

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14 July 2010 at 7.30pm in the Sportsman Meeting Room, Birchwood Leisure Centre, Longmead, Hatfield.

PRESENT: Councillor L. Clark – Town Mayor
Councillor D. Kay – Deputy Town Mayor
Councillor M. Alder Councillor S. Laver-Walton
Councillor D. Berry Councillor H. Morgan
Councillor H. Berry Councillor R. Smith
Councillor M. Clark Councillor M. White
Councillor G. Wiltshire

OFFICERS: C. A. Lloyd - Town Clerk
P. Widdicombe – Deputy Town Clerk & RFO

11. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S. Atkinson, Councillor C. Juggins, Councillor K. Langley and Councillor R. Wheeler

12. COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor advised that at the next meeting of the Council she would be asking Members to consider an event to recognise local young volunteers.

13. QUESTION TIME

Mr John Brindle addressed Members on the provision of a sports Stadium at Angerland.

The Clerk was requested to bring a report to the next meeting of the Council together with the views of North Mymms Parish Council on the proposal.

14. MINUTES

The minutes of the Council meetings held on 19th May 2010 were approved and signed by the Mayor.

15. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

16. QUESTIONS

There were no questions pursuant to Standing Order No. 25.

17. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a) Planning Committee – 12th May 2010

The Minutes of the above Committee were submitted.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2010 be received and any recommendations therein be approved.

b) Leisure Committee – 26th May 2010

The Minutes of the above Committee were submitted.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 26th May 2010 be received and any recommendations therein be approved.

c) Resources and Policy Committee – 9th June 2010

The Minutes of the above Committee were submitted.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 9th June 2010 be received and any recommendations therein be approved.

d) Planning Committee – 16th June 2010

The Minutes of the above Committee were submitted.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2010 be received and any recommendations therein be approved.

18. ACCOUNTS 2009/2010

Members noted the draft accounts circulated by the Responsible Finance Officer.

Members were advised that the accounts complied with the Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Entities. It was acknowledged that this had involved the RFO in considerable extra work and he was thanked for this effort and producing an excellent report.

RESOLVED that the draft accounts be approved.

19. DRAFT PRESS AND MEDIA PROTOCOL

Members noted the Protocol circulated and RESOLVED that it be approved.

20. MODEL STANDING ORDERS AND DRAFT FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Members noted the Model Standing Orders and Draft Financial Regulations circulated and RESOLVED that they be approved.

21. PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

RESOLVED that Councillor D. Kay be appointed to the Planning Committee to fill the vacant seat.

22. LICENCE VARIATION – THE GABLES NEWGATE STREET VILLAGE

The Clerk had sent the following objection to the Licensing Officer as the closing date for receipt of objections had been 12 July.

New Gables Restaurant Newgate Street Village - To add/amend Plays, Films, Indoor Sports, Recorded Music, Dancing, Making Music & Dancing, Items Similar, Late Night Refreshment, Alcohol, and Opening times. Generally 0900/0030 except Fridays & Saturdays until 01.30 and licensing hours to be extended to 2am plus 30 minutes drinking up time for 22 days of the year (Easter, Christmas, Festivals etc)

This Council has been asked to object to the above application by local residents who have raised concerns regarding public nuisance (emails attached).

The New Gables application is out of proportion to its location and fails to take into account the quiet, rural, residential location in which it is situated. The amended licence will harm and cause nuisance to the public as a whole.

Patrons exiting the establishment at very late times of night or early morning are likely to be more noticeable than if located in a town because of the very quiet nature of the area. Noise will be amplified and cause nuisance.

Bearing in mind that the restaurant has no off road car parking – the village hall and recreation ground car park is not for use by patrons of the restaurant – it will materially increase the level of on-street parking in the area. The parking of cars on the street will create further noise from car doors being opened and closed and engines being started at unacceptable times.

The licence application fails to adequately detail how amplified music will be prevented from adversely affecting residents when the patio doors are left open on warm summer evenings or when smokers are entering or exiting the premises.

This Council therefore requests that the application to the variation to The New Gables licence be declined.

RESOLVED that the objection raised by the Clerk on behalf of local residents be approved.

23. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the date of the Council meeting would be 22nd September 2010.

Closure: 20:30

Mayor