

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the
Finance and General Purposes Committee
held on Thursday 9th March 2023 at 7pm
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thatcham

Present: Councillor Mike Cole (Chairman)
 Councillors Jeff Brooks, Jeremy Cottam, Lourdes Cottam,
 Richard Crumly, Lee Dillon and Richard Foster

In attendance: Mel Taylor (Town Clerk)

FGP/2023/015 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Owen Jeffery and David Lister.

FGP/2023/016 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Brooks, Cole, J Cottam, Crumly and Dillon declared non-pecuniary interests in agenda item number 5 (FGP/2023/019) as potential recipients of long service awards.

FGP/2023/017 KING CHARLES III CORONATION

The Mayor presented a request that £2,000 of the £7,500 allowance in the 2023/24 budget for the Freedom of the Town ceremony (no longer taking place in 2023) be assigned to deliver a 'Garden Party' at Thatcham Town Cricket Club on the afternoon of Sunday 7th May 2023 to celebrate the King's Coronation.

RESOLVED to approve a budget of £2,000 for a celebratory event for the King's Coronation, to be funded from the £7,500 budgeted for Freedom of the Town, and to recommend that the Coronation Working Group (Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Events Manager) considers requesting that the Cricket Club open its bar for the event and to approach local supermarkets for donations of cakes (Councillor J Cottam offered to approach supermarkets).

FGP/2023/018 THE MAYOR'S LEGACY TABLEAU

The Mayor presented the following proposals regarding the 'Mayor's Legacy Tableau', for consideration:

- RESOLVED**
- i. Proposed installation of the Legacy Tableau on the 'western / back' wall of Hall 1 at the Frank Hutchings Community Hall.
 on behalf of the Recreation and Amenities Committee, to approve installation of the Tableau on the 'western / back' wall of Hall 1 at the Frank Hutchings Community Hall, and to recommend to the Recreation and Amenities Committee that 'Hall 1' be renamed 'Jubilee Hall' in recognition of the Tableau.
 - ii. Expenditure of £4,561 for costs associated with preparation, installation and unveiling of the Mayor's Legacy Tableau, the majority of which was expected to be offset by sponsorship and other fundraising income (for example; book sales).

RESOLVED to underwrite expenditure of up to £4,561 for preparation, installation and unveiling of the Mayor's Legacy Tableau, to be offset by sponsorship and fundraising income.

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FGP/2023/019 LONG SERVICE AWARDS

The Mayor presented a proposal to introduce Long Service Awards for Councillors and Officers, and requested an initial budget of £2,732.24 to purchase badges, pens and certificates for a number of eligible, serving Councillors and Officers.

RESOLVED to approve the introduction of Long Service Awards and initial expenditure of £2,732.24 and that intermittent years of service should be included in the eligibility criteria.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.42pm.

Signed _____ Date _____