

**WALLINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL**

**M I N U T E S**

**of the**

**Virtual TEAMS meeting of an Extraordinary Meeting Full Council on the Monday 25<sup>th</sup>  
January 2021 at 7p.m**

**PRESENT**

Councillors Beatty, Beauchamp, Dolton, Harris, Holford, Hughes, Keats-Rohan, Kidley, Lester,  
McGregor, Sinkinson and Whelan

The Town Clerk, Mrs Paula Lopez  
Responsible Finance Officer: Michelle Taylor  
Officer: Tracey Collins  
Members of the Public and District Councillor Levy

**565. THE CHAIRMAN TO ADVISE THOSE IN ATTENDANCE OF THE PROTOCOL FOR THE MEETING**

The Chairman reminded everyone that it was the standard protocol for the meeting.

**566. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Wilder sent a message during the meeting to apologise for his absence, Councillors Newcombe and Cattermole were not present.

**567. ADMISSION OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no items that the public need to be excluded from during this meeting.

**568. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

A Councillor with voting rights who has a disclosable pecuniary interest or another interest as set out in our Council's Standing Orders code of Conduct (Item 13) in a matter being considered at a meeting is subject to statutory limitations or restrictions under code of conduct and his right to participate and vote on the matter (guidelines are available at the meeting and all Councillors have received a copy prior to the meeting).

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **569. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NOTIFIED AND IMPROMPTU (Total 15 Minutes)**

District Councillor Levy spoke in relation to the following Minute 570 and stated that he supported the Town Council's decision at the Extraordinary meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020 under Minute Number Minute 422/11/2020 – Item: Proposed Changes to Off-Street Parking in South Oxfordshire (minute attached) in that the Town Council's opposes any increase in the fees charged, the change from 2 hours to 1-hour free parking along with removal of free parking on a Sunday as the main reasons for the objection to the proposed changes to off-street parking in South Oxfordshire.

#### **570. CHANGES TO GOLDSMITHS LANE CAR PARK**

Councillors discussed South Oxfordshire District Council's consultation on the proposed changes to the car park fees and charges at its meeting on 4 February 2021 and their previous resolution made on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020 (Extract of Minute 422/11/2020 attached).

Councillors further discussed the following information and request:

It has since been identified that in the agreement for South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) to manage all of Goldsmiths Lane car park on behalf of the Wallingford Town Council dating back to 1982 (currently being updated), it states that, "The District Council hereby agrees not to alter the parking charges set out in the Order or to alter the designation of the Car Park as a short term vehicle parking place without prior consultation and agreement with Waitrose the Town council and the Society".

SODC, specifically in relation to the Goldsmiths Lane car park, are asking the Town Council to consider the following options:

1. Reduce to one hour immediately **or**
2. Reduce to one hour when we implement civil parking enforcement due later this year **or**
3. Maintain two hours free parking but agree to review in a year's time.
4. The proposal is to charge 9am to 5pm Mon to Sat. If this is not acceptable, what time charging the town council would agree to?
5. In respect of Sunday charging would starting the charging at a later time such as 10am or 11am be acceptable?
6. Would Council support half price permits for electric vehicles?

Councillors concluded their discussion and it was Proposed by Councillor Beauchamp, Seconded by Councillor Beatty and

**RESOLVED: THAT** Wallingford Town Council affirm their original resolution made on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020, Minute 422/11/2020. (**RESOLVED: THAT** The Mayor submits the Town Council's formal response opposing any increase in the fees charged, the change from 2 hours to 1-hour free parking along with removal of free parking on a Sunday as the main reasons for the objection to the proposed changes to off-street parking in South Oxfordshire).

**Meeting Closed at 1909 Hours**

2021-01-25 Ex council ba (from pl notes)

Chairman

## Attachment for Minutes of EX Full Council held on 25.01.2021

### Minute 422/11/2020. PROPOSED CHANGES TO OFF-STREET PARKING IN SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE

The Mayor stated he had called this extraordinary meeting of Council as the Town Council had until Wednesday to submit its formal response to the consultation which closes on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Councillors discussed in detail and concluded:

- Now was not the time to for the District Council to increase/change parking arrangements when traders are struggling with Covid-19 implications
- Infrastructure should be in place for electric charging points before changes are made
- Sainsbury's at Didcot has 5 hours free parking the same is needed in Wallingford otherwise shoppers will go there
- It was felt that there are no valid reasons for the change and the proposal should be rejected.
- Trying to align us with Henley and others will not work as Wallingford's needs are different
- Timing is wrong
- Free parking on Sundays is still required not just for residents but to attract tourists

Councillor Lester stated that District Councillor Levy was supporting Wallingford.

The Mayor stated that The District Council's Officer John Backley would like the Town Council's response by letter and the Mayor stated that he would send his personal response to Councillors so that this could be used as a basis for the Town Council's formal response. Any comments/additions would be appreciated by the evening of Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

It was Proposed by The Mayor, Seconded by Councillor Kidley and

**RESOLVED: THAT** The Mayor submits the Town Council's formal response opposing any increase in the fees charged, the change from 2 hours to 1-hour free parking along with removal of free parking on a Sunday as the main reasons for the objection to the proposed changes to off-street parking in South Oxfordshire.

The vote was unanimous.