

**MINUTES OF THE 42nd ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING OF TRING TOWN
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE MARKET HOUSE, HIGH
STREET, TRING ON MONDAY 18th MAY 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. A. Hollinghurst
N. Nutkins
Mrs R. Ransley
C. Townsend
G. Wilkins

Also Present: Mr M. Curry, Town Clerk
Ms C Hill, Deputy Clerk

22 members of the public

17775. ELECTION OF MAYOR: To elect a Town Mayor for the Council Year May 2015 to May 2016

Cllr S. Hearn, as Mayor for the Council year May 2014-2015, expressed his thanks to all members of the Council for their support during his term of office. He also thanked those councillors who retired from the Council for their years of service – Mrs Denise Rance, Mr Barry Batchelor, Mr Harvey Alison and Mr John Allan.

Cllr Hearn said that his year in office had been a year of remembrance – the 100th anniversary of the commencement of World War, the centenary of the awarding of the Victoria Cross to Private Edward Barber and the 70th anniversary of VE Day.

The most significant matter dealt with by the Council was the LA5 Development Proposals between the Icknield Way and Aylesbury Road.

He was pleased to report that wherever he had been in the town on his mayoral duties that there was always evidence of the goodwill amongst Tring residents.

The outgoing Mayor then called for nominations for Town Mayor for 2015/16. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Mrs P. Hearn and **SECONDED** by Cllr M. Hicks that Cllr S. Hearn be elected Town Mayor for the ensuing year. There being no further nominations, it was unanimously **RESOLVED:** That Councillor S. Hearn be elected Town Mayor to hold office until his successor became entitled to act as Town Mayor at the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

Cllr S. Hearn gave his consent to signing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and put on the Mayoral Chain of Office. He took the Chair and

welcomed Members – new and returning – and said that he was looking forward to working with them as a community council for the people of Tring and the promotion of Tring.

Cllr S. Hearn announced that, as last year, he was not nominating a specific charity but would be continuing to support a range of local charities.

17776. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR: To elect a Deputy Mayor for the Council Year May 2015 to May 2016

It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Mrs O. Conway and **SECONDED** by Cllr H. Grace that Councillor M. Hicks be elected Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year. There being no further nominations, it was unanimously **RESOLVED:** That Councillor M. Hicks be elected Deputy Town Mayor to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council.

17777. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None – all members present

17778. TO MAKE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr H. Grace had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest with regard to the land crossed by footpaths 87 & 88 – item 12. As this item for information only not discussion, Cllr Grace was not required to leave the room for this item

Cllr C. Townsend had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest with regard to Planning Application 4/01454/15/OUT item 15. Cllr Townsend was required to leave the room when this application was discussed

17779. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23rd MARCH 2015

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

17780. TO APPOINT THE TOWN COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES

This item considered the Council's committee structure and membership for the coming year. In each case the current information was circulated prior to the meeting.

Members were asked to confirm the existing committee structure i.e. the current committees with the Town Plan & Infrastructure Committee that was added by Resolution 17611 on 15th December 2014 to be effective at the beginning of the new Council year.

RESOLVED: That the Council adopts the Committees as proposed

Cllr Mrs P. Hearn was asked for the Members nominated by the majority party for each committee and Cllr Mrs R. Ransley was asked for the Members nominated by the minority party for each committee.

RESOLVED: That the Council accepts the nominated Members to the Committees as stated (details appended)

17781. TO ELECT THE CHAIRMAN FOR EACH OF THE TOWN COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES

Cllr Mrs P. Hearn put forward the following proposal for the chairmanship of the agreed Committees:

- Planning – Cllr S. Hearn
- Finance & Policy – Cllr Mrs P. Hearn
- Building & Assets – Cllr M. Hicks
- Allotment & Environment – Cllr Mrs O. Conway
- Town Plan & Infrastructure – Cllr Mrs P. Hearn
- Staffing – the Mayor

17782. TO CONFIRM THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR STANDING COMMITTEES FOR 2015/16

RESOLVED: That the Council retain the existing terms of reference for its Committees

17783. TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS TO REPRESENT THE TOWN COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Council reviewed the list of organisations on which it has representatives and the Councillors representing it. Cllr J. Bowden drew attention to the changes that are currently underway at the Orchard Children Centre.

