

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 7.30pm in the Sportsman Meeting Room, Birchwood Leisure Centre, Longmead, Hatfield.

PRESENT:                   Councillor Howard Morgan – Town Mayor  
                                  Councillor Caron Juggins – Deputy Town Mayor  
                                  Councillor Mike Alder                   Councillor Sheila Jones  
                                  Councillor Dean Archer                Councillor Stan Laver-Walton  
                                  Councillor Linda Clark                Councillor Ron Wheeler  
                                  Councillor Mick Clark                 Councillor Margaret White  
                                  Councillor Colin Croft

OFFICERS:                 Carrie Lloyd (Town Clerk)  
                                  Paul Widdicombe (Deputy Town Clerk)

50.    APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Peter Heyman, Councillor Kim Langley, Councillor Linda Mendez and Councillor Geoff Wiltshire

51.    PRESENTATION BY TURNBERRY CONSULTING ON THE UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE MASTERPLAN

Members received a presentation on the University 2020 Masterplan which set out proposals to demolish some buildings and build a new science block and student accommodation at the College Lane Campus. Minor work was planned for the de Havilland Campus which involved environmental enrichment more than large scale building work.

52.    QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

53.    MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2011 were approved and signed by the Mayor.

54.    DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

Councillors Howard Morgan, Caron Juggins and Colin Croft declared an interest as members of Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council.

55. QUESTIONS

There were no questions pursuant to Standing order No. 9a.

56. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

**a) Planning Committee – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

The Minutes of the above Committee were submitted.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2011 be received and any recommendations therein be approved.

**b) Leisure Committee – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2011**

The Minutes of the above Committee were submitted.

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2011 be received and any recommendations therein be approved.

**c) Resources and Policy Committee – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

The Minutes of the above Committee were submitted.

RESOLVED that

- (i) the Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011 be received;
- (ii) the risk assessments be approved and the work planned or undertaken to reduce the scores be noted; and
- (iii) the Annual External Audit Report 2010/11 be noted and the actions approved.

57. JUBILEE BEACON

Members noted the invitation to light a beacon for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the proposal already in place to light one at Hatfield House.

RESOLVED that the invitation be declined.

58. CLOSURE OF RESOURCES LIBRARY

Members considered the proposal by the County Council and RESOLVED that the following objections be made;

- Herts. residents would no longer be able to browse the main stock for loan.
- The music and drama stock for use by Herts groups would be on view on only one late evening.

- Hatfield area residents would have library facilities for only 3 days & 2 half-days (at the town library)
- Hatfield area residents would lose the use of 10 computers which are now available at the Resources Library, and the working and reading space.
- Hatfield area residents would have to travel to Welwyn Garden City to use the reference library and the computers etc.
- There are parking charges at Welwyn Garden City to stay longer than 20 minutes.
- The whole plan is guided by the need to clear the site for the incinerator and is a scandal.

## 59. SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Members agreed the following Substitute Members list;

Mayor - Councillor H. Morgan  
 Deputy Mayor - Councillor C. Juggins  
 Council Leader - Councillor M. Clark,  
 Deputy Leader - Councillor L. Clark  
 Leader of the Opposition - Councillor M. White  
 The Leader and Deputy Leader have automatic voting rights on the 3 main committees.

### **Resources & Policy Committee**

Chairman - Councillor G. Wiltshire, Vice Chairman - vacancy  
 Members - Councillor M. Alder, Councillor C. Juggins, Councillor S. Laver-Walton, Councillor L. Mendez, Councillor M. White  
*Substitute Members - Councillor D. Archer, Councillor C. Croft, Councillor P. Heyman, Councillor S. Jones, Councillor K. Langley, Councillor H. Morgan*

### **Leisure Committee**

Chairman - Councillor C. Juggins, Vice Chairman - Councillor S. Laver-Walton  
 Members - Councillor M. Alder, Councillor D. Archer, Councillor S. Jones, Councillor H. Morgan, Councillor G. Wiltshire  
*Substitute Members - Councillor C. Croft, Councillor P. Heyman, Councillor K. Langley, Councillor L. Mendez, Councillor R. Wheeler, Councillor M. White*

### **Planning Committee**

Chairman - Councillor L. Clark, Vice Chairman - Councillor H. Morgan  
 Members - Councillor C. Croft, Councillor S. Jones, Councillor S. Laver-Walton, Councillor R. Wheeler, Councillor M. White  
 Substitute Members - Councillor D. Archer, Councillor P. Heyman, Councillor K. Langley, Councillor G. Wiltshire

## 60. WORLD WAR 1

Members considered the request from the Hatfield History Society regarding plans to commemorate the centenary of World War 1 in 2014.

Members were mindful that the Council no longer had resources to plan events but the grant scheme existed to support Community Events and a grant application would be appropriate in this case.

RESOLVED that the Hatfield History Society be requested to come forward with their suggestions to mark the event.

#### 61. PROPOSAL TO CHANGE PLANNING PROCEDURE

Members considered the proposal by Local Works. It was recognised that this Council already enjoyed significant pre-application discussions that greatly assisted their considerations of larger applications and this resource would be useful to all Councils.

RESOLVED that this Council supports the proposal for new powers for parish and town councils to help them when assessing major planning applications. It seeks new planning guidance to urge major developers, as a matter of planning procedure, to:

- (i) Attend a local council meeting to answer questions about their planning application, if the local council wishes; and
- (ii) Provide resources, if the local council wishes, to enable the local council to assess developer's applications based on a professional critique of the developer's evidence.

Closure: 20.10

Mayor