



Wallingford Town Council

**MINUTES**  
**of a meeting of the**  
**FULL COUNCIL**  
**held on Monday, 20 March 2023 at 7.00 pm**  
**in Wallingford Town Hall**

**Present**

**Members**

Cllr Steve Beatty  
Cllr Giles Cattermole (up to 659/22)  
Cllr Paul Gibbon  
Cllr Marcus Harris (Chairman/Mayor)  
Cllr Sue Hendrie  
Cllr Claire Holford  
Cllr Nigel Hughes  
Cllr Katharine Keats-Rohan (up to 660/22)  
Cllr Michael Kidley  
Cllr Rosslyn Lester  
Cllr George Newcombe  
Cllr Deborah Whelan

**Officers:**

Duncan Kent, Head of Parks & Estates  
Andrea Lockie, Assistant Finance Officer  
Luke Whitcomb, Meetings Officer

**Others:**

County Councillor Pete Sudbury (for 643/22 only)  
2 members of the public  
0 members of the press

**636/22**

**MEETING PROTOCOL**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised those present of the protocols that would be followed.

**637/22**

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Beauchamp, Holder and McGregor, and the Town Clerk.

Councillor Sinkinson did not attend.

**638/22      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Cattermole and Lester declared interests in a Legal Matter and an Individual Property respectfully, minuted as 660/22 and 661/22 below.

**639/22      MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Mayor reported on recent mayoral activity, including a recent event to encourage people to stand as Town Councillors, the development of a new event to celebrate the Curfew Bell and the planting of a tree to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the late Elizabeth II.

**640/22      MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Keats-Rohan, and seconded by Councillor Lester, and

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 20 February 2023 be approved as a correct record and the Chairman is authorised to sign them.

**641/22      ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING [see also Minute 658/22]**

The Council reviewed progress on the actions agreed at the last meeting and 'open' actions from previous meetings.

**642/22      PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public chose to speak.

**643/22      COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

A written report from County Councillor Sudbury was received. This included mention of a new street lighting policy, challenging bus journey times to Oxford and the need to enforce the use of the bypass for traffic travelling to and from Didcot.

**644/22      BILL SCHEDULES**

It was proposed by Councillor Hughes, and seconded by Councillor Cattermole, and

**RESOLVED** that the bill schedules for December 2022 and January 2023 be approved

**Action:**

**Assistant Finance Officer to get back to Councillor Newcombe concerning a property invoice (1134) paid in January 2023**

**645/22**

**COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) STRATEGY**

The Council considered a further iteration of proposed protocols and policies

It was proposed by Councillor Hughes, and seconded by Councillor Whelan, and

**RESOLVED** that the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Strategy be approved

**646/22**

**RIVERBANK OWNERSHIP**

The Head of Parks and Estates presented an overview of the ownership of sections of the Thames riverbank within the Wallingford boundary and confirmed the intention to register for the ownership of a 60-yard stretch north of the bridge. South Oxfordshire District Council had yet to confirm their ownership of a significant stretch of riverbank, again north of Wallingford Bridge.

**Action:**

**Head of Parks and Estates to investigate the solution to the sink hole suggested by Councillor Cattermole alongside other repair options**

**647/22**

**AGATHA CHRISTIE STATUE**

Councillor Beatty updated the Council on the planned statue which was going according to schedule. An event was being planned for 9 and 10 September 2023 and Matthew Pritchard, the grandson of Agatha Christie, had agreed to unveil the statue.

**648/22**

**GRANT APPLICATIONS**

The Council considered the following grant applications:

**(a) Clean Slate**

It was proposed by Councillor Hendrie, and seconded by Councillor Keats-Rohan, and

**RESOLVED** that the grant of £500 be awarded to Clean Slate

**(b) Wallingford Accessible Boat Club**

It was proposed by Councillor Beatty, and seconded by Councillor Hughes, and

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £500 be awarded to Wallingford Accessible Boat Club subject to their ability to utilise this sum fully as it was larger than the amount they had applied for

*Councillor Whelan as trustee of the Boat Club abstained on this vote*

**(c) Wild About Wallingford**

It was proposed by Councillor Lester, and seconded by Councillor Hendrie, and

**RESOLVED** that a grant of £500 be awarded to Wild About Wallingford

**649/22      WIGOD FAMILY CENTRE**

The Council received the annual report of the Wigod Family Centre. Ms Kelsey Proctor was unable to attend this meeting due to a prior commitment.

**650/22      APPOINTMENTS**

It was proposed by Councillor Cattermole, and seconded by Councillor Beatty, and

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Deborah Whelan be appointed to serve as the Town Council's Nominative Trustee on the Bridge Estates Charity for a period of four years from April 2023

*Councillor Whelan abstained*

Referring to the Civility and Respect Pledge, the Chairman cautioned Councillor Cattermole during the course of the discussion for personal and derogatory remarks he made about one of the candidates.

**651/11      TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2023**

Councillor Hendrie reminded Members of the key dates and timeline and events being organised to encourage and support people to stand. There had been an encouraging turnout at an event held the previous Thursday. The deadline for papers was 4 April 2023 and a range of options, including for photo ID, was listed on the SODC website.

**652/11**      **PRE-ELECTION PERIOD**

The Council NOTED the restrictions and dates of the Pre-Election Period formerly known as ‘Purdah’

**653/22**      **CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

The Council NOTED the changes required to the Calendar of Meetings as a result of the Pre-Election Period.

The Annual Town Meeting would now be held on Tuesday, 30 May 2023 and positioned as listening exercise for the new Council. The Council had previously agreed the outline and revised format for the meeting (Minute 611/22)

*See also Minute 654/22*

**654/22**      **NEXT MAYOR**

The Council discussed the process for selecting the next Mayor, subject to the outcome of the Town Council Elections. An additional, one-item Full Council meeting might be introduced after the Elections and before the Annual Meeting (Mayor Making).

**655/22**      **COMMITTEE AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS/REFERENCES**

The Council considered the following reference:

**Bull Croft Trust, 27 February 2023, Minute 62/22 – Tennis Proposition**

It was proposed by Councillor Keats-Rohan, and seconded by Councillor Holford, and

**RESOLVED** that the agreement with the Lawn Tennis Association and the National Tennis Association for operating the tennis courts on the Bullcroft be approved, including the purchase of required cleaning equipment; and it be branded as ‘The Bullcroft Park Tennis’

**656/22**      **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The following items were identified for future meetings:

- Elections 2023 (rolling item until May 2023) (Cllr Sue Hendrie)
- Pedestrianisation of front area of Town Hall (rolling agenda item)
- Banking hub (dependent on update from David Johnston MP)
- Junior Council (new Council to consider after Elections)

- Estates Portfolio Review (assigned to Head of Parks & Estates)
- Renaming and reshuffling of Committees to establish the Estates Committee (Annual Meeting as part of wider decision on committee structure)
- Alderman Emeritus (to consider making new appointments)
- Beacon Youth Project update (April 2023) (Cllr Holder leading)
- Parking on verges (raised by Cllr Newcombe)

**657/22      EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It was proposed Councillor Lester, and seconded by Councillor Kidley, and

**RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

The meeting ended at 8.19 pm

Minutes of the meeting of the  
Full Council held on  
20 March 2023,  
signed as a correct record

Chairman

2023-03-20 FC minutes PUBLIC