



EVESHAM TOWN COUNCIL



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – MONDAY 14 MARCH 2016 AT 6.30PM

Town Hall, Market Square, Evesham

AGENDA

- 1 Welcome by the Town Mayor**
- 2 Apologies for Absence**
- 3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 13 April 2015 are circulated with the Agenda for adoption as a correct record.

- 4 Annual Report by Town Mayor**
- 5 Items raised by persons whose names appear on the current Register of Electors for the Town of Evesham**

Persons wishing to raise an item should first state their name and address.

Stuart Carter
Town Clerk

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Circulation as follows:

- a) Town Councillors who are registered electors for the Town of Evesham are invited to the meeting;
- b) Members who are not on said electoral register are advised that the meeting is being held for information only;
- c) The Media.

EVESHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING** of the Town of Evesham held in the Town Hall, Evesham, at 6.30pm on **MONDAY 13 APRIL 2015**

Those present:-

Chairman: Councillor C D Homer (Town Mayor)
Vice-Chairman: Councillor F Kaler (Deputy Mayor)

Councillors: Cllr A P Booth, Cllr J Bulman, Cllr A L Dyke, Cllr Mrs W D Dyke, Cllr M D Elliman, Cllr M S Goodge, Cllr Mrs B A Gurden, Cllr M Hammon, Cllr Miss E Haynes, Cllr Mrs L S Jakeman, Cllr R S W Jones, Cllr G O'Donnell, Cllr Mrs D R Raphael, Cllr R W Raphael, Cllr Mrs J E Sandalls, Cllr Mrs F S Smith, Cllr J H Smith OBE, Cllr N S Tucker, Cllr Mrs R J Whiting.

Officers: Mr S D Carter (Town Clerk), Mrs C Chambers (Finance Officer)

Approximately 17 members of the public and 1 member of the press were present.

1. Welcome by the Town Mayor

The Town Mayor, Councillor C D Homer, welcomed the public to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs J M W Taylor.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

A copy of the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 14 April 2014 had been circulated with the agenda. It was noted that Cllrs A L Dyke and Mrs W D Dyke had submitted their apologies but that these had not been recorded. It was **RESOLVED** that, subject to the aforementioned amendment to the apologies, the Minutes be taken as read and adopted.

4. Annual Report by the Town Mayor

The Town Mayor gave a report of his mayoral year. The Town Mayor highlighted how the Town Council had evolved over the year and how it was aiming to engage more with the public, siting the change to Standing Orders which permitted members of the public to address the Council and its committees regarding any item on the agenda. The Town Mayor also made reference to the recently adopted Town Plan which the Council would begin to implement after the elections and how the community would play a vital role in doing this.

5. Items Raised

- (a) Mr C Tether of Cambria Road noted that the Town Council's Town Plan Delivery Committee consisted of 7 councillors and 3 members of the community. He was of the opinion that as the community had drafted the plan, why was the delivery committee so heavily weighted towards the Council?

In response the Town mayor expressed his appreciation to the Steering Group who had drafted the Town Plan. The Town Mayor highlighted the power of the committee to co-opt individuals to the committee to lead on certain projects, he also reemphasised the ability of the public to come to the meetings and address the committee about specific items of the committee. Finally, the Town Mayor stated that all the committees would be reviewed and that if it was felt that they needed amending then the Council could do this.

- (b) Mr Bolton asked what the Town Council were doing with regards to allotment provision given that the waiting list was considered to be considerable?

The Town mayor explained that the Council continues to keep a look out for land, but the price of land is currently inhibitive as it is being priced for development, however, if anyone knew of any suitable land then they should contact the Town Clerk.

- (c) Mr P Wisbie of Watsons Lane stated that he was pleased to hear that the Town Plan was to be implemented. He asked that the Council do its utmost to communicate with the general public and make them aware of the plans priorities.

The Town Mayor agreed with Mr Wisbie's sentiment, stating that communicating is something that is important in the town plan and something that the Town Council would continue to see how they could improve upon.

- (d) Mr B Beckley from Albert Road asked if the Council could state its views on A Boards in the town?

The Town mayor stated that he wanted Evesham to thrive and that he would like to see a café culture. Whilst A boards had to be managed and placed in suitable locations, they had a role in advertising businesses and he would not want to curb this.

- (e) Mrs J Johnson of Albert Road asked if the Council still planned to install a central heating system in the Town Hall?

It was confirmed that the Council continued to pursue this, quotes had been obtained and funding investigated, and it was hoped that heating would be installed in the next 12 months.

- (f) Mr C Tether said that Worcestershire County Council (WCC) were slow at submitting their responses when dealing with planning applications, he believed this was due to lack of staff. He asked if the Council could write to WCC and take this issue up with them?

This would be a matter for the Council to consider.

- (g) Mr R Jones expressed his concern with regards to traffic in town, asking if it could be 2 way down Swan Lane.

Though this was a matter for WCC it was stated that traffic in Evesham was on the agenda and being looked into by WCC.

- (h) Mr Thompson of Lavender Walk asked why there was a section of raised road in Vine Street which he considered to be dangerous?

Again this was a matter for WCC however, it was confirmed that the raised section was to slow traffic down. It is also to encourage mixed use, a greater harmony between vehicle and pedestrian.

- (i) Mr Wisbie of Watsons Lane asked if there was any update with regards to the Abbey Bridge compensation money?

Again this was a matter for WCC, however it was stated that it was going through litigation with the contractor.

The members of the public were thanked for their participation and their interest in the town. They were also informed that there would follow a formal Town Council meeting which they were welcome to attend if they so wished.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.00pm

COUNCILLOR C D HOMER
TOWN MAYOR