

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE
WOODSTOCK TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT 7.30 PM ON TUESDAY 28th JANUARY 2014
IN THE MAYOR'S PARLOUR, WOODSTOCK TOWN HALL**

PRESENT:

Cllr J Cooper (Mayor)
Cllr C Carritt
Cllr S Parnes
Cllr Mrs E Jay

Cllr M Robertson (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr B Yoxall
Cllr Mrs E Stokes
Cllr E Poskitt

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: *Three members of the public.*

WTC/245/13 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Mrs V Edwards, P Jay and T Wray.

WTC/246/13 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: No pecuniary interests were declared. The following general interests were recorded:

Cllr E Poskitt: Agenda Item 5 Planning, as a District Cllr who sits on the Uplands Sub Committee.

The Mayor: Agenda Items 5 Planning and 6 Premises Licence Application, as a District Cllr involved in planning and licensing.

WTC/247/13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:

Mr P Redpath addressed the council about the OWL screening. He reminded Cllrs of the background to the recent extension to the OWL reserve, suggested that the council could have consulted more with members of the public, reported upon the recent work undertaken by the Green Gym at the new OWL extension and asked the council to nurture the spirit of the community.

WTC/248/13 QUESTIONS: None.

WTC/249/13 PLANNING:

The Mayor and Cllr E Poskitt declared general interests. The council received and considered the following planning applications:

a) Ref: AB/13/1282/P/FP. 36 Plane Tree Way, Woodstock – Erection of Greenhouse (Retrospective)

To receive and consider the information received from WODC about the planning appeal.

RESOLVED that WTC reaffirms its original decision - that WTC had no comment to make about this planning application.

b) Ref: 14/0014/PF. Land Adj to 34 Bear Close, Woodstock

Change of use of land to erect a detached garage.

RESOLVED that WTC has no comment to make about this planning application.

c) Ref:14/0015/P/FP. 38 Hill Rise, Woodstock

Conversion of garage to bedroom and erection of new porch.

RESOLVED that WTC has no comment to make about this planning application.

d) Ref: 14/0051/P/FP. 20 Flemings Road, Woodstock
Erection of two storey and single storey extensions.

RESOLVED that WTC has no comment to make about this planning application.

e) Ref: 14/0056/P/FP. Harriet's Cake Shop, 20 High Street, Woodstock
Change of Use of Ground Floor from retail to residential.

RESOLVED (unanimous) that Woodstock relies on its tourist trade and a variety of refreshment facilities is crucial to support this, therefore WTC **objects** to this planning application on the grounds that it would deprive the town of a much valued amenity for tourists and residents which is in a prime location in the town, with an authentic historical setting, and to grant the application would set an unwelcome precedent.

ACTION: *The administrative officer will send the planning responses to WODC.*

WTC/250/13 PREMISES LICENCE APPLICATION

The council received and considered the licence application from Love Wine Merchants Ltd.

RESOLVED that WTC has no comment to make about this licence application.

WTC/251/13 GRASS CUTTING TENDERS

The council received and considered a report from Cllr C Carritt about the grass cutting tender submissions received and the costs. Discussion followed.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Mayor proposed that in view of the nature of the business to be transacted the public and press be temporarily excluded from the meeting (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s.1).

RESOLVED

That members of the public leave the meeting temporarily whilst the Council considered confidential information.

The council received and considered a recommendation from Cllr C Carritt. Discussion followed. Cllr C Carritt proposed, the Mayor seconded and it was

RESOLVED (unanimous) that WTC accept the tender from Thomas Fox Landscaping at a sum of £10,873 on the grounds that the company is known to the council and is regarded as reliable and able to deliver the service WTC requires in an efficient and timely manner.

ACTIONS:

1. *The Town Clerk will write to all of the companies that had applied for the contract notifying them of the results.*
2. *The Environment Committee will consider WTC's other gardening and grounds maintenance requirements and produce a specification so that quotes can then be obtained.*

WTC/252/13 NEW ROAD AND BUDDS CLOSE PLAYGROUNDS PROJECT TENDERS

The council received and considered a report from the Deputy Mayor about the playground tender submissions received and the costs. Discussion followed

The Deputy Mayor proposed, the Mayor seconded and WTC

RESOLVED (5 votes for, 1 vote against and 2 abstentions) that WTC accepts the tender from Wicksteed as their submission most closely complies with the specification, the company has shown imagination and care in its presentation, and the project manager who has experience of working with several of the bidders would recommend Wicksteed as reliable and competent.

ACTION: *The companies that had applied for this work will be notified of the results.*

WTC/253/13 COMMUNITY CENTRE ROOF REPAIR:

The council received and noted an oral report from the Mayor about a leak in the Community Centre roof and two quotes for the repair obtained by Carter Jonas. The Mayor proposed that WTC appoint Woodstock Roofing and make a retrospective claim for repair costs from the insurers. Cllr C Carritt seconded this motion but asked that it be amended to express regret that Carter Jonas had only managed to get two quotes for this job when there are several other suitable contractors in the near vicinity who could have submitted quotes. The Mayor accepted this amendment.

RESOLVED that Woodstock Roofing be employed to repair the roof of the Community Centre at a cost of £2,510 plus VAT and that WTC notifies Carter Jonas that it regrets that they had only managed to get two quotes for this job when there are several other suitable contractors in the near vicinity who could have submitted quotes.

ACTION: *The Town Clerk will notify Carter Jonas of the council's resolution.*

WTC/254/13 OWL SCREENING

The council received and considered an oral report from the Deputy Mayor about screening at the OWL extension. The opening up of the steps has significantly exposed one house so screening has been investigated and three quotes sought. The screening needs to be planted now in order to maximise the chances of it flourishing. The Deputy Mayor proposed, the Mayor seconded and WTC

RESOLVED (unanimous) that Bob Staig is employed to plant two mature evergreen oak trees at a total cost of £1,260.00.

The meeting closed at 8.24pm.

Signed Date