

AT A MEETING OF BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE UPPER HALL,
TOWN HALL, BRACKLEY ON MONDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2010 at 7 pm

Present: The Worshipful the Town Mayor (Councillor C S Billingham)
Councillors C J Blunden, K D Bonner-Dunham, P J Broomfield,
C O Cartmell K Dixon, D Dunham, T D Hayward, P Joyce,
L D Ross, D Shaw, W B Stimpson, P H Stocker and P M Titchener

Apologies: Councillor G Rhys

438. PRAYERS

Prayers were said by Reverend Peter Idris Taylor

439. COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE – COUNCILLOR A GRANT

Councillor Grant advised that he had another meeting to attend and thanked the Town Mayor for allowing him to make his presentation at this point in the meeting.

He said he was hopeful that he would have information shortly on the school crossing progress and this would be emailed to the office as soon as known. Councillor Grant then went on to speak about the recent bad weather and the effect this had had on the roads in the County. He advised that an additional £5m had been allocated for repairing roads and it was hoped that Northamptonshire would see some of this. He informed Members that it cost £32,000 each evening the gritters were out but said he had been pleased with the work which had been undertaken. During bad weather, 43% of the roads in the County are gritted and requests had been received for a further 500 salt bins. A big problem had been theft of salt from these bins by residents.

Referring to the music school, Councillor Grant said there had been a scrutiny review and the recommendation to only remove £50,000 from the music school budget would be taken into account when the budget figures were discussed at the end of February. Councillor Stimpson thanked Councillor Grant for this information.

Councillor Bonner-Dunham said the gritting this last few days had been excellent but during the first lot of snow had been abysmal. She said there had been no gritting on the west side of Brackley, Pavillons Way and Humphries Drive, and cars had been abandoned on the chicanes. The Town Mayor commented that Bridgewater Road had also not been gritted. Councillor Cartmell said it would have been nice if gritting could have been undertaken outside the schools. Councillor Blunden asked if there was any way of securing the grit bins as these were often moved. Councillor Grant said he would take this information back to County Council. He also commented that Town and Parish Councils had in the past undertaken snow clearance, but because of legislation this had ceased and the County Council were being asked to indemnify local councils in order to assist with snow clearance. He agreed to look into this.

The Town Mayor asked if there was any update on the fire station and was advised that it was on schedule for opening at the end of February. The official opening had yet to be determined. Councillor Cartmell commented that the fire station blocked the view of the police station and although there was a sign, this was small and people coming into the town could have difficulty locating the building. Councillor Grant agreed to take this matter up.

CONTINUATION OF A MEETING OF BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE UPPER HALL, TOWN HALL, BRACKLEY ON MONDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2010 at 7 pm

439. COUNTY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE Cont'd...

Councillor Hayward asked if it would be possible to give any details regarding the Youth Service to the office when these were known.

The Town Mayor thanked Councillor Grant for his report.

440. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor advised Members that ex Councillor Mair Hill had died at the end of last year at the age of 83.

The Mayor said that she had received a letter from Nicholas Webster-Smith's family thanking her for the letter she had sent and also the Town Council for flying the Union flag. The family also thanked the Town Council for its assistance on the day of the funeral.

Events attended during January consisted of a Holocaust Memorial Commemoration in Kettering and a Candlemas Service in conjunction with the new children's hospital at Oxford Radcliffe at Christchurch Cathedral, Oxford.

Members were advised that a recent dinner hosted by the Mayor had raised £780, which would be shared between Katharine House Hospital and the Special Care Baby Unit at the Horton Hospital in memory of Nicholas Webster-Smith.

Contact had been made by Reverend Duncan Tuck, United Reformed Church Minister, who was trying to establish a food bank of non perishable tins and packets, so that anyone coming into the town who had a need could be provided with a basic food parcel.

Members were reminded that a celebration of the 750th anniversary of Borough status would take place on 10th April 2010. The first meeting of the working party had taken place and plans were progressing.

The Town Mayor advised that Mr Adrian Colwell, Head of Strategic Policy at South Northamptonshire Council would be attending on Monday 15th February 2010 at 6pm to update Members.

441. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Town Mayor declared an interest in item 3206 of List of Accounts 11A.

442. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

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443. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 4th January 2010 be approved as a correct record and signed.

444. PLANNING AND GENERAL WORKS COMMITTEE

The Minutes of Planning and General Works Committee held on 4th January 2010 were approved as a correct record and received by the Council.

On the proposition of Councillor Shaw it was

RESOLVED:

That the acts, proceedings and recommendations of the Planning and General Works Committee as contained in Minutes 403 to 412 be approved and adopted.

445. DIRECT RESPONSIBILITIES AND GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

The Minutes of Direct Responsibilities and General Purpose Committee held on 18th January 2010 were approved as a correct record and received by the Council.

On the proposition of Councillor Joyce it was

RESOLVED:

That the acts, proceedings and recommendations of the Direct Responsibilities and General Purpose Committee as contained in Minutes 413 to 424 be approved and adopted.

446. FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE

The Minutes of Finance and Policy Committee held on 14th December 2009 were approved as a correct record.

On the proposition of Councillor Stocker it was

RESOLVED:

That the acts, proceedings and recommendations of the Finance and Policy Committee as contained in Minutes 425 to 437 be approved and adopted.

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447. LIST OF ACCOUNTS

Lists of Accounts 11A had been circulated with the Minutes. It was

RESOLVED:

That List of Accounts 11A totalling the sum of £16,304.62 be approved and passed for payment.

448. SEAL OF THE COUNCIL

Members were advised that there were no documents requiring the Seal of the Council.

449. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from this Meeting during the election of Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor as publicity would be prejudicial to the public by nature of the business to be transacted.

450. ELECTION OF TOWN MAYOR

Councillor Blunden was nominated for Town Mayor for 2010/11 by Councillor Shaw and seconded by Councillor Dixon. A secret ballot took place and it was

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Blunden be elected as Town Mayor for 2010/11

451. ELECTION OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR

Councillor Hayward was nominated by Councillor Stimpson and seconded by Councillor Titchener and Councillor Shaw was nominated by Councillor Dixon and seconded by Councillor Joyce. A secret ballot took place and it was

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Hayward be elected as Deputy Town Mayor for 2010/11