 CHIPPING NORTON TOWN COUNCIL

At the Council Meeting held, pursuant to notice on Monday 19th February 2018 at 7.15 pm in the Council Chamber, the Town Hall, the following members were present: -

Cllr. M. Tysoe, Town Mayor

Cllr. R. Averill

Cllr. R. Benfield

Cllr. C. Butterworth

Cllr. Mrs. E. Coles

Cllr. A. Corfield

Cllr. D. Davidson

Cllr. T. Hasan

Cllr. D. Heyes

Cllr. M. Jarratt

Cllr. S. Jordan

Cllr. J. Kitcher-Jones

Cllr. A. Villars

Cllr. M. Walker

Officer: The Town Clerk

7015 The minutes of the meeting held on the 15th January 2018 – were approved and signed at the meeting.

7016 Public Participation

There were no requests for public participation at the meeting.

7017 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. Mrs. J. Graves,

Cllr. Ms. N. Bradley and District Cllr. Mrs. L. Carter.

7018 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. A. Corfield declared an interest in planning application 4355 – 18/00289/HHD

11, Westcote Place, Chipping Norton as his son lived at this address.

7019 Mayoral Announcements

The Mayoral Announcements had been circulated with the agenda showing the functions which the Mayor had attended since the previous Town Council meeting.

The Mayor announced that the Town Council were grateful to receive a grant from OCC towards snow clearing equipment in Chipping Norton.

The Mayor reminded Town Councillors that the Annual Town Meeting had been arranged for 19th April 2018 and the Mayor’s Casino event was arranged for

21st April 2018.

The Mayor’s two charities this year was Blood wise – Leukaemia Research and

The Lido in Chipping Norton.

7020 Oxfordshire County Council

County Cllr. Mrs. H. Biles reported on the following: -

Cllr. Biles apologised for not be able to attend the last two Town Council meetings.

Budget

OCC had agreed their budget last week for 2018/19. OCC had taken difficult decisions in 2006 but were now benefitting from the decisions made.

From 2010 when putting their decisions in place OCC had been able to re-invest three hundred and sixty millions pounds mostly into vulnerable children and adult care packages. OCC were working to turn around families who were experiencing problems.

OCC were increasing their precept level by 3% and a further 1% due to pressures in social services.

Roads in Oxfordshire

OCC had been given more funding to carry out patching of roads in Oxfordshire.

A ten year capital programme was being put in place to carry out the repairs.

Housing

OCC had been given sixty million pounds to help deliver homes for the homeless in Oxfordshire. WODC had also signed up for this plan.

OCC community fund

Cllr. Mrs. H. Biles stated that she had got £15,000.00 community fund to hand out to applicants for community projects over the next year.

Cllr. M. Tysoe asked Cllr. Mrs. Biles, ‘Had the recent problem with Carillion had an impact on OCC?’

Cllr. Mrs. Biles responded that this hadn’t as OCC had started to work on the situation in June 2017 and projects which had been started would be completed.

Cllr. M. Tysoe asked if OCC were still in involved with Capita?

Cllr. Mrs. Biles responded, ‘Yes but not to the extent as Carillion.’

Cllr. M. Walker was pleased to see that OCC had extra funding for the homeless people and affordable housing in Oxfordshire and would like to see a long term plan for this project.

7021 West Oxfordshire District Council

Cllr. G. Saul reported on the following: -

As stated above Cllr. G. Saul stated that WODC and OCC backed the additional affordable housing to help the homeless in Oxfordshire.

Local Plan

WODC’s Local Plan was in support of providing more affordable housing and a suggestion of more affordable housing should go on the Tank Farm development in Chipping Norton.

In addition the Local Plan would give WODC a bit more flexibility and would give WODC a three year plan and not a five year plan. This would give WODC a bit more clout with developers approaching them.

A document in the Local Plan on an infrastructure strategy included improvements to the A44, bus lanes and a new rail station at Yarnton/Begbroke.

WODC expected to have their Local Plan signed off by April 2018.

Budget

WODC had increased their precept by 3% which would increase a Band D property by £2.75.

Big Band Concert

Cllr. G. Saul announced that there was a Big Band Concert in Chipping Norton Theatre this Friday evening.

Cllr. D. Heyes asked if there had been any decision in social houses for rent?

