

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN
COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL, PORTWAY,
ON MONDAY, 18 MAY, 2009, AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present: Councillor P M O'Leary (Town Mayor)
Councillors B H Armitage, Mrs P Brundle, A Crawford
(part), E C Goldsmith, M Green, Mrs J Hannaby, P Kent,
J Morgan, Mrs J Reynolds, Major J Sibbald, Dr I C E Turcu
and Mrs E A Turner.

Clerk: Mr W P Falkenau.

Deputy Clerk: Mrs H Kell.

One member of the public.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Crawford for late arrival,
A J Geden, Ms N J Hanna and Mrs L Todd.

Declarations of Interest

These were to be given as the meeting proceeded.

Statements and Questions from the Public

None.

1. Election of Town Mayor

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Brundle,
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Councillor O'Leary be Town Mayor.

2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Councillor O'Leary thanked Councillors for electing him for a second term. He
regarded it as an honour. He signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3. Election of Deputy Town Mayor

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Goldsmith,
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Councillor Major Sibbald be Deputy
Town Mayor.

Councillor Mrs Turner was thanked for her dedicated work over her three-year term
as Deputy Town Mayor.

**4. Appointment of Standing Committees and Election of Committee Chairmen
and Vice-Chairmen**

The Clerk had prepared a schedule detailing the preferences submitted by Councillors
for each Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby,

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN
COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL, PORTWAY,
ON MONDAY, 18 MAY, 2009, AT 7.30 P.M.**

IT WAS RESOLVED that in order to increase the number of Councillors on the Recreation and Amenities Committee, that Councillors Armitage and Major Sibbald also be included under this Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
SECONDED by Councillor Major Sibbald,
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Councillors be members of the principal Committees for which they had indicated first and second preferences, with Councillors Armitage and Major Sibbald also being members of the Recreation and Amenities Committee. The Town Mayor would be an ex-officio member of all Committees. The membership of other Committees would be in accordance with the expressions of wishes given by Councillors. Membership of Committees was therefore agreed as follows:-

(a) Planning Committee

Councillors Armitage, Mrs Brundle, Crawford, Goldsmith, Kent, O'Leary, Morgan, Mrs Reynolds, Major Sibbald, Mrs Todd and Dr Turcu.

(b) Recreation and Amenities Committee

Councillors Armitage, Mrs Brundle, Crawford, Geden, Mrs Hannaby, Morgan, O'Leary, Mrs J Reynolds, Major Sibbald, Dr Turcu and Mrs Turner.

(c) Environmental Committee

Councillors Armitage, Geden, Goldsmith, Green, Mrs Hannaby, Kent, Morgan, O'Leary, Major Sibbald, Mrs Todd and Mrs Turner.

(d) Community Health Committee*

Councillors Armitage, Crawford, Mrs Hannaby, Kent, O'Leary, Major Sibbald, Mrs Todd and Dr Turcu.

(e) Secondary School Committee*

Councillors Armitage, Mrs Hannaby, O'Leary, Major Sibbald, Mrs Todd and Dr Turcu.

(f) Policy, Management and Finance Committee

All Councillors.

*It was noted that these Committees were open to Grove Parish Councillors and other members of the community who wished to participate.

Election of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen

Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen were elected by members of each Committee.

(a) Planning Committee

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Brundle,
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Councillor Major Sibbald be Chairman of the Planning Committee.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN
COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL, PORTWAY,
ON MONDAY, 18 MAY, 2009, AT 7.30 P.M.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Dr Turcu,
IT WAS MOVED that Councillor Crawford be Vice-Chairman of the Planning
Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Goldsmith,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Reynolds,
IT WAS MOVED that Councillor Morgan be Vice-Chairman of the Planning
Committee.

In a vote, 4 were in favour of Councillor Crawford, 4 in favour of Councillor Morgan.
Councillor O'Leary used his casting vote in favour of Councillor Crawford.

(b) Recreation and Amenities Committee

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Brundle,
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Reynolds be Chairman
of the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Dr Turcu,
SECONDED by Councillor Armitage,
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Turner be Vice-
Chairman of the Recreation and Amenities Committee.

