

## **CALNE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held in the Large Hall on Wednesday 27 April 2005**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs C O’Gorman - Town Mayor – **Chair**  
Councillor Mrs C J Bowyer – Deputy Town Mayor  
Councillor P R Atkinson  
Councillor Mrs M J Baggs  
Councillor S R Coy  
Councillor P Dolman  
Councillor R Golding  
Councillor Mrs L E Hammond  
Councillor J R Ireland  
Councillor L F Jones  
Councillor R J Stigwood  
Councillor C J Viner

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ms Z Mills – Gazette & Herald

**OFFICERS:** Mrs A Kingdon – Town Clerk  
Mrs L Wakefield – Deputy Town Clerk  
Mrs A Cawkwell – Committee Clerk

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr W Burt, President - Calne Football Club, referred to the good report written by the Town Clerk and the letter summarising the situation at Bremhill View, which were both included as part of the Agenda papers, and wished to add the following points:

- In 1998 the Club was informed that the land was to be sold to Persimmon Homes for a reputed £1.4 million.
- An application for a grant of £1 million was to be submitted to the Football Foundation as a joint bid with the Council, and if all had gone well the Football Club would be moving to the Beversbrook site this summer. This was discussed at the last meeting of the Town Council and the Football Club in August 2002. At this time the sale of Bremhill View, £1.4 million, and 90% from the Football Federation equated to £2.3 million.
- At the moment there is £600,000 from the Council and 50% of the £1 million from the Football Foundation giving a sum of £1.1 million.
- This recognition caused the Football Club to review the situation. It would cost £1.6 million with an outlay of £200,000-£300,000 to match the facilities which were currently at Bremhill View and therefore the decision was made by the Football Club to remain at Bremhill View.

Mr S Walker, Chairman – Calne Football Club, raised the following points:

- Mr Walker referred to his letter and re-emphasised the point that the Football Club are wholly behind the Beversbrook Plan to provide facilities for youth football and girls football where progression could then be made to the facilities at Bremhill View.
- As the Football Club have now been promoted to the Premier Division of the ScrewFix League there are very strict guidelines concerning the facilities provided. Mr Burt's estimation to replicate the facilities at Bremhill View is very low and costs would probably be more than the £200,000 -£300,000 estimated figure.
- The Football Club have not been selfish in their decision, they do not wish to put a financial drain on the scheme and would like other teams to benefit from this project.

Members raised the following questions:

- In answer to a question concerning 5/10 years time, if the Football Club were promoted to the next Division up, would the facilities at Bremhill View be sufficient, Mr Walker stated that there was no possibility of the club moving up to the next division as they haven't the resources, money or the manpower for this.
- Mr Burt explained that the last formal meeting of the Football Club and the Council took place in August 2002, since then there have been meetings with PMP but no formal meetings with the Town Council, this is why the decision was declared at the meeting on 5 April 2005.
- It was stated that the Football Club could have contacted the Town Clerk or a Councillor to discuss the issue before the meeting on 5 April 2005.
- It was pointed out that Calne Football Club were one of the oldest sports clubs in the town and should have a Council representative on its Committee.

#### **111/04 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Mrs E M Bland, Councillor T A Briggs, Councillor M J Harris and Councillor A J Trotman.

#### **112/04 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11 April 2005, having previously been circulated, were signed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs C O'Gorman, as a correct record.

#### **113/04 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **114/04 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

It was proposed by Councillor P Dolman, seconded by Councillor Mrs M J Baggs and

**RESOLVED** that the Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs C O'Gorman, and the Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs C J Bowyer, be authorised to execute the Lease of the Social Club premises to Bremhill View Social Club.

## **115/04 CALNE TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB**

The Town Clerk's report (Part 1), which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes, was discussed by members and the following issues were raised:

- Disapproval was given at the reprehensible way the Football Club informed the Council of their decision at the last minute. The Town Clerk and staff had given many hours towards organising the admin and putting the playing pitch plans forward for consent by the planning committee.
- Fynamore School would no longer have the facility to use the mini football pitches proposed at Bremhill View.
- If the Football Club remain at Bremhill View they should be made to recompense the Council for costs incurred to date.
- The Football Club should remain at Bremhill View, looking back at history was pointless, the current situation was the important issue.
- This situation illustrated the importance of communication between groups.
- Mr Walker was thanked for a very honest and thorough letter of explanation.
- Prior to the elections 2 years ago much time was spent on investigations and discussions concerning the two sites.
- Councillor Coy had worked for Football Clubs for the past 2/3 years and stated that nowadays every Football Club has a struggle to survive. He supported the Club in their decision, however, was disappointed at the lateness of informing the Town Council.
- There was disappointment that the Football Club no longer wished to move to Beversbrook, if the Council had not revisited the decision it made earlier, the Club would be near to taking over the ground.
- The Council made a right decision not to sell the land for housing.
- There will be no playing pitches for tennis etc at Bremhill View and it was not the Council's responsibility to provide Fynamore School with playing pitches.
- Fynamore School does have an area within its grounds with a small pitch marked out.
- The decision not to sell the land was a good one, the residents were opposed to this and a petition had been handed to the Council. The people wanted the area preserved from building.

## **116/04 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**

It was

**RESOLVED** that in view of the Confidential Nature of the business about to be transacted, concerning legal and financial matters, that the public and press be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.