

RICHMOND TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2011

Present: Councillors Heap
 White
 Johnson
 Harris
 Robinson
 World
 Lord
 Hignett
 Blease
 McGarry
 Steggles

In attendance: Mrs C. Ord (Deputy Town Clerk)
 Mrs E. M. Gould
 Mr. I. Woodall (Internal Auditor)

Prayers were said by Rev. Allan Reed.

01.04.11 Apologies: Apologies were received from Councillors Burrows and Holmes.

02.04.11 Public Open Session:

No members of the public were present.

03.04.11 County Councillor:

The County Councillor was not in attendance.

04.04.11 Declarations of Interests and Lobbying:

It was agreed that these should be dealt with as and when they arose during the meeting.

05.04.11 Minutes:

Proposed: Councillor Lord Seconded: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 28 March 2011 be accepted as a true record.

06.04.11 Update:

07.03.11 Whit Fair: A letter had been sent to the Chief Executive of RDC, as requested at the last meeting, and copies of the relevant correspondence regarding the proposed fee of £300 for road closures was circulated to all

Councillors. It was noted that a meeting had taken place between RDC and NYCC on the 25 February and it was felt that the Town Council should have been invited to this meeting. Members of the District Council present stated that they too were unaware that the meeting had taken place. They agreed to take this up at the next meeting of the District Council, to convey the interest of the Town Council and to ascertain whether the fee applies for short road closures.

It was pointed out that the Town Council has already fixed the precept for the forthcoming year. The Acting Town Clerk agreed to produce figures showing what the total cost in a year would be for all the ceremonies. A meeting between the Town Council, local organisations and RDC to discuss the implications of this might be beneficial. Councillor World offered to take this matter up a meeting he was due to attend at the District if this was acceptable to members. Councillors requested that Councillor World make relevant enquiries and representation on behalf of the Town Council and report back at the next meeting.

03.03.11: Cobbling Works – Market Place: Councillor McGarry commented on the poor quality of the repairs to the cobbles at the bottom of the Market Place and was informed that these were only temporary repairs as some of the cobbles had lifted due to wear and tear by buses and heavy vehicles.

07.04.11 Town Clerk’s Report:

The Acting Town Clerk informed members that there was no official Report, however, the following request had been received.

The Clerk to The Company of Fellmongers requests the use of the Town Seal on Certificates to be presented to Apprentices at the St. George’s Day event on Saturday 23rd April 2011.

Proposed: Councillor Robinson Seconded: Councillor Lord
(Councillor Lord declared an interest as a member of the Fellmongers)

RESOLVED that permission be granted for the use of the Town Seal by The Company of Fellmongers.

08.04.11 Communications:

A letter of thanks had been received from the Junior Football Club for the donation received from the Town Council. This had been received after the list of communications had been prepared.

Item 10 - Phone Boxes: This was a personal letter to the Mayor from a local resident who wanted to adopt two telephone boxes in the town. The Mayor had advised him to contact BT himself, outlining his plans.

09.04.11 Accounts:

Proposed: Councillor Lord Seconded: Councillor White

RESOLVED that the accounts be noted.

10.04.11 Committees:

**Planning - 23 March 2011
6 April 2011**

Councillor Blease presented the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 March and Councillor Johnson presented the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 April. Both sets of Minutes were noted.

Resources - 11 April 2011

Councillor Lord presented the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 April 2011.

Proposed: Councillor Lord Seconded: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 April 2011 be approved.

Communities: Councillor World reported that no meeting had been held in April. Councillor World thanked Councillors Holmes and Cooper for their hard work on the Community Committee. He had already thanked other Councillors who were leaving at a previous Community Meeting. The Mayor and other Councillors agreed with these sentiments and wished them well in the future.

11.04.11 Outside Bodies:

RSVCI: Councillor Blease gave a summary of the last meeting he had attended. The Walking and Book Festival was progressing well and it was hoped it would be as successful as last year.

A rumour had been circulating around town regarding the future use of the shop at the corner of Finkle Street (formerly "Jumpers"). This was entirely false and the Town Manager was seeking advice on this.

12.04.11 Members Comments:

Councillor White congratulated the Mayor on an excellent Mayor's Ball.

Councillor Hignett thanked everyone who had helped during her time as a Councillor. The Mayor replied that he had been very impressed by the way she had conducted her work on the Council and thanked her for all her hard work.

Councillor Johnson said how much he had enjoyed his time on the Council and wished the best for the future of the Town Council. The Deputy Mayor responded that he would be sorely missed, particularly at the Christmas Lights and thanked him for his services to the Council.

Councillor Harris congratulated Councillor World on his 20 years as a Town Councillor.

Proposed: Councillor Harris Seconded: Councillor Robinson

RESOLVED that the Town Council formally congratulate Councillor World on his 20 years of service.

Councillor McGarry said how much he too had enjoyed the Mayor's Ball. He also expressed his anger at the comments in the latest edition of the "Focus" leaflet.

13.4.11 Proposed disposal of Richmond Lower School:

It was pointed out that this item related only to the Playing Field area. The Mayor asked Councillors for their views.

Councillor White said he had been to look at the site and suggested that NYCC be asked to donate this area as a playing field for the Town.

Councillor Harris felt a public meeting should be held and the citizens of Richmond invited to make suggestions regarding future use of the area. Also a questionnaire could be distributed to all households. He pointed out that access would be a problem if buildings were erected on the site.

Proposed: Councillor Heap Seconded: Councillor Lord

RESOLVED that a letter be sent to NYCC asking if we could defer our reply pro tems so that a considered opinion could be given after consulting with the citizens of Richmond.

14.04.11 Review Effectiveness of Internal Audit:

Proposed: Councillor Robinson Seconded: Councillor Lord

RESOLVED that the Report be accepted.

The Press left the meeting at this point.

15.04.11 Proposed: Councillor Lord Seconded: Councillor McGarry

RESOLVED to move into Private Session