137 of the LGA 1972 in conjunction with Tring Together (Charter 700)

17950. TO CONSIDER A RENEWAL OF THE 1ST FLOOR MARKET HOUSE AGREEMENT

The Clerk explained the circumstances of the renewal and the recommendations for its continuance.

RESOLVED: To renew the 1st floor Market House agreement on the recommended basis

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Chairman