



EVESHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of **EVESHAM TOWN COUNCIL** held at 6.30 pm on **MONDAY 9 JUNE 2014** in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Evesham.

Those present:

Vice Chairman: Cllr F Kaler (Deputy Town Mayor)

Councillors: Cllr A P Booth, Cllr J Bulman, Mrs W D Dyke, Cllr M D Elliman, Cllr M S Goodge, Cllr Mrs B A Gurden, Cllr Mrs L Jakeman, Cllr R A 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)

33. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors C D Homer (Town Mayor), Mrs J M W Taylor, I J Stewart, M Hammon and A L Dyke.

34. Declarations of pecuniary or other interests (if any)

Councillors Bulman, Jakeman and Mrs Sandalls declared an interest in minute 40 (Planning Applications) since they were members of Wychavon District Council's planning committee.

Councillors Mrs L Jakeman and R A Jakeman declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute 41, the New Homes Bonus report, specifically the report regarding the Bell Tower, since they sat on the Bell Tower Fundraising Committee.

Councillor Mrs F S Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute 41 as she sits on the Localism Panel at Wychavon District Council, which considers applications for New Homes Bonus funding.

35. Announcements by the Town Mayor

In the absence of the Town Mayor, there were no announcements under this item.

36. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual Town Council Meeting and Mayor Making held on 12 May 2014, and the Council meeting held 19 May 2014, copies of which had been circulated to all Members with the agenda were considered.

It was noted that Councillor N S Tucker had been present at the Annual Town Council Meeting and Mayor Making but was not recorded as such in the minutes.

It was **RESOLVED** that, with the above amendment, the minutes be adopted as a true record.

37. Committee Reports

The following report had been circulated to all Members with the agenda for adoption as a true record and authorisation for execution where necessary:-

Promotion Committee – 2 June 2014

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes be adopted as a true record and correct record.

38. Questions from Members of the Public

There were no questions were asked under this agenda item.

39. Finance

Evesham Town Council's payments and receipts for the month of May 2014 were circulated to Members with the agenda.

In response to a question it was explained that there had been a number of issues with the Town Hall lift which had resulted in a number of repairs over the past month.

The Town Clerk stated that he would investigate the two payments (83 for £163.58 and 116 for £528) for fire alarms at the Almonry.

Clerk's Note: Payments 83 and 116 were for the yearly maintenance charge. Payment 83 was taken in error and is in the process of being refunded.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council payments for the month of May, as attached at appendix A, amounting to £80,199.92 (NET) be approved and the receipts be **NOTED**.

40. Planning Applications

(a) 14/00961/PP – The Beeches Nursery – Knowle Hill
New access off Badsey Lane
<http://bit.ly/1kAkMwN>

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend that this application be approved.

(b) 14/01071/GPDE – 39 Northwick Road
Proper approval of a proposed larger home extension – replace conservatory with a single flat roof extension
<http://bit.ly/1mJ01lo>

It was **NOTED** that this application had been approved under General Permitted Development and was information only.

(c) 14/00899/CU – Land opposite Evesham Trade Centre, St Richards Road
Erection of B2 general industrial unit on previous car sales site.
<http://bit.ly/T6HJC7>

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend that this application be approved.

(d) 14/00996/PN – Restful Homes Developments – Ambulance Station, Davies Road
New 63 bed care home with associated facilities and car parking including change of use
to C2 use.

<http://bit.ly/1nXKT6s>

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend that this application be refused as the mass of the
buildings is too big and would have a negative effect on the street scene and on
neighbouring buildings.

Concern was also expressed as to the impact on the junction which is already very busy,
and the impact this might have on motorists but also the residents of the home.

The Town Council supports the development of this site but the development must be
right for the site.

(e) INRG (Solar Park) 14 Ltd – Land of Longdon Hill, Wickhamford
Installation of ground mounted photovoltaic solar arrays to provide circa 21 MW
generation capacity together with power invert systems; transformer stations; internal
access track; landscaping; security measures, fencing, access gates and associated
infrastructure.

<http://bit.ly/1faunOD>

It was explained that Evesham Town Council had not been consulted on this planning
application but that it given its proximity, Members would be interested to be informed of
it. The application was **NOTED** but Members made no comment as it was not in the
town boundary.

(f) 14/00906/GPDJ – Plexus Law, 116 High Street
Prior approval notice of proposed change of use of offices to dwelling houses (C3)

<http://bit.ly/1kprw56>

It was **NOTED** that this application had been approved under General Permitted
Development and was information only.

(g) 14/00955/CU – 32 Digby Road
Change of use to of land to domestic curtilage

<http://bit.ly/1m5oYWG>

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend that this application be approved, subject to the fence
not obscuring the view of motorists at the junction where this property is located.

(h) 14/01037/PP – 38 Martin Avenue
Replacement Garage

<http://bit.ly/1kAqzLY>

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend that this application be approved subject to the usual
conditions.

41. New Homes Bonus Working Group – Recommendations

Members had been emailed a report, which was also tabled at the meeting, detailing the recommendations of the New Homes Bonus Working Group (NHBWG).

The NHBWG had discussed the issue of earmarking this year's allocation, with reference to the two major projects that the Council had committed to support from NHB funding, these being the Almonry (£150,000), and the Bell Tower project (up to £100,000).

Regarding the Almonry it was **RESOLVED** that £50,000 from this year's NHB allocation be earmarked for this project.

With regards to the Bell Tower Project it was **RESOLVED** that the Council submit the bid for £50,000 to Wychavon District Council (WDC). The NHBWG had also recommended that the Town Council ask that a further £50,000 be requested from future year's allocation. Members were concerned that WDC would not approve this bid for future year's funding; there was also concern that the Town Council would face a penalty if receiving an advanced payment, i.e. a percentage of the total funding would be lost to compensate WDC for lost interest payments, and that this should be clarified. It was therefore **RESOLVED** not to request an advance payment of £50,000 for this project at the present time, pending further clarification as to the penalty and the reasoning.

Members also considered a recommendation to support the Town Hall Photo Project with NHB funding of £5,000. It was explained that the cost of this project had increased significantly from the original estimates, and that there was a funding shortfall. It was further explained that the Clerk hoped to obtain Section 106 funding for this project however, this was not guaranteed, hence the request for NHB funding. Members stated that increased expenditure on this project was not ideal and given that there was a chance that section 106 funding would be forthcoming, it was **RESOLVED** to decline submitting an application for NHB.

The NHBWG also stated that they would consider earmarking £5,000 for the project that is aiming to purchase additional new inclusive play equipment at Crown Meadow play area. Members stated that they would like further information on the project and it was agreed to defer making a recommendation on this proposal.

42. Reports from Council's Representatives

There were no reports made under this agenda item.

NOTED

43. Matters of urgency raised for information only at the discretion of the Town Mayor

There were no matters raised under this agenda item.

NOTED

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.50pm.

COUNCILLOR C D HOMER
TOWN MAYOR