(c) Environmental Committee

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Major Sibbald,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Councillor Kent be Chairman of the
Environmental Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Turner,
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Todd be Vice-
Chairman of the Environmental Committee.

(d) Secondary School Committee

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
SECONDED by Councillor Major Sibbald,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor O'Leary be Chairman of the Secondary School
Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Turner,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Major Sibbald be Vice-Chairman of the
Secondary School Committee.

(e) Community Health Committee

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Morgan,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Hananby be Chairman of the Community
Health Committee.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN
COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL, PORTWAY,
ON MONDAY, 18 MAY, 2009, AT 7.30 P.M.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Major Sibbald,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Kent be Vice-Chairman of the Hospital
Committee.

(d) Policy, Management and Finance Committee

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
SECONDED by Councillor Major Sibbald,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Armitage be Chairman of the Policy,
Management and Finance Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Dr Turcu be Vice-Chairman of the Policy,
Management and Finance Committee.

5. Appointment of Internal Auditor

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor O'Leary,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Mr. Roger Symes be appointed as Internal Auditor for the
ensuing year.

6. Appointment of Members on Joint Committees

(a) Wantage and Grove Traffic Advisory Committee

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
IT WAS MOVED that Councillor Mrs Hannaby, Major Sibbald and Dr Turcu be
members of the Traffic Advisory Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Major Sibbald,
SECONDED by Councillor Morgan,
IT WAS MOVED that Councillor Mrs Brundle be a member of the Traffic Advisory
Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Morgan,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Reynolds,
IT WAS MOVED that Councillor Goldsmith be a member of the Traffic Advisory
Committee.

There being only four members to be appointed to this Committee, a vote was taken
with each member casting four votes. This resulted in 10 votes for Mrs Hannaby, 8
for Major Sibbald, 9 for Dr Turcu, 8 for Mrs Brundle and 5 for Councillor Goldsmith.

Councillors Mrs Brundle, Mrs Hannaby, Major Sibbald and Dr Turcu would therefore
serve on the Wantage and Grove Traffic Advisory Committee for the ensuing year.
It was agreed that Councillor Goldsmith should act as substitute, if any of the
members were unable to attend.

(b) Joint Environmental Trust

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN
COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL, PORTWAY,
ON MONDAY, 18 MAY, 2009, AT 7.30 P.M.

SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
IT WAS MOVED that Councillors Mrs Reynolds and Mrs Turner be members of the
Joint Environmental Trust.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Morgan,
SECONDED by Councillor Major Sibbald,
IT WAS MOVED that Councillor Goldsmith be a member of the Joint Environmental
Trust.

There being no other nominations, it was agreed that the above three Councillors be
members of the Wantage Joint Environmental Trust.

(c) Joint Economic Forum

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Major Sibbald,
IT WAS MOVED that Councillors Armitage, Major Sibbald and Dr Turcu be
members of the Joint Economic Forum.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Morgan,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Reynolds,
IT WAS MOVED that Councillors Goldsmith and Mrs Reynolds be members of the
Joint Economic Forum.

There being no other nominations, it was agreed that the above five Councillors be
members of the Joint Economic Forum.

7. Appointment of Representatives on Other Bodies

(a) Vale and Downland Museum Trust

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Morgan,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Green be nominated as a Trustee of the Vale
and Downland Museum Trust.

(b) Independent Advice Centre

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Major Sibbald,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Hannaby be nominated as the Council's
trustee on the Independent Advice Centre.

(c) Wantage Caring Network

It was queried whether the Network was still operating. The Clerk was to investigate.
If it was still active, an appointment should be made at a meeting of the Policy,
Management and Finance Committee.

(d) Parish Transport Representative

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Major Sibbald,
SECONDED by Councillor Morgan,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Major Sibbald be the Council's parish transport
representative, with Councillor Mrs Hannaby as substitute.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN
COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL, PORTWAY,
ON MONDAY, 18 MAY, 2009, AT 7.30 P.M.

(e) Wantage Day Centre Management Committee

The Clerk was to investigate whether this Committee was still active. If it was, an appointment should be made at a meeting of the Policy, Management and Finance Committee.

(f) Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils

No Wantage Town Councillor had attended an OALC meeting in the past few years due to the infrequency of meetings, and the meetings generally being held on a Monday evening. It was agreed not to appoint a representative to the OALC.

