

TOWN COUNCIL

**AT THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE LAVERTON,
BRATTON ROAD, WESTBURY ON MONDAY, 4th JULY 2011 AT 7.00 PM.**

PRESENT: Cllr D Windess (Chairman)

Cllrs S Andrews, W Braid, M Cuthbert-Murray (8.15 – 10.05 pm),
Mrs S Ezra, R Hawker, M Hawkins, D Jenkins, D Jones, S Miles,
Mrs C Mitchell, F Morland (arrived 9.10 pm), Mrs D O’Hara (left 8.00 pm),
and W D Tout.

Mr K Harvey and Mrs B Mantle

Also in attendance: Nine members of the public
Sector Inspector L Winter and PC J Philpott

T.2489 PUBLIC FORUM:

Dr P Biggs:

- Congratulations on the town floral hanging baskets.
- Exit from Morrisons Supermarket in Edward Street.
- Agenda item 17. Future of the Westbury Hospital site.
- Objection lodged by a Westbury town councillor to a footpath diversion in association with the planning application for the new doctors’ surgery.

Rev J Burke:

Rev Burke expressed his thanks to the Council for their support of Crosspoint. It is hoped to provide a neutral, non-threatening, non-establishment facility in Westbury to guide people to appropriate services, and provide access to computers. It is hoped this new service will be complementary to other services in the town. There will be a public meeting at 6.30 pm on 8th July at Westbury Infants School.

The Town Clerk reported that Morrisons are currently seeking quotes to install rumble strips at their exit on to Edward Street. Cllr Mrs Ezra informed the meeting that due to the objection to the diversion of the right of way in connection with the new doctors’ surgery, a new planning application has been submitted to Wiltshire Council, which has caused considerable expense to the doctors and also delay of the project. Cllr Hawker added that the objection was against the diversion to the east, and that Cllr Morland in his objection stated his preference for diverting the right of way to the west. Cllr Hawkins expressed his disappointment in Cllr Morland’s action.

T.2490 ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr C Pope	-	Personal
Cllr Mrs M Pope	-	Personal
Cllr F Morland	-	Clash of meetings
Cllr M Cuthbert-Murray	-	To arrive late

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- T.2491 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**
Cllrs M Cuthbert-Murray, R Hawker and D Jenkins: Agenda item 14. (Personal & prejudicial) – members of the Westbury Area Board.
Cllr D Jones: Agenda item 19. (Personal) – involves a friend.
Cllr Mrs C Mitchell: Agenda item 14. (Personal) – campaigned for this highway improvement for some years.
Mr K R Harvey, Town Clerk: Agenda item 19. (Personal) – previous involvement with this charity whilst in the fire service.
- T.2492 MINUTES.** The Minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on the 4th May 2011 and the Town Council Meetings held on the 23rd May 2011 and the 27th June 2011 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.
- T.2493 MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES.** Nil.

Members' matters arising from these Minutes. Nil.
- T.2494 PRESENTATION BY BITHAM BROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL.** Ben and Emma from Bitham Brook Primary School thanked the Town Council for the £500.00 grant towards setting up the internet link with their partner school in Zambia, which has enabled day to day contact between the children. A letter from the school in Zambia was read out.
- T.2495 POLICE REPORT.** Sector Inspector Lindsey Winter introduced herself. She has lived in this area for twenty-five years, and was a police sergeant at Warminster twelve years ago.

PC Jo Philpott reported as follows:

Anti-social behaviour has been declining over the last month, following a spike in statistics putting Westbury at the top of the Wiltshire table for anti-social behaviour. Extra help was brought in, resulting in Westbury dropping down to the middle of the table. A third anti social behaviour order was heard in the Chippenham magistrates' court, resulting in an interim order with a full hearing later in the year. A large group were also arrested for offences and given evening curfews.

Following a spate of burglaries, a couple of arrests have been made and items recovered.

Westbury PCSO's, Matt and Neil, have held two crime prevention events in Westbury High Street recently, where they gave out advice to the public and businesses, and marked property such as bikes, mobile phones, etc. Matt Stewart is arranging an event to talk to the local community about distraction burglaries. The Junior Good Citizen is being held at the Westbury Country Club for Year 6 students to be educated in relation to public safety, traffic, alcohol/drugs and custody, etc. This gives local police the opportunity to get to know the children about to attend the local senior school.

Over 35 patrols have been carried out in Westbury town over the last month, not including the times the police pass through the area on their way to other incidents. Efforts are made to ensure that at each shift at least one of the neighbourhood policing teams visit the High Street and Market Place areas of Westbury.

The Bluez n Zuz events are a real success, often attended by 70-80 youths.

Cllr Tout raised the problem of heavy vehicles continuing to cross the railway bridge in Station Road, and asked why Wiltshire Council has diverted traffic down Slag Lane, which has been closed to all vehicles except for buses. Cllr Jenkins reported that this was the only road available for the diversion of traffic whilst the railway engineering works are carried out. PC Philpott confirmed the police are continuing to issue tickets, but that more have been issued for Slag Lane than the railway bridge.

