

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
THE TOWN HALL ON
MONDAY 25th JANUARY 2016**

Meeting Commenced: 7.00 p.m.

Meeting Concluded: 7.40 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Raymond Armstrong (Town Mayor), Clive Webb (Leader of the Town Council), Roger Bailey, James Clayton, Robert Cleland, Sarah Codling, John Crockford-Hawley, Peter Crew, Clive Darke, James Davis, Peter Fox, Catherine Gibbons, David Hitchins, Jos Holder, Jan Holloway, Michal Kus, Michael Lyall, Derek Mead, Richard Nightingale, Frederick Parsons, Robert Payne, Alan Peak, Lisa Pilgrim, Len Purnell, Anita Spencer-Johns, Richard Tucker and Roz Willis.

IN ATTENDANCE: Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk), Sarah Pearse (Responsible Financial Officer), Helen Morton (Finance Officer), Julie Smith (Acting Office Manager), Tricia Brabham (Committee Officer), Joan Dunne (Mayoress), Father Andrew Hughes and Becky Parker (Weston & Somerset Mercury).

The Town Mayor invited Father Andrew to say prayers

The Town Mayor invited questions and observations from parishioners present. There were no questions raised.

262	<p>To receive Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mark Canniford.</p> <p>Councillor Ian Porter had sent his apologies as he would be late in getting to the meeting, but the meeting had finished before he arrived.</p> <p>Councillor Martin Williams was not in attendance.</p>
263	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p> <p><i>The Mayor advised that Councillor Clive Darke had withdrawn Item 10 from the Agenda.</i></p>
264	<p>To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 16th November 2015.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Clive Webb SECONDED BY: Councillor Michal Kus</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the minutes be signed and approved.</p> <p><i>7.03pm Councillor Steven Kane joined the meeting</i></p>
265	<p>To receive announcements and communications from the Town Mayor</p> <p>The Mayor advised members that former Mayor Cyril King had been admitted to hospital, and a card would be available after the meeting for Councillors to sign.</p> <p>Between 15th November 2015 and the 25th January 2016 there had been 41 Mayoral engagements including a visit to the Mayor's Parlour by a delegation from China, a carol</p>

	<p>service and children's Christmas party. The Mayor had attended 36 events and the Deputy Mayor 5.</p> <p>The Deputy Mayor thanked Sainsbury's, Pitman Funeral Directors, entertainer Martin Thomas, the past mayors in particular Councillor Roz Willis and Councillor Roger Bailey for making the children's party a success.</p> <p>The Mayor informed members he had presented a certificate to Richard Spindler who had volunteered with Weston-super-Mare Royal National Lifeboat Institute (RNLI) for 50 years. Mr Spindler would also be awarded an MBE at Buckingham Palace.</p>
266	<p>References from other Committees</p> <p>Weston-super-Mare Youth Council</p> <p>A member advised that there had been difficulty in getting meetings arranged with the Youth Council and suggested more support could be offered by the Town Council.</p> <p>The Town Clerk advised members he had spoken to the Senior Lead Youth Worker about the issue but that if problems persisted he would take it further.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the reports of the Youth Council be noted.</p>
267	<p><i>Under Standing order 10.1 the Mayor informed members that Agenda Item 9 Town Council Budget and Precept for 2016/17 would be discussed now as there was a legal requirement that the budget be approved.</i></p> <p>Town Council Budget and Precept 2016/17</p> <p>The Responsible Financial Officer advised members that the draft budget had been recommended to Council for approval at the Policy and Finance committee on 14th December 2015. The only change since this meeting had been that the grant from North Somerset Council had been confirmed as £179,165, meaning the precept requirement for 2016/17 was £1,628,259.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Clive Webb SECONDED BY: Councillor Michal Kus</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>a) That the budget of £1,807,424 recommended by Policy and Finance Committee on the 14th December 2015 be approved.</p> <p>b) That the Council's precept for the year 2016/17 be set at £1,628,259</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Clive Webb SECONDED BY: Councillor Roger Bailey</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Earmarked Reserve requirement for the year 2016/17 of £431,351 be approved.</p>

268	<p>Appointment of Town Councillors to Committees, Sub Committees, Working Parties and External Organisations</p> <p>The Leader of the Council advised members that Councillor Darke had resigned from the Allotments Management Sub Committee and Councillor David Hitchins was standing down from Chaplaincy About Town (CHAT).</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Clive Webb SECONDED BY: Councillor Michal Kus</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>a) That Councillor Robert Cleland sit on the Allotment Sub Committee in place of Councillor Clive Darke.</p> <p>b) That Councillor Sarah Codling be appointed as the Council’s representative on CHAT (Chaplaincy About Town) in place of Councillor Robert Cleland.</p>
269	<p>Consultation on the West of England Joint Spatial Plan</p> <p>The Town Clerk advised members that Bristol, Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Councils were evaluating several spatial scenarios and had invited the Town Council to respond.</p> <p>The scenarios being evaluated were:</p> <p>#1 Protection of the green belt. #2 Concentration at Bristol Urban Area. #3 Transport-focused development. #4 A more even spread of development – Bristol and other towns. #5 Focus on a new settlement or a limited number of expanded settlements.</p> <p>Debate ensued. Members discussed building up as well as outwards and the potential of building on parts of the green belt, and whether villages should be protected or expanded. The south of Bristol was identified as an area where development was needed.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor John Crockford-Hawley SECONDED BY: Councillor Richard Tucker</p> <p>A vote was taken and carried. Accordingly it was:</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk respond to the consultation in support of scenario 2: Concentration at Bristol Urban Area; with the recommendation that Green Belt on the southern side of Bristol be considered for development.</p>
270	<p>Consultation on the West of England Joint Transport Strategy</p> <p>The Town Clerk advised members that Bristol, Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Councils were evaluating several transport scenarios and had invited the Town Council to respond.</p> <p>The scenarios being evaluated were:</p>

	<p>#1 Strengthen and enhance public transport corridors. #2 Extended MetroBus network. #3 Extend MetroWest. #4 Extend MetroWest++ #5 Walking and cycling superhighways. #6 Better connectivity. #7 Pinch points and bottlenecks. #8 Strategic corridor packages. #9 Working better together. #10 Local Sustainable Transport Fund. #11 Regional connectivity. #12 Freight. #13 Travel demand management.</p> <p>Debate ensued. Members identified roads and public transport development as essential to support the economic growth of the town. Members were particularly concerned with Junction 21 on the M5 and that with Weston Central Train Station sitting on a loop line, it would miss out on the electrification of the main line to London and become redundant.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Clive Webb SECONDED BY: Councillor Michal Kus</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk respond to the consultation accordingly in support of the development of the railway line into the centre of Weston and the improvement of Junction 21 of the M5 motorway.</p>
	<p>There being no further business, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 7.40 p.m.</p> <p>Signed: Dated: Town Mayor</p>