(g) Executive Committee of Wantage, Grove and District Twinning Committee

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Dr Turcu,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Reynolds be the Council's representative on the Executive Committee.

(h) Wantage and District Chamber of Commerce

(i) Dickensian Evening Working Party

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Morgan,
IT WAS MOVED that Councillor Mrs Hannaby be a member of the Dickensian Evening Working Party.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor O'Leary,
SECONDED by Councillor Major Sibbald,
IT WAS MOVED that Councillors Green and Mrs Turner be members of the Dickensian Evening Working Party.

(ii) Display Committee

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Dr Turcu,
SECONDED by Councillor Armitage,
IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs Reynolds be a member of the Display Committee.

8. Approval of Payment of Grants for 2009/2010

A memorandum, prepared by the Clerk detailing grants included in the budgets agreed in January, was noted.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Morgan,
SECONDED by Councillor Armitage,
IT WAS RESOLVED that payments as per the memorandum be paid in accordance with the Council's policy.

Dickensian Evening	£1,300
Displays	£3,660
Independent Advice Centre	£3,700
Joint Economic Forum	£1,000
Joint Environmental Trust	£4,600
Wantage Museum	£16,600

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN
COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL, PORTWAY,
ON MONDAY, 18 MAY, 2009, AT 7.30 P.M.

Visitor Information Point	£5,580
Twinning Association	£640
Wantage Counselling Service	£590
Wantage Summer Festival	£1,180

9. Approval of Signatories for Bank Mandate

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Morgan,
IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor,
Committee Chairmen and the Town Clerk be cheque signatories, with any three to
sign.

10. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 6 April, 2009

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Major Sibbald,
SECONDED by Councillor Morgan,
IT WAS RESOLVED that the minutes be approved and signed.

11. Other Business

(a) Market Place Consultation : 15 and 16 May, 2009

There had been a reasonable amount of interest shown in the consultation event.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Armitage,
SECONDED by Councillor Dr Turcu,
IT WAS MOVED that in order to achieve wider public consultation, the display
boards be placed in the Museum for a number of days, subject to obtaining the
agreement of the Museum, and that a set also be displayed in the Local Services
Point. If this was not possible, the Wantage Library should also be considered.

An A4 sheet featuring the plans and the questionnaire together had proved popular.
The Clerk was to investigate whether sets could be prepared for distribution to
schools. **Action : Clerk**

(b) Vale and Downland Museum Trust

It was noted that the Museum had recently appointed a new Administrator.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor O'Leary,
SECONDED by Councillor Major Sibbald,
IT WAS RESOLVED to invite the Administrator to attend a meeting of the Policy,
Management and Finance Committee to report on his initial experiences and findings
in his new role.

(c) Displays Committee

There had been further dialogue concerning the future organizational arrangements
for the Displays Committee.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mrs Hannaby,
SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Reynolds,
IT WAS RESOLVED that this be referred to a meeting of the Policy, Management
and Finance Committee with a view to the Town Council taking a more active role in
the Committee whilst maintaining partnership working. **Action : Clerk**

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WANTAGE TOWN
COUNCIL HELD IN WANTAGE CIVIC HALL, PORTWAY,
ON MONDAY, 18 MAY, 2009, AT 7.30 P.M.

(d) Town Mayor's Recent Activities

The Town Mayor reported on events he had been involved in, including the successful Civic Visit and Town Mayor's Ball.

(e) "Wantage Rejuvenated"

A new group "Wantage Rejuvenated" had been set up in response to the criticism in the Daily Mail regarding dereliction in the Town Centre. The Chamber of Commerce was giving its active support to the initiative. Councillor O'Leary urged that the Town Council make reasonable contributions to support the Chamber's work. It was agreed that this be referred to the Policy, Management and Finance Committee for its consideration. The Group was to be asked to provide the Town Council with a brief on what its aims were. **Action : Clerk**

Councillor Crawford arrived.

(f) Dome at King Alfred's West Site

It was noted that permission had been given for the dome to be retained, subject to the school taking active steps to control noise.

(g) Council Staff

The Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk and all the staff were thanked by Councillors for their work.

The meeting closed at 8.52 p.m.

WPF/KR