



Ware Town Council

Ware Priory, High Street, Ware, SG12 9AL

www.waretowncouncil.gov.uk

01920 460316

WARE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 11th December 2023

in The Council Chamber, Ware Priory, Ware, starting at 7.30pm

MINUTES

ClIr Day (Chair) Bryant, Butcher, Hill, Scully, K Taylor-Moran, Williams.

From agenda item WTC 680 J Taylor-Moran, Zsibrita.

Officer present: Terry Philpott Town Clerk.

Members of the public: x 6 plus Police Sergeant Miller.

WTC675: To receive and accept Apologies for Absence

ClIr Mowbray, Shaw.

WTC676: To receive any Declarations of Interest and review any requests for Dispensation submitted to the Clerk.

ClIr Hill – Presdales grant application / Drill Hall noticeboard.

ClIr Scully – Property Strategy update

ClIr Butcher – Freedom of Ware nominations

WTC678: Minutes from the previous meeting: to receive and sign the minutes of the last Town Council meeting held on 16th October 2023

Resolved: The minutes are an accurate record

WTC679: Correspondence and Clerks report (TP)

- CCTV control centre visit, date options 14th 15th 16th November
- Wodson Park visit 12th December 2023.
- London Plane tree works completed.
- Councillor surgeries 2024, recommence when the market restarts.
- Budget / Business Plan process
- Planning Application Management
- Dual Authentication
- Office Xmas opening times
- Ware Priory Trading update
- Twinning update Tom, Kirsty, Graeme, James, Zim Zam, Martin.

WTC680: Grant applications

To receive an update on grants allocated by officers and review any grants for consideration by Full Council.

Date	Organisation	Where are they based	Purpose of grant	Grant awarded/financial assistance
14.04.23	Ware Football Club	Ware	Clubhouse Improvements	£ 1,000.00
14.04.23	Ware Boxing Club	Ware	Kit for the Members	£ 500.00
14.04.23	Ware District Guides	Ware	Coronation Event	£ 470.00
14.04.23	Ware Joggers	Ware	Ware Festival of Running	£ 882.00
14.04.23	Ware & District Photographic	Ware	Photo Exhibition	£ 250.00
28.04.23	East Herts Swift Group	Ware	Installation of swift boxes	£ 500.00
15.05.23	St Catherines School	Ware	Playground Equipment	£ 500.00
15.05.23	Future Living Hertford	Hertford	Sugarfoot Boxing – Coach	£ 1,000.00
15.05.23	Ware Lions	Ware	Equipment for Club	£ 500.00
30.04.23	Ware Mens Shed	Ware	Annual Rent	£ 2,400.00
15.06.23	Youth Justice	Ware	Allotments 23/24	£ 750.00
30.06.23	EHDC	Ware	Diversiory Activities – Ware	£ 2,000.00
14.07.23	Rotary Club	Ware	Strawberry Teas – 09.07.23	£ 300.00
31.07.23	Ware Town Centre Partnership	Ware	Music & Motors	£ 500.00
16.08.23	Beekeeper	Ware	Shed for Apiary	£ 362.95
31.08.23	Community Initiative	Ware	Move, Meditate & Relax	£ 490.00
15.09.23	Carers in Herts	Ware	Hubs for unpaid carers	£ 1,000.00
15.09.23	Police	Ware	Community Day	£ 250.00
15.09.23	Red Kite	Ware	Support Group	£ 2,000.00
29.09.23	Wodson Park Trust	Ware	Pickleball	£ 930.00
31.10.23	Ware Arts Centre	Ware	Mini Maltings	£ 750.00
31.10.23	Local Social Netball	Ware	Local Social Netball	£ 1,000.00
31.10.23	CHIPS	Ware	Playschemes	£ 2,000.00
30.11.23	Christmas Together	Ware	Christmas Together	£ 300.00
15.12.23	Neighbourhood Plan Group	Ware	Ware Neighbourhood Plan	£ 848.99
15.12.23	Herts Phoenix Athletic Club	Ware	Cover for High Jump Bed Spike Proof	£ 1,000.00
15.12.23	Citizens Advice	Ware	Citizens Advice Room Hire	£ 500.00
15.12.23	Community Alliance	Ware	Room hire costs for Digital Workshop	£ 480.00
			Total Spend Year To Date 2023/24	£ 20,463.94
			Grant Pot 2023/24 £30k	£ 30,000.00
			Remaining 2023/24	£ 9,536.06
			Loneliness Budget 2023/24 £3k	£ 3,000.00
			Loneliness Budget Spent 2023/24	£ 3,000.00
			Loneliness Budget Remaining 2023/24	£ -

Grant applications:

- Application from Ware Musical Theatre for additional seating at the Drill Hall.

Resolved: To approve an application of £2000.

- Application from The Drill Hall for Badminton Lines to be repainted on the courts.

Resolved: To approve an application of £2000.

- Application from Ware Boxing Club for running costs.

Resolved: To approve an application of £2659 inc VAT. WTC to purchase and donate the items.

WTC681: Capital Grant applications for consideration in the 24/25 budget

- Application from Presdales towards football pitch.

Resolved: To support the application for £6000 subject to planning.

