



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF OAKHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY
29 MARCH 2023 AT 6.30 P.M. IN THE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllrs: A. Lowe, c. Nix, D. Romney & S-A. Wadsworth (Chairman)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: K. Bell (Locum Town Clerk), K. Geraghty (Deputy Clerk) & 6 residents

APOLOGIES: Cllrs: P. Ainsley, A Buxton, L. Toseland & H. Williams

Cllr Wadsworth opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

29/03-01 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCES: Apologies were received from Cllrs. Ainsley, Buxton, Toseland & Williams. It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED:** That the apology and reason received from Cllr. Ainsley (Overseas) be accepted. **Unanimous**

RESOLVED: That the apology and reason received from Cllr. Buxton (unwell) be accepted. **Unanimous**

RESOLVED: That the apology and reason received from Cllr. Toseland (Dental Appointment) be accepted. **Unanimous**

RESOLVED: That the apology and reason received from Cllr. Williams (Work) be accepted. **Unanimous**

29/03-02 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION: Cllr Romney declared an interest in payments made by OTC to Lend A Hand.

29/03-03 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Members of the public were warmly welcomed to the meeting; residents raised the following issues:

- Maintenance of the Wooded Area adjacent to Centenary Fields. OTC would arrange for the Handyman to survey the area and report back to council. The matter would be on the agenda for the next meeting
- Tree Maintenance in Cutts close: OTC would look at the most recent Tree Report and would follow up the tree inspectors' recommendations. The matter would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

These minutes are not a verbatim report of the meeting. but a summary of discussions and decisions made.

Chairman:

Date: 12 April 2023

29/03-04 MEETING HELD ON 08 MARCH 2023: Following a discussion it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: That at the minutes from the meeting be approved.

By Majority (1 abstention)

There were no matters arising that had not been included elsewhere on the Agenda.

29/03-05 COUNCILLOR'S QUESTIONS: There were none

29/03-06 CLERKS'S REPORT:

- A group of 5 SEND children from The Grange Therapeutic School will be collecting litter from the parks in Cutts Close and Royces Playing Fields on Monday afternoons at part of their community volunteering project. They are aware that if they want to clear litter from the roadside that they will need to seek permission from RCC.
- Graffiti Cutts Close: The culprits have been identified and are being dealt with.
- Community Speed Watch: RCC has confirmed that OTC is still first reserve for speed watch 2023, 5 schemes have been scheduled in but should any not be able to supply enough volunteers or cancel for any reason then OTC will be approached with the View to Oakham taking that space. If no space becomes available this year, then RCC was hopeful that OTC will be in prime position for a CSW initiative in 2024.
- Request received of a review of the Hopper Bus Route, suggest deferred, to after the election
- Oakham Skatepark Project: Letter received requesting an update, suggest deferred to after the election

Noted

29/03-07 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Cllr. Wadsworth reported that she had attended two events, one being the opening of the police desk at Oakham Police Station and the other was the Declaration of the New high sheriff/

Noted

29/03-08 WORKING GROUPS AND OUTSIDE BODIES

29/03-08.1 Reports from members, working groups and outside bodies:
There were none

29/03-08.2 Events Update: It was noted that committed expenditure relating to the summer events (excluding the Coronation of King Charles III) had so far amounted to £5,300.

Noted

29/03-08.3 Chamber Door Lock: Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: That owing to a set of keys being unaccounted for, and to maintain the security of the OTC Office and Chambers that the council would replace the Chamber Door Lock with a similar lock and retain the existing lock should it be required by the landlord.

By Majority

29/03-08.4 Oakham United Charities: Following a discussion it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: That OTC would approve and ratify the following trustees to Oakham United Charities for a period of three years effective from this meeting date:

Unanimous

Ms Jenny Hughes, Mrs Elizabeth Needham and
Mrs Julia Glennie

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Chairman:

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It was further.

RESOLVED: That the council would reserve the right to appoint a fourth trustee from OTC elected members.