T.2496 **WILTSHIRE COUNCILLORS' REPORTS.** Cllr Jenkins reported that the next Westbury Area Board meeting will be held on the 28th July at 6.30 pm in the Westbury Parish Hall. He was disappointed at the poor attendance at the recent public consultation held in the town on the Wiltshire Core Strategy and Waste Site Allocations. In addition, he emphasised the importance of the Wiltshire Children and Young People's Trust commissioning strategy for young people aged 13 – 19 years old, which has now been drafted and is out to consultation. He was concerned about how this plan will affect young people in the town, and encouraged members to access the website and put their views. Cllr Mrs Ezra expressed her fears that the Youth Centre may be closed, and Cllr Hawker was concerned the consultation contained leading questions. The consultation discusses campus development, but there are no proposals for a campus in Westbury.

T.2497 **MINUTES OF COMMITTEES.** The following Minutes were received and noted:

Highways, Planning & Development Committee	-	16.05.2011
Highways, Planning & Development Committee	-	20.06.2011
General Purposes Committee	-	06.06.2011

T.2498 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES.**

Highways, Planning & Development Committee 16.05.2011 P.3162. Cllr Andrews confirmed he will call a Car Parks Working Group once a reply had been received from Wiltshire Council regarding car park usage since the new charges were introduced.

General Purposes Committee 06.06.2011 G.1693. The Town Clerk reported that all the required documentation from the Westbury & District Canine Society has been received.

T.2499 **NOTICE OF MOTION received from Cllr Mrs S Ezra on 23rd March 2011.**

That the Westbury CCTV Committee is adopted as a working group of Westbury Town Council, and to be called the CCTV Working Group,

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reporting to Full Town Council. The Group to comprise up to four town councillors with the following co-opted members:

West Wilts Trading Estate (2)
Westbury Chamber of Commerce
Police
Warminster CCTV Control Room Supervisor

Approved. The following members were appointed to the CCTV Working Group:

Cllrs Mrs S Ezra, R Hawker and W D Tout.

T.2500 NOTICE OF MOTION received from Cllr D Windess on 6th June 2011.

To change the title of Mayor's Deputy back to Deputy Mayor.

Approved.

T.2501 NOTICE OF MOTION received from Cllr W D Tout on 15th June 2011.

Composition of the Management Committee.

1. Now that the Management Committee consists of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairpersons of Highways, Planning & Development (HP&D), Finance and General Purposes Committees, this negates the requirement for the immediate past Mayor to sit on this committee.
2. If any of the Committee chairpersons are unable to attend a Management Committee meeting, their respective Vice-Chairperson attends as their deputy. That minutes of the Management Committee are sent to the Vice-Chairpersons of the HP&D, Finance and General Purposes Committees.

Paragraph 2. Was amended to read as follows:

2. If any of the Committee chairmen are unable to attend a Management Team meeting, their respective Vice-Chairman attends as their deputy.

Approved.

Composition of the Finance Committee.

That if the Chairpersons of the HP&D and General Purposes Committees are elected to the Finance Committee, they are ineligible to be elected to the office of Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson of the Finance Committee.

The above was amended to read as follows:

Composition of the Finance Committee.

That if the Chairmen of the HP&D and General Purposes Committees are elected to the Finance Committee, they are ineligible to be elected to the office of Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Furthermore, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Council is ineligible to be chairman or vice-chairman of any committee.

Approved.

T.2502 NOTICE OF MOTION received from Cllr W D Tout on 15th June 2011.

Standing Orders.

That references within these Standing Orders to he/his/himself is a generic term in the legal context and refer to all genders. This paragraph to be placed before the list of contents of Standing Orders.

The motion failed.

T.2503 NOTICE OF MOTION received from Cllr Mrs S Ezra on the 27th June 2011.

Widening of the narrow footway at the Station Road end of Oldfield Road, Westbury.

This issue has been raised by the Community Area Transport Group as a priority for Westbury. The estimated cost is £15,000.00, and they have asked that the Town Council gives consideration to match funding of £5,000.00 towards this scheme. The Community Area Transport Group and the Westbury Area Board have approved £5,000 each.

Approved. The contribution of £5,000 to be funded from the Community/Highway Safety ear marked reserve.

T.2504 NOTICE OF MOTION received from Cllr S Miles on the 27th June 2011.

That this Council seeks impartial and independent outside legal advice from professionally qualified Solicitors to ascertain in Law that the Chairman of the Council is legally correct in calling an additional Full Council Meeting on a date not approved in advance by a Full Town Council Meeting and which is not classified as an Extraordinary Meeting as it appears seemingly under the 1972 Local Government Act that only an Extraordinary General Meeting can be so called.

The Clerk advised that it is perfectly legal and proper for the Town Clerk to call ordinary meetings of the Council.

