

RICHMOND TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2016

Present: Councillors World (Mayor)
Heap
Lord
Harris
Preece
Parsons
White
Hodgson
Steggles
Pearson
Spencer
Blease

In attendance: Ms. H. Lawler, Town Clerk
Mrs C. Ord, Assistant Town Clerk

01.03.16 Apologies: Councillor Cooke and Rev'd J. Chambers

02.03.16 Public Open Session:
No members of the public were present.

03.03.16 County Councillor:
Drainage on Station Road and road repairs to Cross Lanes were discussed.

04.03.16 District Councillors:
Nothing to discuss
The Mayor informed the meeting that two extra items had been added to the Agenda.

05.03.16 Declarations of Interest:
It was agreed that Declarations of Interest should be dealt with as and when they arose during the meeting.

06.03.16 Minutes:
Proposed: Councillor Lord Seconded: Councillor Preece

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 29 February 2016 be accepted as a true record subject to agreed amendments and the striking out of Minute 16(a).02.16 (Use of Town Hall by Political Parties)

Councillor Hodgson apologised for her late arrival.

07.03.16 Updates:

No updates to report

08.03.16 Town Clerk's Report:

Yorkshire Regt

The Town Clerk reported that the Regiment had requested the date of 22nd June 2016 to exercise their right of Freedom. The event will be followed by a reception in the Town Hall with further details to follow.

Vacancies for Two Councillors

There are two vacancies on the Town Council and the Town Clerk informed the meeting that the closing date is 29th March 2016.

Georgian Festival

Proposed: Councillor Preece Seconded: Councillor Lord

RESOLVED: that the Georgian Festival be permitted to use the Town Hall on two dates in August, free of charge.

Round Table

The Town Clerk read out a letter from the Round Table relating to a fund raising event for the Air Ambulance.

Proposed: Councillor Blease Seconded: Councillor White

RESOLVED: that the booking fee for the event be paid by the Round Table.

Polling Station – Use of Richmond Town Council Premises for EU Referendum

Proposed: Councillor Harris Seconded: Councillor Preece

RESOLVED: that the preferred venue would be for the use of the Market Hall as a Polling Station for the EU Referendum on Thursday 23 June 2016.

Lighting of the Beacon

Proposed: Councillor Parsons Seconded: Councillor Lord

RESOLVED: that lighting of the Beacon to be viewed by the public from the grandstand area of the Racecourse.

09.03.16 Communications:

Correspondence and photographs of two marquetry boxes bearing the Town Crest were noted.

10.03.16 Accounts:

Proposed: Councillor Lord Seconded: Councillor Heap

RESOLVED: that the accounts for February 2016 be accepted.

11.03.16 Committees:

Planning 2 March 2016

Minutes of the above Planning Meeting were noted.

Community 11 January 2016

Proposed: Councillor White Seconded: Councillor Spencer

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the above Community Meeting be accepted as a true record subject to the following amendments.

CO.04.03.16 – Lighting of the Beacon

The Precept for the lighting of the Beacon is £500. The Town Clerk has approached the Round Table to prepare the Beacon for lighting.

CO.05.03.16 – Firework Display

Proposed: Councillor Parsons Councillor Lord

RESOLVED: that the preferred date for the Town Council Fireworks display be Saturday 5th November 2016.

This decision was unanimous

CO.08.03.16 – Mapping of all Allotment sites

That the above matter be referred back to the Community Committee for further discussion.

Donations 09 March 2016

Proposed: Councillor Hodgson Seconded: Councillor Parsons

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the above Donations Meeting be accepted as a true record.

12.03.16 Outside Bodies:

Councillor World stated that he had attended an Area Committee meeting and gave an update on the Quaker Lane one way system.

13.03.16 Representation of People Act:

(Minute 16.02.16) – Use of Town Hall by Political Parties

The above Minute to be struck out.

13a.03.16 Use of Town Hall by Political Parties:

Section 95 and 96 Representation of the People Act 1983 states that candidates in both parliamentary and local elections would be entitled to use such meeting rooms at the Town Hall free of charge during certain periods (between the issuing of the writ of election or notice of local election and the date of the election) for the purpose of promoting or procuring the giving of votes at that election.

Proposed: Councillor Heap Seconded: Councillor Parsons

RESOLVED: that

- a) with the exception of the above stipulations and coffee mornings the Town Hall bookings will not be accepted from political parties.**
- b) political parties will not be permitted to use the curtilage for political purposes.**

14.03.16 Alms Houses

Discussion took place regarding the administration of the Alms Houses. Councillor Lord gave an update on the improved condition of the properties and reported on his role within the Fellmongers who took over the administration some time ago.

Proposed: Councillor Preece Seconded: Councillor Parsons

RESOLVED: that

- a) Richmond Town Council write to the Charity Commission stating Charity number informing them that the Company of Fellmongers have taken over responsibility for the Alms Houses.**
- b) the Town Council be informed of any changes to the constitution prior to their implementation**
- c) should the Fellmongers cease to run the Alms Houses the administration then defaults to the Town Council.**

Councillors Lord and Heap abstained from the vote.

15.03.16 Risk Assessment:

Prior to the meeting all Councillors had been invited to inspect the documents.

Proposed: Councillor Lord Seconded: Councillor Heap

RESOLVED: that the Risk Assessment Policy be adopted.

16.03.16 Risk Management Strategy:

Proposed: Councillor Lord Seconded: Councillor Harris

RESOLVED: that the Risk Management Strategy be approved.

17.03.16 Electronic Information:

Proposed: Councillor Pearson Seconded: Councillor Hodgson

RESOLVED: that Councillors' timetable and other items where possible be sent electronically.

17a.03.16 Richmondshire District Council – Increased Precept

Proposed: Councillor World Seconded: Councillor White

RESOLVED: that an Officer from the Finance Team at Richmondshire District Council be invited to the Town Council Meeting to explain the council tax calculation which has resulted in an increase to Council Tax.

17b.03.16 Pharmacy – King Street:

Discussion took place regarding a proposed automated service which members felt will have a detrimental impact on small independent pharmacies and customers.

Proposed: Councillor Parsons Seconded: Councillor World

RESOLVED: that a letter be sent to the Health Secretary and the MP for the Richmond (Yorks.) constituency opposing the proposals and requesting that they reject the proposals.

This decision was unanimous.

17c.03.16 Councillor Lord informed the meeting that he had appointed Councillor J. Preece as his Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year. (2016/17)

18.03.16 Resolution to Move into Private Session

Proposed: Councillor Preece Seconded: Councillor Lord

RESOLVED: to move into Private Session