



POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee, held in the Council Chamber at the Council Offices, Radstock Lane, Earley, Reading, on Wednesday 25th January 2023 which commenced at 7pm.

Present

Chair – Councillor D Hare

Councillors: A Bassett, D Chopping, J Clark, J Eastwell, R Houlbrooke, A Long, T Maher, S Matthews A Mickleburgh and C Smith

In attendance: J Friend (Town Clerk) and E Carroll (Deputy Town Clerk)

83. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Jones.

84. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

85. PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public were present.

Cllr Chopping entered the meeting.

86. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on 9th November 2022 were confirmed as a true record and **RESOLVED** for signature by the Chair (Minutes 63-82).

87. BANK RECONCILIATIONS

Councillors noted that the Bank Reconciliations for October and November 2022 had been made available to the Chair of the Policy & Resources Committee for information.

88. PRECEPT AND BUDGET 2023/24

Councillors considered the precept and budget recommendations for 2023/2024 made by the Budget Working Party and thanked the Town Clerk and her team for their work in preparing the budget. It was

RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Budget Working Party would be put forward, unamended, to Full Council for resolution at its meeting on 8th February 2023.



89. CORONATION

The committee considered the recommendations from the Amenities & Leisure Committee in relation to marking the Coronation of King Charles III in May 2023.

89.1 Members **RESOLVED** to plant a tree, with commemorative plaque, at one of ETC’s sites, further consideration to be given to location.

89.2 There was much discussion around the Amenities and Leisure Committee’s suggestion that small grants be offered for those organising local events/street parties and no consensus was reached. Members **RESOLVED** to set up a small working party, consisting of 5 members, to consider the suggestion further and provide a final recommendation to the next Policy & Resources Committee meeting on 15th March 2023. The Town Clerk to invite councillors to volunteer to sit on the working party.

90. SILVERDALE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Members noted that Earley Town Council has signed the legal agreement as provided by Maiden Erlegh Trust and will now vacate the property in March rather than July 2023, as previously agreed. ETC is now permitted to use the building for storage purposes only.

91. POLICY REVIEWS

91.1 Councillors reviewed the Town Council’s Whistleblowing Policy and its Time off in Lieu (TOIL) Policy, noting that there were no recommended amendments.

It was **RESOLVED** that both policies be re-adopted.

91.2 Councillors reviewed the Town Council’s Grievance Procedure and its Equality and Diversity Policy, both of which had been re-drafted and updated.

It was **RESOLVED** that both the Grievance Procedure and the Equality and Diversity Policy be adopted.

92. ORDERS FOR PAYMENT

Councillors received details of Orders for Payment made since the last meeting of the Town Council (Vouchers 5350 – 5376, 5377 – 5403, 5404 – 5425, 5426 – 5431, 5432 – 5444, 5445 – 5473, 5474 – 5510) and Imprest Account (Vouchers 63 – 64 and 741 – 757).

93. PUBLICATIONS

It was noted that the following communications had been received and were available for perusal from the Council Offices:

CCB	E-Bulletin January 2023
University Of Reading	E- Community newsletter Spring 2023
MERA	Minutes 12 th January 2023



94. PRESS RELEASES

No press releases were requested.

95. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

There were no members of the public or press present. It was agreed that the remaining items on the Agenda be taken under Part II.

PART II

96. CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

97. YOUTH SERVICES

98. STAFFING COMMITTEE

99. TERMINATION OF MEETING

The meeting was declared closed by the Chair at 8.08pm.

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Chair, Policy & Resources Committee