RESOLVED: That the Council existing representation on outside bodies be as proposed (details appended)

17784. TO CONFIRM THE TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS AND CONSIDER A REPORT ON THE 'MEET YOUR COUNCIL' INITIATIVE' (previously circulated)

RESOLVED: That the timetable of meetings be accepted as proposed (details appended)

The report circulated prior to the meeting on the operation of the 'Meet your Council' initiative was discussed.

RESOLVED: To continue the 'Meet your Council' initiative and for the Clerk to book a stand for the Council at the Carnival

17785. MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES

The Clerk reported the following matters:

- A meeting has held with residents of New Mill to brief them on progress of the project. There was general satisfaction with the direction of travel
- The VE Day 70th Anniversary Service put on in the Memorial Gardens was well attended and well received. Revd Huw Bellis, Vivianne Child and Sir Michael Simmons were thanked for their assistance in staging the event
- The tourism workshop took place and a draft destination plan has been circulated to attendees for comment. Once agreed it will be circulated
- The first day of the Friday Market trial relocation took place last Friday and it appears to have gone well with extra trade for the stall holders

and favourable comments from parishioners on the vibrancy it gives the High Street

- Dementia-friendly Tring has received a grant of £10,000 from Herts Healthy Homes to set up a small grants fund. This means that Dementia Friendly Tring can give grants to other organisations in Tring and the surrounding villages.
- Tring's fairtrade town status has been renewed thanks to the efforts of Michael Demidecki & the Justice & Peace Group

17786. 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:

- Friday 24th April Berkhamsted Town Hall Annual Civic Reception - Berkhamsted (Deputy Mayor attended)
- Sat 25th April Victoria Hall, Tring ECO fair
Charity dance, Berkhamsted hosted by the Mayor of Dacorum – Alan Lawson
- Sunday 26th April St Georges Day promise and renewal West Herts Scouts
- Friday 8th May Service in Tring Memorial Gardens VE Day 70th anniversary
- Sunday 10th May St Mary's Church, Old Town High Street, Hemel Hempstead Mayors Civic Service DBC (Cllr Lawson)
- Saturday 16th May Pendley Manor Hotel Tring Lions Annual Charter evening

The Mayor drew Members attention to the notices of sales by auction of various small plots of land in and around Grove Park. He could confirm that these parcels of land were considered to be highway maintainable at public expense. If a road / land has been adopted as highway maintainable at public expense it stays as highway for ever.

Highway land could be within the registered ownership of a third party, but the ownership relates to the subsoil only and the surface will still have highway rights. The owner of the land would not be able to fence the land off the highway or build anything on it. He thanked Cllr N. Hollinghurst for his work on this matter in his role as the Town's County Councillor.

Cllr S. Hearn was pleased to report that there has been very positive feedback from both stall holders and members of the public on the move by the Friday Market to Church Square & Mansion Vista.

The following items of correspondence were circulated prior to the meeting for information:

1. Invitation to Herts County Council's third Town and Parish Councils' Conference
2. Notification of Confirmation of (Footpath) Modification Order
3. Letter from NALC & Profile of Greg Clark

Other items of correspondence received:

- April's stat from the Police & Crime Commissioner
- Details of the Basic Councillor Training Sessions – copies on the table before new members
- The Agenda for the Annual Meeting of Dacorum Borough Council
- Details of how the grant to the Community Centre was spent with the news that the Pre-school has now received a rating of “Good” from Ofsted
- Details of the Herts Sports Partnership AGM on Friday 12th June at the Herts Sports Village, University of Herts, Hatfield starting at 6:30 pm
- A press release from HCC on the rollout of superfast broadband
- The agenda for the next meeting of the Dacorum Community Safety Partnership taking place now

17787. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Standing Orders were suspended by **resolution** at 8:09 pm so that Members of the Public present at the meeting might speak, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 67.

Neighbours from Gordon Villas & Chiltern Villas explained their objection to planning application 4/01454/15/OUT due to the dangerous access and overdevelopment of the plot. There also expressed their concern with the potential for damage to the private road during construction and lack of communication from the developer.

