

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council
held on Tuesday 6th October 2015 in the Council Chamber

Present: Cllr. Guy Rawlinson (Chairman and Town Mayor)

Cllrs. Helen Harrison
Angela Symonds
Vincent Costello
Benj Emmerson
Shirley Holloway
Maggie Tyrrell
Alan Carman
Pam Shipp
Clare Fardell
Gail Whitehead
Martin Trueman
Bob Griffin
Matthew Stringer

Mrs J M Payne (Town Clerk)
Mrs S Richardson (Deputy Town Clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs. Clive Parkinson (Out of Thornbury)
Lesley Jones (Family Commitment)

158/15. The Chairman opened the meeting and introduced Mr. Ben Bennett from South West Commissioning Support who was invited to give an update on the redevelopment of the Thornbury Hospital and Health Centre Sites.

PRESENTATION
ON NEW HEALTH
FACILITIES

Ben Bennett, Programme Director for South West Commissioning Support explained that Primary Care Trusts were replaced by Clinical Commissioning Groups and as Programme Director he works for more than one CCG. He explained that the two sites in Thornbury have separate land owners. The Hospital site is owned by North Bristol NHS Trust and the Health Centre site is owned by NHS Property Services. Although both authorities are striving for improvements to the facilities provided they have different processes to go through. It has always been the ambition to provide for the Thornbury site improved health care facilities, a nursing home and extra care housing.

Sirona Care and Health, which is a not for profit social enterprise was appointed to operate inpatient services in Thornbury Hospital when the PCT's disappeared. The CCG are working with their existing partners, Sirona and North Bristol Trust and have set out a specification of what they would like in the way of new facilities at Thornbury and Frenchay to cover the whole of South Gloucestershire. This is being run as a formal procurement and the process will finish in March 2016. Therefore, specific details for the hospital site will not be available until next March.

The CCG are also working with NHS England to redevelop the Health Centre but this process is still in the early stages and it is hoped that some details will also be available in March 2016. Ben Bennett informed that a Stakeholders event is planned for next year.

The Chairman invited questions from members.

Cllr. Shirley Holloway said it is good to know that Thornbury is on the CCG agenda but it is frustrating that the two sites cannot be worked together. Martin Trueman asked if assurance could be given that the Health Centre plans will not be dropped when the hospital plans go ahead.

Ben Bennett said that when the hospital site development goes ahead it should create the momentum needed to have matching GP practice facilities, but as the CCG does not control the whole thing he suggested Council should keep lobbying for both sites.

Cllr. Clare Fardell asked if there is any more that Council can do to help the process.

Ben Bennett said it is always helpful to have Council's involvement and the Stakeholders event planned for next year will be an opportunity for this.

Cllr. Maggie Tyrrell commented that Sirona Care and Health have developed the services provided at Henderson Ward and they are working very well and asked about the number of beds that will be provided in the future.

Ben Bennett said they are looking at the total requirement for beds in the future, at the moment that is around 90 but is expected to grow. They are also looking for more resources in community support services to provide care for patients in their own homes as well.

The Chairman thanked Ben Bennett for his attendance and Mr. Bennett assured members that he will keep in touch and come back in the spring to give an update.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

159/15. Cllr Guy Rawlinson had attended the South West in Bloom Civic Reception at Dartmouth in his capacity as Mayor on 23rd September. On 24th September he had attended the South West in Bloom Annual Awards Ceremony when the town was awarded a Gold Medal in the Small Town Category. As Chairman of Thornbury in Bloom he thanked Council for their support, particularly with the hanging basket scheme, which was picked up by the judges as a specific achievement. He thanked all the staff both office and outside staff for their continuing support.

160/15. On behalf of Council, Cllr Clare Fardell congratulated the Thornbury in Bloom committee on their achievement and thanked the Chairman for all his work.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

161/15. The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 1st September 2015 were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Clare Fardell, Seconded by Cllr Maggie Tyrrell and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

None.

CORRESPONDENCE None received.

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

162/15. The report of the Environment Committee meeting held on 8th September 2015 was presented by the Chairman, Cllr Matthew Stringer.

163/15. It was proposed by Cllr Matthew Stringer, seconded by Cllr Benj Emmerson and unanimously agreed that the report is adopted.

PLAYING FIELDS AND CEMETERY

164/15. The report of the Playing Fields and Cemetery Committee meeting held on 10th September 2015 was presented by the Vice Chairman, Cllr Bob Griffin.

165/15. It was proposed by Cllr Bob Griffin, seconded by Cllr Martin Trueman and unanimously agreed that the report is adopted.

(Cllr. Bob Griffin left the meeting)

FINANCE & POLICY

166/15. The report of the Finance and Policy Committee meeting held on 24th September 2015 was presented by Cllr Maggie Tyrrell.

167/15. It was proposed by Cllr Maggie Tyrrell seconded by Cllr Shirley Holloway and unanimously agreed that the report is adopted.

TOWN DEVELOPMENT

168/15. The report of the Town Development Committee meeting held on 24th September 2015 was presented by the Chairman, Cllr Maggie Tyrrell.

169/15. It was proposed by Cllr Maggie Tyrrell, seconded by Cllr Shirley Holloway and unanimously agreed that the report is adopted.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

170/15. Council considered a number of planning applications and their comments for forwarding to South Gloucestershire Council are shown on the attached schedule.

UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOSPITAL SITE

This item was taken as first business.

REVIEW OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

171/15. This item had been referred from the last Finance and Policy Committee meeting when Cllr Clive Parkinson had recommended that all members remain volunteers and do not receive any allowance payments. Cllr Benj Emmerson stated that legislation issued in 2003 made it possible for allowances to be claimed. However, members of Town Council had never taken up any allowance but it is appropriate to review this every four years to take into account the views of new Councillors.

172/15. It was proposed by Cllr Benj Emmerson that members' do not claim allowances and remain as volunteers. This was seconded by Cllr Matthew Stringer and unanimously agreed.

EXTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT 2014/15

173/15. The External Audit report for year ended 31 March 2015 was tabled. The audit had been carried out by Grant Thornton UK LLP and in their opinion the information in the annual return was in accordance with proper practices and no matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

174/15. The following comment which they wished to draw to the attention of Council was as follows:-
The Council has not updated its Financial Regulations since 2008. The latest model Financial Regulations were issued in 2014 and have been updated in light of recent changes to legislation. They are available from the National Association of Local Councils. Financial Regulations should be periodically reviewed and updated as appropriate with regard to any relevant changes in the law or the Council's circumstances.

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

175/15. (a) Resolved that the following accounts paid out of meeting be approved:-

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| South Glos Council | Rates (September) – Town Hall | 1294.00 |
| South Glos Council | Rates (September) - Cemetery | 278.00 |

- (b) The following accounts now due for payment were proposed by Cllr Matthew Stringer and seconded by Cllr Benj Emmerson for payment to be approved:-

Central Services

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------|
| British Telecom | Telephone bill – Town Hall | 309.88 |
| EDF Energy | Electricity bill – Town Hall | 346.44 |
| Gas Sure Ltd | Gas heating test | 75.00 |
| Horders Thornbury Press | Stationery | 166.97 |

Playing Fields & Cemetery

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| British Telecom | Telephone bill – PFC | 29.53 |
| The Consortium | Cleaning items | 65.24 |
| EDF Energy | Electricity bill – PFC | 100.96 |
| EDF Energy | Electricity bill – Chapel | 2.94 |
| Hags SMP Ltd | Bolt | 19.20 |
| Gas Sure Ltd | Gas heating test | 150.00 |
| Hawkins of Thornbury | Stock items | 13.03 |
| Sullivans Machinery | Clutch cable | 24.42 |
| Thornbury Motors Ltd | Petrol | 147.40 |
| T H White | Machinery Hire | 120.00 |

Environment

| | | |
|----------------------|--------|--------|
| Thornbury Motors Ltd | Petrol | 147.39 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|

Grants & Contingencies

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|-------|
| Gas Sure Ltd | Gas heating test | 75.00 |
|--------------|------------------|-------|

Land & Property

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|--------|
| Gas Sure Ltd | Gas heating test | 150.00 |
|--------------|------------------|--------|

**REPORTS FROM
REPRESENTATIVES
ON OTHER BODIES**

None.

THORNBURY TOWN COUNCIL**CODE**

P – Plans available for inspection at Town Hall

NP – No plans available

PLANNING APPLICATIONS considered on 6th October 2015 (Circulated)

| DATE | REF. NO | LOCATION | PROPOSAL | CODE | COMMENT | PLANNING DECISION |
|-------------|----------------|---|---|-------------|--|--------------------------|
| 24.09.15 | PT15/4091/O | 46 Oakleaze Road | Erection of 1 no. detached dwelling (Outline) with all matters reserved. | P | OBJECT – the site is too small and the proposed development would be inappropriate to the area. It is also a statutory requirement to provide off road parking and the size of the site appears to be inadequate for this purpose. | |
| 28.09.15 | PT15/4140/CLE | Copper Beech and Park Lodge Sheiling School Park Road | Application for the Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use of residential children's home to allow extended placements from 295 days per year to 365 days per year. | NP | No objection. | |
| 28.09.15 | PT15/3501/F | 35A Gloucester Road | Loft conversion with dormers to front and rear, including raising ridge height. | P | No objection. | |

| DATE | REF. NO | LOCATION | PROPOSAL | CODE | COMMENT | PLANNING DECISION |
|----------|-------------|--------------------|---|------|---|-------------------|
| 29.09.15 | PT15/3642/F | 13 St David's Road | Erection of 1 no. detached dwelling with associated works. (Resubmission of PT15/2434/F) | P | <p>OBJECT – This is overdevelopment of the site and there are concerns about increased traffic in an area where vehicle movements are restricted. The design is out of keeping with the area by virtue of its scale, style and setting. The proximity of the development to the neighbouring property in Blakes Road will restrict the access of the resident to carry out maintenance work on their property thereby affecting this neighbour's amenities. The members of Thornbury Town Council have received a representation from local residents and would fully support their objections. There is no justification in putting a building in this location.</p> | |

THORNBURY TOWN COUNCIL

CODE

P – Plans available for inspection at Town Hall

NP – No plans available

PLANNING APPLICATIONS considered on 6th October 2015 (to be tabled)

| DATE | REF. NO | LOCATION | PROPOSAL | CODE | COMMENT | PLANNING DECISION |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|--|-------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| 05.10.15 | PT15/4142/F | 9 Finch Close | Erection of two storey side and single storey rear extensions to form additional living accommodation. | P | No objection. | |