

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF TETBURY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Held in the Council Chamber, Tetbury on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT:**

Chairman: The Mayor, Councillor Stephen Hirst

Councillors: S Ball, P Burrell, J Easterbrook, M Lea, I Maslin, E Monks, C Morgan, K Painter, T Stevenson, A Walsh and J Williams (Deputy Mayor)

Officers: Town Clerk – Stephen Holley, Deputy Clerk – Tara Niblett

Public: PC Leah Davis and 17 members of the Public

**TC01. 07/17 Apologies:**

Received from Councillor Edge

**TC02. 07/17 Declarations of Interest:**

Councillor Walsh declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Member Motion to Re-Visit Resolution on the Burial Ground (Minute TC04. 07/17) in that he was the President of Tetbury Rugby Football Club, a non-pecuniary interest which would allow him to remain in the meeting and vote.

**TC03. 07/17 Public Consultation:**

Mr Dyke informed the Council of a Councillor's recent behaviour in a public place where a member of his family received verbal abuse. An email had been sent to the Town Clerk from Mr Chivers who also received verbal abuse from the same Councillor. The Police were aware of the incident. Mr Dyke had requested the removal or resignation of this Councillor. The Councillor was given the opportunity to respond to these allegations and informed the Council this was public slander. The Mayor would write to Mr Dyke once the allegations had been investigated.

*At this point in the meeting the Chairman agreed to amend the order of business to bring forward the following item in view of the Public interest.*

**TC04. 07/17 Member motion to revisit Resolution to phase the development of the extension to the Burial Ground:**

Following the decision made at the Full Council in June 2017, to phase the development of the extended burial ground, a motion had been received from the required six Councillors requesting that the decision be re-visited in the light of new information from the Tetbury Rugby Club. The new information was "...that the Rugby Club was the main user of the southern end of the Recreation Ground until a few weeks ago when it left on request of the Dolphins Hall Management Committee specifically in order to facilitate its use as Burial Ground. The Junior Footballers have been a minor user of the land on a few occasions only, and they have stated previously that the land was not suitable for their purposes..." It was proposed by Councillor Lea, seconded Councillor Williams to revisit this decision – APPROVED, with 10 in favour, 2 against.

In the ensuing discussion, representatives from the Tetbury Rugby Club and Tetbury Youth Football Club were allowed to put their points of view forward. It was explained that the Council's former CEO had served the Dolphins Hall Management Committee with two years notice informing them of the Council's decision to extend the existing Burial Ground into the Recreation Ground taking 25 metres from what was currently used as a training ground. This still allowed both clubs enough room to train in this area and the MUGA would still be in place. Following a lively debate, it was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded Councillor Ball to take an initial 12.5 metres of the 25 metres from today's date as burial space, erect a dry stone wall leaving 12.5 metres for the Rugby and Football Clubs to use for 10 years – APPROVED with 6 in favour, 4 against, 2 abstentions.

**TC05. 07/17 Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017:**

Following minor amendments it was proposed by Councillor Walsh, seconded Councillor Ball

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017 be approved as a correct record. APPROVED, with 8 in favour, 4 abstentions.

**TC06. 07/17 Progress Reports:**

Mayor's report: With regard to the note on a meeting held with representatives of the town's pre-school playgroups, Councillor Walsh informed the Council he had written to the local MP and MEP regarding pre-school provision in Tetbury; unfortunately no money had been allocated to the GL8 postcode.

Town Clerk's report: A meeting had been held with representatives of Lloyds Bank and the Fire Station Premises Manager regarding siting of mobile banking unit. Attended two training events.

Grounds Team report: A new wider mower was on order, a new dog waste bin had been installed along the Old Railway track, the Grounds Foreman had completed a playground management course.

**TC07. 07/17 Brief updates from Feoffees, Dolphins Hall, Rail Lands Trust:**

Feoffees: Nothing to report.

Dolphins Hall: Repaired pot holes in driveway. Refurbishment of the hall would be taking place once the S106 contributions had been received.

Tetbury Rail Lands Regeneration Trust: Currently had vacancies for four Trustees. Interviews had been arranged for two paid positions – an Art Centre Manager and an Administrator. The Café would be now open on six days a week during the summer.

**TC08. 07/17 Working Group Reports:**

Highways: A meeting had taken place with Councillor Painter being elected as Chairman. Concerns had been raised regarding the timescale for the pedestrian improvements at the bottom of Long Street which is scheduled for 2018/19. The Group also felt the pedestrian railings were not in keeping with the surrounding property. A list of priorities had been given to County Councillor Hirst to discuss with GCC Highways which were suitable for a Traffic Regulation Order. The CRO was thanked for her report.