Dacorum Borough Councillor Stanley Mills, Wigginton & Aldbury congratulated Cllr S. Hearn on his reelection as Town Mayor.

Standing Orders were restored by **resolution** at 8:16 pm

17788. STANDING COMMITTEES

The minutes of the following meetings were considered:

- (i) Planning Committee held on 13th April, 2015 (enclosed)
- (ii) Allotments & Environment Committee on 13th April, 2015 (enclosed)
- (iii) Planning Committee held on 27th April, 2015 (enclosed)
- (iv) Buildings & Assets Committee on 27th April, 2015 (enclosed)

RESOLVED: To receive and adopt the minutes listed above

17789. 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.

4/01632/15/ROC Variation of condition 5 (CILL Heights) attached to planning permission 4/00024/14/FUL (construction of four semi-detached houses) Land at 15 and R/O 14, Station Road, Tring HP23 5NG for Braybeech Homes Ltd.

The Clerk advised members of correspondence received objecting to this application and the Council's response to a previous application.

The Council had **no objection** to this application, but on the basis that conditions were imposed such as obscured glass to protect the privacy of neighbours.

4/01633/15/ROC

Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 4/00024/14/FUL (construction of four semi-detached houses) Land at 15 and R/O 14, Station Road, Tring HP23 5NG for Braybeech Homes Ltd.

The Clerk advised members of correspondence received objecting to this application and the Council's response to a previous application.

The Council had **no objection** to this application, but on the basis that conditions were imposed such as obscured glass to protect the privacy of neighbours.

Cllr C. Townsend withdrew from the meeting at 8:26

4/01454/15/OUT

Demolition of existing outbuildings and construction of three detached houses at High Drive, Aylesbury Road, Tring HP23 4DJ for Mr E Whetham

The Clerk advised members of correspondence received objecting to this application and the Council's response to a previous application.

The Council recommended **refusal** of this application on the grounds:

- 1) Overdevelopment of the site – 2 or 3 bedroom dwellings would be more appropriate
- 2) Road safety – turning into Longfield Road & Aylesbury Road is dangerous because restricted vision of traffic entering Longfield Road from Aylesbury Road and for cars turning left onto Longfield Road and left again onto Aylesbury Road takes them onto the opposite carriage way.
- 3) The site is relatively large and is of ecological value. Any development should protect this aspect of the site. The application gives insufficient details of the measures taken to mitigate any impact of the development

Cllr C. Townsend returned to the meeting at 8:36

4/01653/15/FUL

Construction of two semi detached houses, land to the rear of 17 Station Road, Tring HP23 5NG for Mr S Booth

The Council recommended **refusal** of this application. The Council felt that this application failed to address any of the points raised in a previous application that was

rejected by Dacorum Borough Council. The Town Council's objections remain:

(a) The development is out-of-keeping with the surroundings. The scale, particularly the height, would be out-of-proportion and over-bearing with reference to the houses behind

(b) It is inappropriate to have an access point for such a development crossing a busy pavement and cycleway. These are heavily used by school pupils. The access point is also close to a bus stop. As a minimum the entrance splay needs to be increased (this is property outside the proposed development)

(c) There is concern that the ownership of this land should have been declared when application 4/00024/14/FUL was made. The drawings submitted with application 4/00365/15/FUL refer to the proposed dwellings as plots 5 & 6. Plots 1-4 are those in application 4/00024/14/FUL.

- 4/01156/15/FHA Single Storey rear extension at 16 Albert Street, Tring HP23 6AX for Mr N Carmichael
The Council had **no objection** to this application
- 4/01853/15/FHA Demolition of existing poor quality conservatory and 2 walls of adjoining dining room. Construction of a single storey rear extension with flat roof with parapet and skylights and glazed doors to garden at 31A Beaconsfield Road, Tring HP23 4DP for Mrs H Veeroo
The Council had **no objection** to this application
- 4/01553/15/FHA Two storey and single storey rear extension at 32 Elm Tree Walk, Tring HP23 5EJ for Mr and Mrs Griffiths
The Council had **no objection** to this application
- 4/01829/15/FHA Two storey side and single storey rear extension at 39 Chiltern Way, Tring HP23 5LD for Mr and Mrs Taplin
The Council had **no objection** to this application

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.