Unanimous

29/03-09 CONSIDERATION OF CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

29/03-09.1 Citizens Advice Rutland: It was reported that Citizens Advice Rutland were seeking a donation from OTC. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: That consideration be deferred pending the receipt of additional information. **Unanimous**

29/03.09.2 Oakham Bowling Club: Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: That the item be moved to exempt items.

Unanimous

29/03-9.3 Churches Together in Oakham & District – Good Friday Walk of Witness 07.04.23. An invitation had been received for OTC representatives to attend the event. **Noted**

29/03-10 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

29/03-10.1 Community Lighting Recharge: OTC had received a second reminder for the outstanding balance of £9,270.12. Whilst acknowledging that there had been a significant increase in energy price increases, it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: That the matter be deferred pending discussions with RCC regarding the fixed priced contract between RCC and OTC. **Unanimous**

29/03-10.2 Petty Cash: Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: That the unaccounted petty cash would be written off and the Rialtas cashbook reconciled and closed on 31 March 2023. **Unanimous**

29/03-10.3 Salary: Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: That the item be moved to exempt items.

Unanimous

29/03-11 KINGS CORONATION: An event to mark the Coronation of King Charles III was being held in Cutts close and that in order to make the event more accessible it had been suggested that OTC run the Hopper Bus Service around the town on the day. Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: That this would be agreed in principle subject to accurate costing information being available for consideration by members at the next meeting. **Unanimous**

29/03-12 PLANNING APPLICATIONS: Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: To comment as follows to RCC **Unanimous**

2023/0213/CAT Proposal: (T1)1 no Eucalyptus Tree – reduced all round by no more than 3 metres as per recommendations in tree report at.47 Brooke Road, Oakham LE15 6HG.

NO OBJECTION

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Chairman:

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2023/0227/FUL Proposal: Retrospective erection of a temporary wood shed to provide shelter for dogs during dog walking activities at Land at Braunston Road, Oakham
NO OBJECTION

2023/0268/PTA Proposal: (T1) 1 no Conifer. Remove tree to ground level (T2) (T3) (T4) - 3 no Conifers on the left-hand side of the garden to be removed at Catmose Farm House, 40 Uppingham Road, Oakham, LE15 6JD
NO OBJECTION

2023/0273/PTA Proposal: (T1) Twin stemmed Ash tree – Pollard just above fence height due to presence of Ash Dieback. (T2) 1 no Norway Maple (T3) 1 no at Oak 12 Catmose Park Road, Oakham LE15 6HN
NO OBJECTION

29/03-13

EXEMPT ITEMS: Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:
RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items on the grounds that they relate to individuals and the financial affairs of particular persons. This information is classed as exempt under paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as revised by The Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006). **Unanimous**

29/03-13.1 Lease Arrangements: Following a discussion, it was proposed, seconded and:

RESOLVED: That with the exception of the leases for the Bowls and Tennis Clubs the leases would be reviewed shortly before they became due for renewal. **Unanimous**

It was further

RESOLVED: That with regard to the leases for the Bowls and Tennis Clubs, the councils solicitor would be asked to finalise the draft leases as per the decisions reached by Council in December 2021 for consideration by OTC in May 2023. **Unanimous**

It was further

RESOLVED: That the solicitor would be asked to invoice the council for services rendered to date. **Unanimous**

It was further.

RESOLVED: To receive and note the contents of a letter recently received from the Bowls Club. **Unanimous**

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Chairman:

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- 29/03-13.2 Staffing Updates**
- 29/03-13.2.1 Former Town Clerk:**
Correspondence received and noted.
Actions agreed. **Unanimous**
- 29/03-13.2.2 Appointment of new Town Clerk:**
Recruitment timetable and
advertisement agreed.
Unanimous

29/03-14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: Confirmed as 12 April 2023 @ 6.30 p.m.

There being no additional business, the meeting concluded at 8.45 p.m.

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Chairman: **Date:** 12 April 2023