

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the
Town Centre Committee
held on Monday 16th January 2023 at 7pm
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thatcham

Present: Councillor Owen Jeffery (Chairman)
 Councillors Richard Crumly (substituting for Ellen Crumly), David Lister,
 Simon Pike, Christine Rice and Jennifer Walker

In attendance: Mel Taylor (Town Clerk)
 Councillor John Boyd
 3 members of the public

TC/2023/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jeremy Cottam,
 Lourdes Cottam, Ellen Crumly (Richard Crumly appointed as substitute)
 and Mark Lillycrop.

TC/2023/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
 There were no declarations of interest.

TC/2023/03 MINUTES
RESOLVED to take as read and confirm as accurate the Minutes of the meeting held on
 14th November 2022.

TC/2023/04 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
 There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

TC/2023/05 INCOME / EXPENDITURE COSTS
 Councillors noted income and expenditure for this Committee's budgets for
 the financial year to date.

TC/2023/06 TOWN CENTRE PHARMACIES
 Councillor Jeffery advised that there appeared to be improvements in the
 issues experienced at local pharmacies, reported at the last meeting
 (TC/2022/39). It was understood that Lloyds Pharmacy had appointed a
 new manager.
 Thatcham Medical Practice was now opening the internal doors between
 Boots pharmacy and doctors' surgery, allowing patients from the surgery to
 access the pharmacy internally.
 Councillor Jeffery to visit Lloyds at the Burdwood Centre as it was reported
 that issues continued there. Councillor Crumly confirmed that issues at the
 Crown Mead branch of Lloyds had improved.

TC/2023/07 THATCHAM PLACE-MAKING STRATEGY
 Following a verbal report from the Chairman at the last meeting regarding
 meetings with Hemingway Design, appointed by West Berkshire Council to
 undertake Place-Making Strategies for Thatcham and Hungerford Town
 Centres (TC/2022/40), it was noted that a public consultation was launched
 on 5th December 2022 and open until 9th January 2023, seeking views on
 'what should happen in the town'. It was understood that a stakeholders'
 follow up meeting to consider the feedback was scheduled for Tuesday
 24th January 2023.

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- TC/2023/08 VICTORIA CROSS MEMORIAL STONES**
 Regarding relocation of the Victoria Cross Memorial Stones, discussed at previous meetings, it was noted that replacement stones and new plinths were on order and it was hoped that they would be unveiled in late March.
- TC/2023/09 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUND APPLICATION**
a) Committee considered an application from Royal British Legion Thatcham Branch for funding of £350 from the Community Project Fund to purchase Two Silent Soldiers.
- RESOLVED** to award £350 from the Community Project Fund to Royal British Legion Thatcham Branch for the purchase of Two Silent Soldiers.
- b)** The above application contained a proposal that the Silent Soldiers be placed in The Broadway Green to support the VC Stones, with the exception of during Remembrance time when they would be placed in the Memorial Garden. Committee raised concern that The Broadway might not be an appropriate place for the Silent Soldiers and could attract potential anti-social behaviour. Committee invited the RBL to suggest alternative locations. It was agreed to seek the opinion of Hemingway Design, currently undertaking a Place-Making Strategy for the town centre on behalf of West Berkshire Council, to comment on potential locations.
- TC/2023/10 BARCLAYS BANK MOBILE BANKING**
 Following a report to the last meeting that Barclays Bank were looking at potentially bringing a mobile banking unit to The Broadway (TC/2022/42a), there were no further updates to report at this time.
- TC/2023/11 PUBLIC TOILETS – THE BROADWAY**
a) Remedial Repairs
 It was noted that the recently upgraded flushing mechanisms were working well and the replacement accessible WC was still in good working order.
- b) Changing Places**
 No further updates to report.
- TC/2023/12 DEMENTIA FRIENDLY TOWN**
 Councillor Jeffery advised that regular meetings were taking place via video conference and that the Jubilee Sensory Garden in Brownsfield Road had received much acclaim and was being promoted as a destination.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.27pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____