The motion failed.

T.2505 NOTICE OF MOTION received from the Town Centre Viability Group on 27th June 2011.

That this council adopts the Westbury Vision and Scoping Study as prepared by Urban Practitioners.

Approved.

T.2506 FUTURE OF THE WESTBURY HOSPITAL SITE. The Westbury Branch President of the British Legion had written to the Town Council requesting the Council convenes a public meeting, and invites Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire Primary Care Trust, Eastleigh Surgery, local community groups and Dr A Murrison MP to discuss the hospital site and the legal position with regard to its ownership and future.

Cllr Jones reported that the League of Friends had looked into this matter, and confirmed the site was the property of the NHS, and nothing could be done to influence its future. It was agreed that holding such a public meeting would only give false hope, and the Clerk was instructed to write to Mr Bridges declining his suggestion, but thanking him and acknowledging his comments and concerns.

T.2507 WESTBURY FLAG. Cllr Braid had obtained a quote to supply one Westbury flag at £100.00 exc VAT, with a further five flags at £80.00 each. It was agreed to defer this matter to the Street Furniture Working Group for report to Highways, Planning & Development Committee; to clarify the planning position; and to obtain two further quotes.

T.2508 CHERNOBYL CHILDREN'S LIFE LINE – application for grant. The Clerk reported that having taken advice the Council has no specific powers to award a grant in this instance, nor did it meet the criteria under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Clerk was instructed to write to the applicant accordingly.

T.2509 CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE/MATTERS:

- a. **Wiltshire Citizens Advice Bureau.** Noted.
- b. **English Heritage – Bratton Camp & Westbury White Horse.** Noted.

T.2510 THE LAVERTON INSTITUTE TRUST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Cllr Andrews reported the project was in its fourth week of a twelve week refurbishment, and is on schedule. A niche has been uncovered behind the redundant modern panelling on the inner wall of the Main Hall, and this will be reinstated. Weekly site meetings are being held with the developer and the architect. It is necessary to take decisions at these meetings on the day to day problems arising without reference to Council.

T.2511 TOWN CENTRE VIABILITY GROUP. Cllr Mrs Ezra reported the 'Pop to the Shops' leaflets have been distributed through the White Horse News. However, the revised town maps have not yet been completed due to delays at the printers. The Clerk will be asking for the Council's copyright information for the town maps to enable him to approach other printers.

T.2512 BA13 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP. Cllr Andrews reported on the recent meeting held in Edington when the future of youth services was discussed. Wiltshire Council explained that their budget for youth services will be cut by £600,000.00 over the next four years. This year's budget is protected, but following this the majority of the reductions will be made. Two options were put, one of which called for closure of some centres, but the meeting made it quite clear that Westbury should not close. The next Westbury Area Board meeting will discuss this issue, and the deadline for submissions to the consultation on the Wiltshire Children and Young People's Trust commissioning strategy for young people aged 13 – 19 years old is 4th August. A paper will be put to the Wiltshire Council cabinet in September.

T.2513 WESTBURY TOURISM GROUP. A meeting will be held shortly.

T.2514 COMMUNICATIONS BY THE TOWN MAYOR. Since his last report, Cllr D Windess represented the Town Council at the following events:

8 th May	-	Trowbridge Mayor's Garden Party
21 st May	-	Salisbury Mayor Making
21 st May	-	Lions 38 th Charter Dinner
4 th June	-	High Sheriff's Summer Reception
5 th June	-	Melksham Civic Celebrations.Service
19 th June	-	Malmesbury Annual Mayoral Service
21 st June	-	Gave a talk to years 3 & 4 at Bratton School
25/26 th June	-	The Battle of Chippenham
26 th June	-	Wiltshire Armed Forces Day
29 th June	-	Photo call – Town Hall clock
2 nd July	-	Wilton Carnival Day

T.2515 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS. The following annual subscription was approved:

Community First (2011-2012)	-	£36.00
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However, it was agreed the Council would not continue its membership of the South West Regional Board.

T.2516 ACCOUNTS:

a. Payment of Accounts. On report by the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, it was resolved to approve the List of Payments made since the last meeting, or to be made, and to confirm the action of the Clerk, the Mayor and one other member in signing the necessary orders for payment and Bank Transfers as follows:

06.06.2011	-	£29,297.20
04.07.2011	-	£20,325.74

Cllrs Mrs Ezra and Tout raised queries with regard to payments made to Urban Practitioners, Wessex Water and Cllr W Braid.

b. Monthly Statement. Approved.

T.2517 **It was resolved that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the public and press be temporarily excluded and instructed to withdraw.**

T.2518 **LAVERTON DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING OFFICER. (PART II)**

T.2519 **THE LAVERTON – SECURITY LOCK SYSTEM.**

T.2520 **It was resolved to return to open Council.**

10.35 pm

**Signed on behalf of the Meeting
this fifth day of September 2011**

Chairman