

# **The Parish of Great Faringdon in the County of Oxfordshire**

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2008**

**in the Corn Exchange, Faringdon**

**PRESENT: For Faringdon Town Council:**

**Cllrs. J.C.W. Gillman (Town Mayor)**

**Mrs. M.J. Barker**

**Mrs. J. Boulton**

**R. Cox**

**Miss J. Farmer**

**A.V. Hickmore**

**D. Hughes**

**S. Leniec**

**A. Marsden**

**D. Price**

**Mrs. S. Vinall**

**M. Wise**

**C/Cllr. Mrs. J. Heathcoat**

**D/Cllr. Mrs. A. Thomson**

**Mr. Tony Hadland, Vale & Downland Museum**

**28 Members of Public**

**1 Member of the Press**

**The Town Clerk**

### **1. Mayor's Opening Address**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for permission for Cllr. Leniec, who is not an elector of the parish, to speak during the meeting and this was AGREED.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from D/Cllr. M. Barber.

### **3. Minutes of the Town Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2008**

A request was made for Minutes of Council meetings to be made available to the public within 14 days of the relevant meeting.

Mr. Gaught complained that his remarks, made at the last Annual Town Meeting, had not been recorded. It was pointed out to him that the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> January had approved the Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting, where his comments had been recorded. The Minutes were signed as a correct record.

### **4. Matters Arising**

Mr. Colin Desborough asked why the answers to questions raised during the meeting, which had been recorded, were not similarly recorded.

## **5. Vale & Downland Museum, Wantage**

Mr. Tony Hadland, Museum Administrator, was invited to give a presentation about the services provided by the Museum and their Jubilee Refurbishment Appeal. He stated that the Museum had been founded in 1958, the V&DM Trust had been founded in 1975 and they had moved to their present site in 1983, so they were celebrating both their Silver and Golden Jubilee Years in 2008. Mr. Hadland outlined the many activities they were engaged in and invited Faringdon residents to become involved with the work of the Museum.

Mr. Hadland was thanked for his informative presentation.

## **6. Reports from Town Council Committee Chairmen**

*The Chairmen of the Finance, Venues and Recreation & Open Spaces Committees tabled written reports, copies of which are available from the Town Clerk until April 2009 on request.*

- (a) Finance
- (b) Venues
- (c) Recreation & Open Spaces
- (d) Planning & Highways

Members of the Public were given the opportunity to ask questions of the relevant Chairmen during this item.

Reports from Tucker's Recreation Ground Trust and Faringdon War Memorial Trust  
*The Chairmen of both of the above Trusts tabled a written report, copies of which are available from the Town Clerk until April 2009 on request.*

### County Councillor's Report

*C/Cllr. Mrs. Heathcoat tabled a written report, copies of which are available from the Town Clerk until April 2009 on request.*

### District Councillors' Report

*D/Cllrs. Cox and Mrs. Thomson each tabled a written report, copies of which are available from the Town Clerk until April 2009 on request.*

### Reports from Local Organisations

*The following organizations tabled written reports, copies of which are available from the Town Clerk until April 2009 on request.*

- (a) Sgt. E. Tearney, Thames Valley Police
- (b) Faringdon Twinning Association
- (c) Faringdon United Charities
- (d) Faringdon Chamber of Commerce

*The following organizations gave verbal reports to the meeting:*

- (a) Faringdon Retailer Group
- (b) Faringdon Association of Residents

It was suggested that the Joint Environmental Trust for Faringdon, Joint Economic Forum for Faringdon and the Faringdon Traffic Advisory Committee should each be invited to send a representative to attend and give reports to the next Annual Town Meeting.

**7. Future of Land Adjoining Willes Close, Faringdon**

There was no progress to report on the use of the land for allotments, but an approach had been made to the County Council requesting permission for its use in this way.

**8. Public Speaking Time and General Discussion**

Members of the public had been given the opportunity to raise questions and voice concerns at relevant points during the meeting.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

Cllr. Leniec proposed that the next meeting, which was normally held in January to present the Council's budget for the following year to the residents, should be held in late November/early December. Cllr. Hickmore expressed his disagreement, on the grounds that members of the public were able to influence the early discussions on the Budget at the respective Committee meetings. However, Cllr. Wise seconded Cllr. Leniec's proposal which was CARRIED.