

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH OF CALNE

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Large Hall on Monday 11 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 T A Briggs
Councillor S R Coy
Councillor P Dolman
Councillor R Golding
Councillor Mrs L E Hammond
Councillor M J Harris
Councillor L F Jones
Councillor R J Stigwood
Councillor A J Trotman
Councillor C J Viner

IN ATTENDANCE: Nicki Coyne – Wiltshire Market Towns Partnership
Rachel Williams – Gazette & Herald

OFFICERS: Mrs A Kingdon – Town Clerk
Mrs L Wakefield – Deputy Town Clerk
Mr M Wilkins – Community Development Officer
Mrs A Cawkwell – Committee Clerk

89 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor J R Ireland and Councillor Mrs E M Bland.

90 WILTSHIRE MARKET TOWNS PARTNERSHIP– PRESENTATION

Nicki Coyne introduced herself as Manager of The Wiltshire Market Towns Partnership. She raised the following points:

- The main aim is to give support to Community Area Partnerships based around the Swindon and Wiltshire area, covering 22 market towns.
- It is not a grant making body, however, it explores ways of accessing funds to support certain activities.
- The Partnership brings together a whole range of groups and associations to decide on plans and visions for areas which is more achievable working together than alone. With similar bodies working together they are able to strengthen each other and develop action plans at a local level.

- Wiltshire Market Town Partnership helps this process with business planning and action planning.
- It has a fortnightly newsletter which can be subscribed to and is setting up a website which will source a range of information.

In reply to a question the following point was made:

- The Wiltshire Market Towns Partnership is involved in various projects such as housing, the redevelopment of a river, the introduction of riverside walks/camping sites and health/leisure facilities.

The Chair thanked Nicki Coyne for her presentation.

91 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish of Calne held on 29 March 2004, having previously been circulated, were signed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs C O’Gorman, as a correct record.

92 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor A J Trotman declared an interest in anything relating to Phases III and IV.

93 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs M Russell, Macauley Square, stated that last year the Town Council had said that it did not intend to raise Council Tax above the rate of inflation and asked the Council to explain why this had happened. Councillor Dolman explained that the precept had been raised due to urgent repairs to the Cemetery Lodge in Curzon Street.

Mr D Fortune, Carpenters Close, raised an issue concerning footpaths from the Chilvester Ward into town. The footpath from the new development to Carpenters Close needed to be made safe for people to use. Persimmon Homes and the District Council do not accept responsibility for this although the District Council have viewed the footpath and seen the manhole cover which protrudes and have agreed this could be very dangerous. If this footpath is followed towards Springfield School, the path divides and is not signposted and therefore is not clear. It leads to the square by the side path to St Mary’s and the cemetery. On the other side of the cemetery the path is overgrown. The footpaths in this area need to be looked at and investigated, especially in the Carpenters Close area. Councillor Briggs stated that he had viewed the footpath and had spoken to officers at Wiltshire County Council, however, he was awaiting a response. The Town Clerk would contact Wiltshire County Highways Authority as a matter of urgency concerning this issue.

Mr W Burt, Sarum Way, gave a plea to the Town Council for more information concerning the Council’s spending. He showed members a leaflet which was circulated 10 years ago, giving a breakdown of capital and revenue budget, making it easier to monitor the spending of the Council. He then showed the small article in this year’s Council Tax leaflet as a comparison.

The Town Clerk informed that the Income and Expenditure breakdowns would be given in more detail in the next edition of the Calne Connection as they were last year.

Kayleigh Rayburn, Macauley Square, asked if there was to be anything in the town for 15 year old girls to do. The Town Mayor urged Kayleigh to come to the Young People's Town Council meetings to inject some ideas to facilitate what she would like to do. Councillor Mrs Baggs stated that there were about a dozen girls in the Drop In Centre on Friday and Saturday night and invited her to come and join them. The Town Mayor also stated that at the end of May the blue bus will be visiting which will include jewellery/collage making – if Kayleigh had any ideas she should let the Council know.

94 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN MAYOR, COUNCILLOR MRS C O'GORMAN, AND TOWN COUNCILLORS FOR THE YEAR 2004/2005

The Town Mayor read out her Report (attached), on the activities of the Town Council for 2004/2005. The Chair of the Policy & Resources Committee, Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs C J Bowyer, read the Report on the activities of the Policy & Resources Committee for the year 2004/2005. The Chair of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Committee, Councillor P R Atkinson, read out the Report referring to the activities of the Planning and Economic Regeneration Committee for the year 2004/2005. The Chair of the Amenities Committee, Councillor C J Viner, read the Report referring to the activities of the Amenities Committee for the year 2004/2005. The Chair of the Development Control Committee, Councillor T A Briggs, read the Report on the activities of the Development Control Committee for the year 2004/2005. All the reports are attached to and form part of these Minutes. The Town Mayor then praised the high profile and vibrancy of our community area and gave thanks to everyone during her time as Town Mayor.

There being no further business the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 7.45 pm.