

Stronger Communities Committee Meeting of Witney Town Council



Monday, 25th January, 2021 at 6.00 pm

To members of the Stronger Communities Committee - O Collins, L Ashbourne, J Aitman, T Ashby, D Enright, D Butterfield, H Eaglestone and V Gwatkin (and all other Town Councillors for information).

You are hereby summonsed to the above meeting to be held in the **Virtual Meeting Room via Zoom** for the transaction of the business stated in the agenda below.

Admission to Meetings

All Council meetings are open to the public and press unless otherwise stated.

Admission to this meeting will be online by virtue of The Local Authorities & Police & Crime Panels (Coronavirus)(Flexibility of Local Authority & Police & Crime Panels Meetings)(England & Wales) Regulations 2020.

Zoom login details of this meeting will be published on the Council's website prior to the meeting.

Recording of Meetings

Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 the council's public meetings may be recorded, which includes filming, audio-recording as well as photography.

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings please let the Town Clerk or Democratic Services Officer know before the start of the meeting.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence

To consider apologies and reasons for absence.

Committee members who are unable to attend the meeting should notify the Democratic Services Officer (nicky.cayley@witney-tc.gov.uk) **prior to the meeting**, stating the reason for absence.

***Standing Order 30(a)(v)** permits the appointment of substitute Councillors to a Committee whose role is to replace ordinary Councillors at a meeting of a Committee if ordinary Councillors of the Committee have confirmed to the Proper Officer **before** the meeting that they are unable to attend.*

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in any items under consideration at this meeting in accordance with the Town Council's Code of Conduct.

3. Minutes (Pages 5 - 12)

- a) To adopt and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2020.
- b) Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda. (Questions on the progress of any item).

4. **Public Participation**

The meeting will adjourn for this item.

Members of the public may speak for a maximum of **five minutes** each during the period of public participation, in line with Standing Order 42. Matters raised shall relate to the following items on the agenda.

5. **Corporate Strategic Plan**

To discuss the Committee's aims and objectives for inclusion in the Council's Corporate Strategic Plan and agree its priorities for 2021/22, 2022/23 and beyond.

This Committee's immediate/top priorities have been identified by the Task & Finish Group as being:-

- a) Rebranding.
- b) Christmas Lights Re-tender, fitting of timers and more environmentally friendly solutions to meet the Council's Climate emergency objectives.
- c) Open Spaces Strategy – which will include improvement to floral displays, roundabouts/in bloom – report due April 2021.
- d) Inclusion & Diversity Board.

6. **Events Report** (Pages 13 - 16)

To receive and consider the report of the Communications and Events Officer.

7. **Operational Report - Progress on improvements and repairs since the last meeting** (Pages 17 - 18)

To receive and consider the report of the Operations and Estates Officer.

8. **Trees Update** (Pages 19 - 174)

To receive and consider the report of the Operations and Estates Officer.

9. **Street Furniture and Infrastructure - Planters on High Street**

The Council agreed to fund and maintain the planting of 6 wooden planters at its meeting on 12 October 2020 – minute no 334 refers.

WODC Officers have requested that the Town Council considers funding a further 8 planters so that unsightly barriers can be removed and replaced with planters, as well as assisting with the access for the buses. The cost would be in the region of £3,500 – and Members would need to agree a budget accordingly.

10. **Communications Update** (Pages 175 - 176)

To receive and consider the report of the Communications and Events Officer.

11. **Communications in an Emergency Situation**

To discuss communications in emergency situations in order to consider if the Council should have a policy document – if so the Town Clerk would suggest that this is referred to the Policy, Governance & Finance Committee.

12. **Rural/Market Town Group** (Pages 177 - 180)

To receive and consider the correspondence from the Rural Market Town Network regarding membership to the Rural Market Town Group.



Town Clerk

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