

**DEVIZES TOWN COUNCIL**

**14<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

Councillors:	Bridewell	Burton	Carter
	Corbett	P Evans	S Evans
	Gay	Greenwood	Hopkins
	Johnson	Nash	Parsons
	Pennington	Rose	Rowland
	Shaw	Stevens	Von Berg

Officers: Simon Fisher –Town Clerk  
Jan Rendle – Committee Clerk

Members of the Public: 24 were present

**586. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**587. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Geddes, Godwin and Giraud-Saunders.

**588. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

None declared.

**589. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

There were none.

**590. QUESTIONS UNDER STANDING ORDER NO 15**

There were none.

**591. MINUTES OF MEETINGS FOR INFORMATION**

The committee noted the list of meetings, whose minutes have been signed, held since the last meeting of the Council.

**592. PROCEDURE: SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO 5**

It was proposed by Councillor Johnson, seconded by Councillor Carter and  
**RESOLVED**

THAT For the purposes of dealing with the remaining items on the agenda, Standing Order No 5 (Members to stand when speaking) be suspended.

**593. REPORT FOR DECISION – TRANSFER OF THE MARKET PLACE**

Councillor Nash advised the Meeting that a new revised offer had just been received from Wiltshire Council. This was for the transfer of the entire Market Place to the ownership of Devizes Town Council, which can use up to 50% of the area as open space, and the other 50% would be used as a pay-and-display car park by Wiltshire Council under licence from the Town Council. The whole of the Market Place could be used for larger events as frequently as required, with prior agreement and without charge. Evening and overnight parking would continue to be available in the car park section of the Market Place.

The terms of this new offer were still to be agreed. Wiltshire Council had confirmed its support of the Town Council initiative to maintain 30 minutes free parking by adjusting the on-street parking availability. The design and split of the Market Place area would be open to consultation.

Councillor Nash was thanked by fellow Councillors and members of the public for his work in negotiating this revised offer from Wiltshire Council, which was noted to be in line with the Town Council's original preferred option.

The Chairman invited questions from the members of the public, who raised a number of issues concerning the future of the Market Place, parking and the retail sector. Councillors and Officers reiterated that there would be a wide-ranging public consultation about the changes.

After some discussion it was proposed by Councillor Nash, seconded by Councillor Gay and agreed UNANIMOUSLY

THAT the Council should accept Wiltshire Council's proposal regarding the future use of the Market Place.

All but one member of the public left the Chamber.

**594. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – PROJECT LIST**

The report was received and noted.

**595. REPORT FOR DECISION – SELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2019/2020**

It was proposed by Councillor Hopkins, seconded by Councillor Carter

THAT Councillor Johnson is nominated as Deputy Mayor elect for 2019/20597.20.

There were no other nominations. Councillors agreed UNANIMOUSLY with the proposal and therefore Councillor Johnson is nominated as Deputy Mayor elect 2019/2020.

**596. REPORT FOR DECISION – APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR**

It was proposed by Councillor P Evans, seconded by Councillor Carter and UNANIMOUSLY agreed

THAT the Council agrees officers' recommendation in retaining Mr Morrison's services as internal auditor for the 2019/2020 financial year.

**597. REPORT FOR DECISION – CONSTITUTION, STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor Nash, seconded by Councillor Carter and agreed UNANIMOUSLY

THAT the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations are re-adopted with the proposed amendments as set out in the officers' report.

**598. REPORT FOR DECISION – ELECTORAL REVIEW OF WILTSHIRE COUNCIL & PARISH WARDING ARRANGEMENTS**

Councillor P Evans advised that the proposed changes currently relate to Wiltshire Council rather than town wards.

There was concern at the suggestion that Hopton could become part of a rural ward in the future, and Councillor Evans agreed to obtain further information to clarify the situation. Officers were asked to provide paper copies of ward boundaries for Councillors' reference.

It was proposed by Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor Greenwood and AGREED with one abstention

THAT comments on the proposed changes would be deferred pending further information, and would be considered by the Communities and Civic Resources committee.

**599. COMMON SEAL**

It was proposed by Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor Greenwood and agreed

THAT the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to or the Town Clerk do sign on behalf of the Council where appropriate any Orders, Deeds or Documents necessary to give effect to any of the matters and recommendations contained in the reports received and adopted at this meeting or other decisions of the Council thereat.

**600. QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions.

CHAIRMAN