

QUESTION TIME

To receive questions from members of the public for a period not exceeding ten minutes.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with sections 10 and 12 of Wiltshire Council's Members Code of Conduct, as adopted by Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council at a meeting held on 12th July 2012.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive any announcements, the Chairman wishes to make.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

To confirm and sign minutes of meetings of the Committees held on Thursday 23rd March 2017 [R&R/6/2016-2017] and Thursday 25th May 2017 [R&R/1/2017-2018]. Copies previously circulated.

5. GRANT AID

The Committee is asked to consider the Grant Aid Application submitted by Wootton Bassett School of Dance, report and supporting documentation attached, *Appendix A. (Accounts to follow)*

6. FLY THE RED ENSIGN FLAG OF THE BRITISH MERCHANT NAVY

The Council has received a letter from Seafarers UK inviting the Council to fly the Red Ensign flag of the British Merchant Navy for Merchant Navy Day which is Sunday 3rd September 2017.

The cost of purchasing the flag will be £45.71. A guide on how to take part is attached, *Appendix B*.

The Committee is asked whether it wishes to take part.

7. HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENTS

Following the Council's decision to abolish all working parties, highways improvement issues are to be considered by the Revenue and Resources committee.

A request has been received from the Area board seeking to open a dialogue to streamline the system for assessing Highway improvements.

Currently requests for highways improvements sent to Wiltshire Council as the Highway authority, are immediately referred to the relevant Parish or Town Council, who are asked to consider whether they support the request and if so to pledge funding towards those works.

The request is then forwarded to the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) who in conjunction with Highway Engineers and Parish and Town Council representatives, will prioritise the schemes against the funding available.

The Committee is asked to consider opening a dialogue with the Area Board to explore ways of improving the system.

Supplementary to this, under the previous working party system, a number of requests were considered and these are detailed in the attached paper from the working party dated 29th March 2017. All of these items were deferred at committee level as the then chairman, Councillor Mike Farrow was

unable to attend to that meeting to answer member's questions. Working party paper, *Appendix C*.

Since this time four further applications have been received, copies also appended to this agenda, covering Area Board issues 5164, 5269, 5270 and 5271.

The committee's instructions are sought.

8. COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE

Natasha Gumbrell, Senior Transformation Delivery Manager, has a number of meetings this week following which she has agreed to draft an update report for town council member's information.

Recent discussions have revolved around the costs assigned with option 2 and 3 on the attached plan. Early indications suggest that option 3 which is favoured by Council will cost £30,000 more to provide in view of the significant increase in glazed partitions, a much longer operable wall (folding pane) requiring significant reinforcement in the ceiling, increased ventilation and lighting. Discussion on this matter is still ongoing as the additional glazing requirements are queried, as is the need for a folding partition wall.

The second area of discussion concerns branding and attached is the Wiltshire Council suggestion of "Boroughfields Community Hub and Library", together with other suggestions they have made, copy attached, *Appendix D*.

This suggestion is opposed by the Councils representatives on the basis it needs to reference either "Royal Wootton Bassett" or perhaps just "Bassett" and should clearly acknowledge the contribution of the Town Council.

Wiltshire Council have been requested to send a representative to the meeting to answer member's questions.

9. MERCHANT HOUSE UPDATE

Report from Aricab Architects detailing progress in respect of maintenance works required at Merchant House, 34 High Street, Royal Wootton Bassett. Copy attached, *Appendix E*.

Committees is asked to note and confirm the report.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

The committee is asked whether it wishes to issue any press releases or other communications in respect of the committee agenda items.