

RICHMOND TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2017

Present: Councillors Lord - Mayor
Preece
Blease
Harris
Parsons
Hodgson
Heap
Steggles
World
White
Croasdell
Cooke

In attendance: Ms. H. Lawler, Town Clerk
Mrs C. Ord, Assistant Town Clerk
Rev'd Canon Chambers
Chair and Vice Chair of Governors of Richmond School
Mr. I. Roberts, Head of Richmond School
Representatives from the Department of Education

01.03.17 Apologies: Councillors Bryant

Absent: Councillor Spencer

02.03.17 Public Open Session:

The Mayor invited Mr. Robertson (Head of Richmond School) to talk about the schools intention to explore Academy Status.

Mr. Robertson outlined the schools relationship with the Education Authority and emphasised that putting children first and ensuring the best possible opportunities for all students is at the forefront of this project.

Other points raised were the schools ethos and values, professional development opportunities for teachers, funding of capital projects, teacher recruitment and the differences between a sponsored academy and a converter academy.

A question and answer session followed the informative presentation. The Mayor thanked Mr. Robertson and his colleagues for the attending.

03.03.17 County Councillor:

County Councillor Parsons gave a report on the Area Committee meeting he had attended and informed members that he had lodged a formal complaint regarding the dismal performance of Area 1. Highways. Other issues

discussed were Library service lease, delay to agreed works on Quaker Lane and damage to grit bin by Castle Walk.

04.03.17 Richmondshire District Councillor:

Councillor Hodgson informed members that she had attended a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee where changes to parish boundaries were discussed.

05.03.17 Declarations of Interest:

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

06.03.17 Minutes:

Proposed: Councillor White Seconded: Councillor Blease

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 27 February 2017 be accepted as a true record.

07.03.17 Updates:

No updates.

08.03.17 Town Clerk's Report:

PWLB

The Town Clerk informed Councillors that the loan acquired to refurbish the Market Hall has been paid off as per the resolution passed earlier in the year. No further loans are outstanding.

Community Defibrillator - Photograph

A photograph and publicity will be arranged on a date after 19th April, due to County Council elections.

Town Council – Councillor Vacancy

We have been informed by Richmondshire District Council that this vacancy may now be filled by co-option as the relevant notices have been displayed.

Dementia Awareness Course

Councillors were informed that places have been booked for staff to attend the awareness course.

Decoration of Town Hall

Decorators have been scheduled to come in week commencing 24 April to fit in with current bookings.

Councillor Lord asked whether this work would be completed by Saturday 29 April as he has a charitable event planned.

Curtains – Main Hall

The Town Clerk asked Councillors whether they could suggest any Richmond based organisations who may have a use for the curtains that are being replaced in the main hall.

Richmond Castle Clog Dancers

A request has been received from a group of traditional dancers to perform on the curtilage. It was noted that they have their own insurance and would not be collecting money.

Proposed: Councillor Lord Seconded: Councillor Parsons

RESOLVED: that permission be granted to the dance group to use the curtilage on Saturday 1st July 2017.

09.03.17 Communications:

The correspondence was noted.

10.03.17 Accounts:

Proposed: Councillor Preece Seconded: Councillor White

RESOLVED: that the accounts for February 2017 be approved.

11.03.17 Committees:

Councillor Blease reported that he had attended both meetings and noted he had not been recorded as an attendee. The Town Clerk stated that the Minutes would be amended.

Planning - 25 January 2017
 - 15 February 2017
 -

Minutes of the above Planning Meetings were noted.

Community 20 March 2017

Proposed: Councillor White Seconded: Councillor Croasdell

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the above Community Meetings be accepted as a true record.

Donations 22 March 2017

Proposed: Councillor Hodgson Seconded: Councillor Preece

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

12.03.17 Outside Bodies:

Councillor Blease informed members that he had attended a Trustees meeting at Richmond School.

13.03.17 Friary Gardens - Electrical boxes:

The Town Clerk reported that she had contacted Mr. C. Dales at Richmondshire District Council as requested. Mr. Dales has subsequently given Mr. Hudson delegated authority to deal with this matter. Following a recent site visit to ascertain the number of electrical boxes that are to be renewed, RDC will consider a 60% /40% split of costs to move this matter forward. The Town Clerk is awaiting a response from Duck Club representatives.

14.03.17 Town Pinder:

A letter has been received from Mr. R. Chandler the Town Pinder since 1990 informing the Town Council that he is unable to carry on the role due to ill health.

Members were saddened to hear the news and wished to send their best wishes to Mr. Chandler and his family. Members went on to discuss various Boundary Riding events lead by Mr. Chandler and stated that his presence would be very much missed. Councillors requested a letter be sent to Mr. Chandler conveying the Town Council's sincere thanks for all the years he has carried out his role as Town Pinder with such enthusiasm and good humour.

In his letter Mr. Chandler had also nominated a replacement Pinder who he felt would do an excellent job.

Proposed: Councillor Parsons Seconded: Councillor Heap

RESOLVED: that

- a) **the nominated Pinder be invited to the Town Council to meet with the Mayor and Town Clerk.**
- b) **that an advert be placed to appoint a Deputy Pinder**

15.03.17 Mayoral Handbook:

Proposed: Councillor White Seconded: Councillor World

RESOLVED: that this matter be deferred until the April Town Council meeting.

16.03.17 Proposed: Councillor Lord Seconded: Councillor Preece

RESOLVED: to move into Private Session

RESOLVED: to move out of Private Session