Cllr. G. Saul answered that there was a site at Blenheim site, Woodstock for social rent.

Cllr. M. Jarratt stated that there was a problem with housing numbering just off the Burford Road which were 27A and 27B down the side of The Bell, West Street.

Cllr. G. Saul offered to look into this problem.

7022 Planning

(a) The Council decided to make the observations set out under the heading

‘comments’ on Appendix A – 19th February 2018, planning applications

4349 - 4361.

Cllr. M. Jarratt and Cllr. A. Corfield registered that they did not agree with

planning application 4349 as the access was not an adopted highway and the

lane was too narrow.

(b) Decisions

There were no WODC decisions to report at variance to the Town Councils

comments to recent planning applications received.

7023 Town Clerk’s Report

Council approved the following payments: -

1. Imprest Account for January 2018: £7,318.47.
2. General Account: Accounts for payment as at 19th February 2018: £15,946.14.
3. Correspondence received

Street Naming

WODC had made a decision to use the two names put forward by the Town Council for the new McCarthy & Stone development, London Road as Pentelow and Watson.

7024 Mayoral Selection Committee

The Council received a report from the Mayoral Selection Committee meeting recommending that Cllr. D. Davidson be recommended to be the Town Mayor elect for the Municipal year 2018/19 and Cllr. J. Kitcher-Jones be recommended to be the Deputy Mayor elect for the Municipal year 2018/19.

A unanimous vote of all in favour was taken for Cllr. Davidson to become Town Mayor elect for the Municipal year 2018/19.

A unanimous vote of all in favour was taken for Cllr. J. Kitcher-Jones to become Deputy Mayor elect for the Municipal year 2018/19.

7025 Finance & General Purposes Committee

The Council received the minutes of the F & GP committee meeting held on

6th February 2018.

The Mayor reported that there had been enormous problems of anti-social behaviour around the bus shelter in Walterbush Road by Hailey Road. These problems had been reported to the police, the community resilience group, Stagecoach and the Town Council.

After a lot of discussions a decision was made to remove the bus shelter and leave the bench for people to use whilst waiting for the buses.

Cllr. Mrs. E. Coles stated that the bus shelter was used by a lot of elderly people and the bus shelter would be missed.

7026 Cemetery & Pool Meadow

The Council received the minutes of the Cemetery & Pool Meadow committee meeting held on 7th February 2018.

The Chairman reported that a meeting with Church representatives was to be arranged to discuss the maintenance of the closed churchyard, C/N.

A quotation had been received to clean the War Memorial, London Road, C/N at a cost of £1,150.00 plus VAT.

Cllr. Mrs. H. Biles stated that she would pay half of the cost out of her OCC community fund. The Town Clerk was to apply for the grant funding for this project.

7027 Town Hall & Publicity Committee

The Council received the minutes of the Town Hall & Publicity committee meeting held on 9th February 2018.

A further quotation was awaited to service the alarms at the Town Hall.

The Town Council were working on trying to resolve the problem with the fire alarm being set off when the kitchen was in use at the Town Hall.

7028 Recreation Committee

The Council received the minutes of the Recreation committee meeting held on

13th February 2018.

Cllr. R. Benfield stated the recreation committee and the Town Clerk were working with Wicksteed to try and resolve the problem with the replacement slide at

New Street recreation ground.

7029 Financial Regulations

The Town Council approved to put in place BACS, CHAPS, direct debits and standing orders to be able to pay suppliers and staff direct into the bank.

The same procedure with signatures was required but instead of signing every cheque this would be per direct transaction listed on a sheet and signed by the

Town Clerk and two Town Councillors.

7030 Bye-Law

Cllr. M. Tysoe reported that a letter had been formulated and was to be sent off with the proposed Bye-Law to the Secretary of State. A map was to be included.

7031 Town’s Wish List

Cllr. Mrs. H. Biles reported that the old salt depot at Banbury Road, C/N was now being used for a bus park as building work was now taking place in the previous bus park at London Road, C/N.

7032 Update on WODC’s Local Plan

Cllr. G. Saul reported on the Local Plan under item 7021.

7033 Update from PCSO

A report had been circulated at the meeting which had been received from

Sgt. Chris Cochrane, TVP.

The meeting closed at 9.01 pm.