MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN PROJECTS COMMITTEE OF THE TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE MARKET HOUSE, TRING ON MONDAY 30th APRIL 2007 AT 8.28 p.m.

Present:	Councillors:	P. Coneron (in the chair) C. J. Fryd M. J. James J. R. Jameson Mrs D. M. Rance
	Co-opted:	Councillor N. A. Hollinghurst (DBC & HCC)
Also present:		Councillor J.S. Allan Mrs S. Johnson, Clerk of the Council No members of the public

13942. **APOLOGIES**
Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Batchelor.

The Chairman thanked all councillors, the Clerk and her staff for all their enthusiasm and help over his 8 years as a councillor and Chairman of the Town Projects Committee.

13943. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
There were none.

13944. **MINUTES**
The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2007 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

13945. **MATTERS ARISING**
There were none.

13946. **REVIEW OF 2006/07 BUDGET**
The Committee conducted an overview of its budget for the last financial year. The *Marketing the Market* budget had been seriously under spent due to the Farmers' Market doing its own publicity and the Friday Market expressing little enthusiasm for this activity. There was slowly increasing use of the Market Place by continental markets and by other town activities. The Committee thought the Farmers' Market would thrive owing to the public's enthusiasm for locally-produced food; and the Charter Market could improve its attendance by pushing the Green agenda. The Council needed to review its signage and publicity to boost the Market Place's profile on the market circuit.

Councillor Jameson left at 8.41 p.m.

The *Marketing Tring* budget had been also only 40% spent, being used for supporting the *I Love Tring* calendar. However that project had been particularly successful and was on-going. The retail sector often expressed dissatisfaction with the support it received from the Town Council, but there was only so much the Council could do through the Chamber of Commerce. The Committee reiterated that the Council-initiated marketing promotions organised through its Working Party were aimed at promoting Tring generally and not just Market users and events.
The *Tourism & Transport* strand had been largely spent on supporting professional and publishing fees associated with the Tring Gateway Project and other transport measures; and on providing hospitality for associated meetings. Councillor James declared a personal interest in this budget item as his wife provided catering services to the Council. The *Tring Together* budget had been wholly given over to that organisation to support its officer employment costs and general activities.

13947. **CHILTERNS RAMBLER 327 BUS SERVICE**

The Committee noted a draft Leisure Service Survey produced by the Herts Sustainable Transport Partnership, which would be used in the summer to gather information on demand-responsive bus/taxi services. The Chairman then gave an overview of the 327 bus 2006 season and budget; and the projected spending in 2007. The Committee **RESOLVED** to donate £100 from the Tourism & Transport 2007 budget towards the production of this year's promotional leaflet.

13948. **TRING STATION GATEWAY PROJECT**

The Chairman reported that the Project Group continued to work with Inspire East while awaiting the appointment of the new franchisee for the Euston to Northampton local line.

13949. **TRING MARKET PLACE**

Having taken soundings at the recent Tring Together Management Committee meeting, the Chairman recommended that the marketing event planned for the High Street should be postponed until after the completion of the major works to the High Street. The Committee concurred.

The meeting ended at 9.02 p.m.

Chairman