Website: Awaiting confirmation that members of the Heritage and Regeneration Committee were in agreement with the new 'Visit Tetbury' logo. Once approved, the web designer could proceed with producing the new website; a special meeting was to be set up in August to approve the design.

**TC09. 07/17 Police report:**

41 crimes had been reported between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017, compared to 43 for the same period of 2016. These figures were made up of 5 incidents of burglary, 11 of violence, 17 of theft, 4 of criminal damage, 1 sexual offence and 3 incidents of fraud.

**TC10. 07/17 Co-option of Councillors to fill two vacancies:**

Mrs Nikki Ind and Mr Shaun Scotford were co-opted and both took their place at the table.

**TC11. 07/17 NPHAA Allotments update:**

It was noted that the Council had decided not to appoint a representative at the Annual Meeting in May, due to there being two vacancies on the Council. The NPHAA had requested that a representative be appointed at the earliest opportunity due to various concerns. The NPHAA would soon submit a request for the installation of new water troughs on site. The Clerk reminded the Council that while the NPHAA operated the site, the Council was still effectively the landlord and had responsibility for infrastructure provision.

**TC12. 07/17 Grant Requests:**

Citizens Advice Bureau: between July 2016 and June 2017 the CAB had helped 152 households in Tetbury. The Outreach grant request for £3,800 proposed by Councillor Burrell and seconded by Councillor Williams was APPROVED unanimously.

St Mary's Playgroup: – The Finance and Scrutiny Committee had already approved a small donation of £500 towards the grant request of £1,500 to fund members of staff to complete

Level 3 Forest School Leader training. It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded Ball to approve the remaining £1,000 of this grant request – APPROVED unanimously.

**TC13. 07/17 Correspondence received:**

All Councillors and staff had been invited to Tetbury in Bloom's eighth Open Gardens Day, on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

**TC14. 07/17 Brief County, District and Town Councillor reports:**

County Councillor Hirst: – Repairs would be carried out on the crossing outside the Post Office and Hampton Street.

District Councillor Stevenson: – The defibrillator allowance and WWI memorial money was still available.

Councillor Walsh: – Reported that there were no 'Give Way' signs in Church Lane, and a planter on the Green was causing wheelchair access issues.

Councillor Morgan: – Advised that she had recently visited a town in which the shop windows displayed posters saying 'Use or lose your local bus' and recommended similar for Tetbury.

Councillor Lea: – Requested that the Council move quickly to setting up rent and leases on the land acquired following tonight's decision and to provide an announcement to the town on the decision made, requested that the Council write to the Wilson Trust regarding this parcel of land. Requested clarification on voting process for the co-option of new Councillors if it was felt a candidate was not deemed suitable, the Town Clerk relayed the Elections Manager's advice that it was every Council's duty to fill Councillor vacancies as promptly as possible.

Councillor Painter: – Referred to a query on the validity of the decisions made at the previous meeting, to which the Town Clerk replied he had taken advice from the GAPTC who had confirmed that all decisions were legal. Recommended that the Council now look at removing the MUGA as this was now unfit for purpose – this would be referred to the Heritage and Regeneration Committee. AMEY had cut trees down in Conygar without any notices being posted and had left tree stumps which were a trip hazard, unfortunately there was no funding to remove the roots or stumps.

Councillor Ball: – Reported that the flowers outside the Town Council Offices looked stunning and expressed thanks to the Grounds staff.

Councillor Burrell: – Requested that the Council contact the Wilson Trust and West family regarding ownership of the land for the extension to the burial ground.

**TC15. 07/17 Items for inclusion on the next Agenda:**

Accessibility in the town, Representation of Committees for new Councillors

**TC16. 07/17 Date for next meeting:**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017, 7pm

**TC17. 07/17 Exclusion of the Public and Press:**

It was RESOLVED that under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the Public and Press be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business on the grounds it involved the likely disclosure of confidential information (as defined in paragraphs (1)(2) and (4) of Part I of Schedule 12A to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 [Information relating to an individual; Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual; and Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations for negotiations in connection with any labour relations matter]), and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information concerned. Unanimous.

**TC18. 07/17 Employment matter:**

It had been recommended by the Finance and Scrutiny Committee that the contract of temporary employment for one of the Council's Grounds Team become permanent. Proposed by Councillor Burrell and seconded by Councillor Morgan. APPROVED unanimously.

*Note: the above item was considered in Closed Session for the reasons agreed in Minute TC17. 07/17, but the substance of the decision in this Minute is not Exempt/Confidential.*

Meeting closed 9.55pm

Chairman ..... Dated .....