- 4/02640/14/FHA Permission **granted** subject to conditions for the construction of detached garage at 39 Park Road, Tring HP23 6BP for Mr W Jones

- 4/00783/15/FHA Permission **granted** subject to conditions for a two storey side extension with new driveway and crossover at 21 Mill View Road, Tring HP23 4EP for Mr R Langston
- 4/00795/15/FHA Permission **granted** subject to conditions for a garage conversion and internal alterations to existing annex and house at Griffie, 50 Station Road, Tring HP23 5NW for Mrs B Davison
- 4/01165/15/TCA Permission **granted** subject to conditions for works to Lime tree at 25 Park Street, Tring HP23 6AW for Mrs K Hendrickson
- 4/00939/15/FHA Permission **granted** subject to conditions for a single storey rear extension and front port at 13 Hawkwell Drive, Tring HP23 5NN for Mr and Mrs Lane
- 4/01016/15/FHA Permission **granted** subject to conditions for the demolition of existing garage and construction of two storey side extension. Demolition of existing conservatory and construct pitched roof to existing single storey rear extension at 6 Deans Close, Tring HP23 4AS for Mr J Gayle
- 4/01059/15/FHA & 4/01057/15/LBC
Permission **granted** subject to conditions for the removal and replacement of existing conservatory glazed roof. New glazed doors and internal alterations at 2 Park Road, Tring HP23 6AT for Mrs J Elliot
- 4/01061/15/FHA & 4/01062/15/LBC
Permission **granted** subject to conditions for a replacement conservatory roof and new glazed doors. Internal alterations to include relocation of kitchen at 3 Park Road, Tring HP23 6AT for Mrs G Green

17790. TEMPORARY TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS

Three notices of order were circulated prior to the meeting:

- TRO8169 Tring High Street in preparation for the Women's Tour of Britain Cycle Race
- TRO8204 Beaconsfield Road for a street party
- TRO8208 Longfield Road for a street party

In addition details of the intended closure of Beaconsfield Road for three days for maintenance was received after the other orders were circulated.

Cllr N. Hollinghurst, in his role as County Councillor, advised the Council of other scheduled road closures.

RESOLVED: To note the temporary traffic regulation order as presented.

17791. CLERK'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Members reviewed the Clerk's Report and the circulated reports.

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

17792. TO RECEIVE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE INTERNAL AUDIT REVIEW WORKING PARTY(circulated prior to the meeting)

RESOLVED: To accept the recommendation of the Internal Audit Review Working Party

17793. TO AUTHORISE THE CLERK TO TAKE THE NECESSARY PROCUREMENT ACTION TO RENOVATE STREET FURNITURE IN THE HIGH STREET

Cllr Mrs P. Hearn introduced this item explaining the background to the requirement that arose through the Town Plan and the need to make the Town look suitable for the Charter 700 celebrations. Funds had been granted to the Town Council by Dacorum Borough Council for the implementation of the Town Plan, from which payment for this task would be taken.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk begins the procurement of services to renovate street furniture in the High Street in accordance with the financial regulations

17794. OUTSIDE BODIES

Members gave reports of meetings attended when representing the Council:

Cllr N. Hollinghurst attended the Eco-fair and was impressed with the stalls there.

Cllr Mrs R. Ransley when attending the Berkhamsted Town Hall Annual Civic Reception had had a very informative discussion on the management of the Berkhamsted allotments. She too had attended and had been impressed by the Eco-fair. She also attended the VE Day commemoration and was very pleased with the level of attendance.

Cllr Mrs P. Hearn had attended a meeting of Tring Charities and offered that Tring Charities report to the Council their activities as a Part II item. This offer was accepted.

17795. TRING YOUTH TOWN COUNCIL

The minutes of the Youth Town Council meeting were not received in time for consideration at the meeting.

The Mayor asked that the Clerk liaise with the Youth Council to enable a Member to be present at each of the Youth Council meetings