

Minutes of the Bicester Town Council

A meeting of the **Bicester Town Council** was held on **Monday 19th June 2023** at **19:00 hrs** at the **The Council Chamber, Bicester Town Council, The Garth, Launton Road, Bicester, Oxon OX26 6PS**.

Present:

Cllr Harry Knight (Chairman)
 Cllr Damien Maguire (Vice-Chairman)
 Cllr Tom Beckett
 Cllr Nick Cotter
 Cllr Donna Ford
 Cllr Dan Hallett
 Cllr Jamie Jessett
 Cllr Rachel Mallows
 Cllr Nicholas Mawer
 Cllr Rich Oliver
 Cllr Les Sibley
 Cllr Jim Webb
 Cllr Paul Wheatley

In Attendance:

Phil Evans, Town Clerk
 Dominic Hilton Civic and Democratic Administrator

44/ Apologies for Absence

2324 RESOLVED that apologies of absence were received from Cllr Sam Holland

45/ Declarations of Interest

2324 RESOLVED that no declarations of interest were received

46/ Public Session

2324 RESOLVED that:

Lieutenant Colonel Ged Hennigan, Garrison Commander was for the proposal outlined in agenda number 12.

47/ Minutes of the Town Council Meeting

2324 RESOLVED that Council **CONFIRMED** the minutes of resolutions of :
BTC06/2223 – 13th March 2023

48/ Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting

2324 RESOLVED that Council **CONFIRMED** the minutes of resolutions of :
ENV06/2223 – 21st March 2023

49/ Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting

2324 RESOLVED that Council **CONFIRMED** the minutes of resolutions of :

FIN06/2223 – 28th March 2023

50/ Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting**2324 RESOLVED** that Council **CONFIRMED** the minutes of resolutions of :

POL06/2223 – 24th April 2023

51/ Questions on Working Parties and Other Groups**2324 RESOLVED** that Council **CONFIRMED** the minutes of resolutions of :

EWP06/2223 – 8th March 2023

BTAG06/2223 – 30th March 2023

52/ Reports from Oxfordshire County and Cherwell District Councils**2324 RESOLVED** that Cllr Waine provided this report:

- 1). We have a ever growing concern about the overall management of SEND issues at County level, with the relevant scrutiny committee setting-up a Task and Finish Group to investigate the matter.
- 2). We have expressed our unhappiness with delays and deferrals of agreed local road maintenance, particularly Manorsfield Road and Wadham Close.
- 3). Following discussions with County Officers regarding their early suggestion that most roads in Bicester should be 20mph we have strongly pressed for a full local consultation, hopefully using the Garth Gazette, where clear options would be available for 'strategic roads' remaining 30mph.....we as County Councillors would support the majority view!
- 4). As County Councillors we are growingly cynical about EW Rail's delaying tactics, over past years and now, to come up with a truly viable option to the London Road Crossing that will meet the town's future needs when 'gate-down' time increases.

53/ Mayors Report**2324 RESOLVED** that Council **NOTED** the Mayors Report.**54/ Remembrance Day Change to Event****2324 RESOLVED** that Council **APPROVE** an investigative report to hold remembrance service and parade in Market Square.**55/ Re-Appoint Vice-Chairman of Planning****2324 RESOLVED** that this item has been removed from this agenda to be **DISCUSSED** at the next planning committee meeting.**56/ Civility Pledge****2324 RESOLVED** that Council **APPROVED** the civility pledge.**57/ Conclusion of Internal Audit Report****2324 RESOLVED** that Council receive the report of the Internal Auditor marking the conclusion of the 2023/24 internal audit. The signed version for inclusion in the in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) was also received.

It was Further **RESOLVED** that the Annual Governance Statement with responses to the assertions recommended by the Internal Auditor and officers be **APPROVED**.

Subsequent to the approval of the Annual Governance Statement Council considered the Annual Statement of Accounts and **RESOLVED** that Council **APPROVED** the figures on page 5 of the Annual Return.

58/ Earmarked Reserves

2324 RESOLVED that Council **NOTED** the information and **APPROVED** the transfer and allocation to EMR.