

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE  
OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL, HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL,  
PORTWAY, ON MONDAY, 13 JULY 2009 AT 7.30 PM**

Committee Members Present: Councillor Peter Kent (Chairman)  
Councillors B Armitage, M Green, Mrs J Hannaby,  
P O'Leary and Mrs L Todd

Deputy Clerk Mrs H Kell

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Geden, E Goldsmith, Major J Sibbald, and Mrs E Turner.

**Declarations of Interest**

None

**Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 June 2009**

The minutes were approved and signed.

**6. Statements and Questions from the Public**

None

**7. Matters Arising**

(a) Bus Shelter, Harcourt Road

The Deputy Clerk was requested to contact the County Council to enquire as to the progress in removing the bus shelter in Harcourt Road. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

(b) Seat Seesen Way

The Deputy Clerk reported that the seat would be installed in the very near future. The Committee also requested that the Deputy Clerk contact the County Council with regard to weed clearing in the area. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

(c) Initiatives to revitalise Wantage Town Centre

(i) Annual Town Carnival

The Committee noted that although the town carnival had not been held for a number of years, it had been previously very successful. After some discussion

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ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage  
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby  
IT WAS RESOLVED that whilst the Town Council would support and help any organisation wishing to revive the town carnival, it could not undertake the organising of the carnival.

(ii) Antique Fair

It was reported that the Wantage Rejuvenated Committee wished to hold an antique fair on the Market Square on Sunday, 27 September 2009. It was agreed that support be given to the Rejuvenated Committee's plans and the use of the Market Square, for an antique fair, be approved. It was to be suggested to the Committee that plans for an alternative venue be made, in case the weather was inclement on the day.

**8 Market Place**

(a) King Alfred's Statue, Bronze Plaque

It was felt that there should be no further delay in installing the new bronze plaque and the Deputy Clerk was to obtain a date from Mr Humphries by which the plaque would be fitted.  
**Action: Deputy Clerk**

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman,  
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby  
IT WAS RESOLVED that the Mayor write a letter of thanks to Mr Humphries for all his hard work.  
**Action: Town Mayor**

(b) New signage for town centre

The Chairman reported that the Signage Working Party had met on Thursday, 9 July 2009 and the following recommendations for new signage in the town centre had been made:

- (i) Replacement of three parking signs on the Market Place with two smaller signs with clear instructions for:
1. Parking for the normal working week;
  2. Sunday parking; and
  3. Market day parking

ON THE PROPOSITION of the Chairman,  
SECONDED by Councillor Armitage  
IT WAS RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be requested to draft the wording for the two new parking signs.  
**Action: Town Clerk**

(ii) New and improved finger post signage for the town centre.

1. Additional direction fingers on current finger posts at the eastern and western end of the Market Place. The western end post was to include

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directions to the new shopping centre. The eastern end post was to include directions to the shopping centre and King's Walk.

2. New finger posts to be erected:

- (a) At the junction of Grove Street and King's Walk, giving directions to the new shopping centre and the town centre
- (b) Outside the Sainsbury's shop, giving directions to the town centre and the library.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby  
SECONDED by the Chairman

IT WAS RESOLVED that quotes for additional finger directions and new finger posts be obtained and that application for funding be submitted to the Wantage Joint Environmental Trust. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

(c) French Market

It was noted that fewer people than usual had attended the French Market on Sunday, 12 July 2009.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor O'Leary  
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby

IT WAS RESOLVED that the French Market become part of the Rejuvenated Committee's programme of events.

The Committee was considering events on a specific weekend each month. It was to be suggested that bell ringers, and the Wantage Silver Band be invited to the Christmas Market in November to give a more traditional feel to the market. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

(d) Craft Fair, 5 July 2009

The Wantage Rejuvenated Committee were congratulated on the success of the Craft Fair held on 5 July. There were concerns at the parking of vehicles on the Market Square in contravention of the parking Order and it was recommended that a policy on towing vehicles away be considered.

**9. Cemetery Items**

(a) Tree works at the cemetery entrance were to commence during the week of the 13 July. Work to the entrance of Chain Hill Cemetery would commence later in the summer.

(b) Other Cemetery Matters

(i) Illegal dumping of rubbish at Chain Hill Cemetery

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A report was received about illegal dumping of building type materials at the cemetery. The Deputy Clerk reported that additional skips had been ordered in order to clear the waste from the area.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby  
SECONDED by Councillor Kent

IT WAS RESOLVED that skips at the cemetery be changed on a more regular basis to help to stop flowers, etc from graves being put around the skip, which then encouraged other rubbish to be dumped. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

(ii) Illegal cans and bottles of alcohol on graves at Chain Hill Cemetery

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby  
SECONDED by Councillor Kent

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Council should continue to ensure that its policy that all unauthorised cans and bottles of alcohol be removed from graves in Chain Hill Cemetery. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

(iii) Sawyer Crucifix at Chain Hill Cemetery

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage  
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby

IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the request from the Rev'd Canon John Salter that the Sawyer crucifix be removed from Chain Hill Cemetery and relocated at the northern side of the churchyard of the Parish Church.

The Committee noted that, following approval by the Town Council, the Church would make the appropriate Faculty application to the Chancellor of the Diocese.

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

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WPF/HK/CT