- Application from Drill Hall for Digital Noticeboards.

Resolved: To support the application for £6260 subject to planning.

- Application from Age Concern for replacement windows.

Resolved: To review the application at the January 2024 Full Council.

WTC682: Climate and Ecology Bill (TD 5mins)

Preamble

Humans have already caused irreversible climate change, the impacts of which are being felt in the UK, and across the world. The average global temperature has already increased by 1.2°C above pre-industrial levels and—alongside this—the natural world has reached crisis point, with 28% of plants and animals threatened with extinction. In addition, the UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world as more than one in seven of our plants and animals face extinction, and more than 40% are in decline.

Climate change remains a major concern for UK voters with 66% of people (according to YouGov) expressing they are ‘worried about climate change and its effects’. Alongside this, the popularity of Sir David Attenborough’s *Save Our Wild Isles* initiative demonstrates public concern that UK wildlife is being destroyed at a terrifying speed.

Climate & Ecology Bill

The Climate & Ecology Bill, a private member's bill currently before the House of Commons, seeks to address the challenges that this situation poses by creating a whole-of-government approach to deliver a net zero and nature positive future.

Based on the latest science, the CE Bill aims to align current UK environmental policy with the need to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030, which was goal agreed to at COP15, via the *Kunming-Montreal Framework* (22 December 2022); and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with the UK's fair share of the remaining global carbon budget to give the strongest chance of limiting global heating to 1.5°C, which was the goal agreed to at COP21, via the *Paris Agreement* (12 December 2015).

By bridging the gap between the UK Government's current delivery, and what has been agreed at international levels, Britain has a chance to be a world leader on climate and the environment; seizing the opportunities of the clean energy transition, including green jobs and skills; reduced energy bills; and boosting the UK's food and energy security.

Ware Town Council notes that:

The Climate and Ecology Bill has been introduced in the UK Parliament on four occasions since 2020, including most recently in the House of Commons 10 May 2023. The Bill is backed by 180 cross-party MPs and Peers, 237 local authorities, alongside the support of eminent scientists, such as Sir David King; NGOs, such as the Wildlife Trusts, the Doctors' Association, Oxfam, the WI and CPRE; businesses, such as The Co-operative Bank, Riverford and The Body Shop; and 42,000 members of the public.

The CE Bill would require the UK Government to develop and achieve a new environmental strategy, which would include:

1. Delivering a joined-up environmental plan, as the crises in climate and nature are deeply intertwined, and require a plan that considers both together;
2. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions in line with 1.5°C to ensure emissions are reduced in line with the best chance of meeting the UK's Paris Agreement obligations;
3. Not only halting, but also reversing the decline in nature, setting nature measurably on the path to recovery by 2030;
4. Taking responsibility for our overseas footprint, both emissions and ecological;
5. Prioritising nature in decision-making, and ending fossil fuel production and imports as rapidly as possible;
6. Providing for re-training for those people currently working in fossil fuel industries; and
7. Giving the British people a say in finding a fair way forward via a temporary, independent and representative *Climate & Nature Assembly*, as part of creating consensus and ensuring that no one and no community is left behind.

Resolved: Ware Town Council therefore resolves to:

1. Support the Climate and Ecology Bill;
2. Inform local residents and inform local press/media of this decision;
3. Write to Julie Marson MP to inform them that this motion has been passed, and urge them to sign up to support the CE Bill – or thank them for already doing so;
4. Write to Zero Hour, the organisers of the cross-party campaign for the CE Bill, expressing Ware Town Council's support (councils@zerohour.uk).

WTC683: Meeting schedule 2024/25(TP)

Resolved: To approve the meeting schedule.

Resolved: To update the Delegation scheme to reflect the change in meeting setup.

WTC684: Approval of quotes related to the Café / Toilet project (TP)

Recommendation: To suspend standing orders to allow for single quotes to be accepted for the works detailed to summary.

Resolved: To approve the quotes as detailed.

WTC685: Feedback from members of Ware Lido Project group (TP/TD)

To receive feedback from the project group.

WTC686: Feedback from members of external groups (Cllrs)

- Friend of Ware Priory (GH)
- Town Twinning (KTM)
- Southern Maltings (GW)
- Ware Drill Hall (AZ)
- Ware Museum (BB)
- Ware Society (RM)
- Ware Charities (TJP) JD to attend January 2024 meeting
- Air Training Corps (TD)

WTC687: Feedback from members of Neighbourhood Plan Forum (Cllrs)

The NPSG met last week and provided feedback on the referendum and related advertising.

It was agreed that

Meetings of interested parties would be invited to a meeting to provide feedback 2pa.
WTC to write to EHC planning to see how they plan to ensure the plan is adhered to.
Link with Ware Society to monitor appropriateness of planning applications.

WTC688: Reports from Committees – to receive and note the minutes of following committees:

Finance and Policy –
Community and Environment – 20th November 2023
Human Resources –

WTC689: Agenda items for next meeting

- Cllr allowances (KTM)
- Library of things (KTM)

WTC690: Mayor's Closing Remarks

- Condolences to Cllr Mowbray following the death of his father.
- Thanks to Cllrs for the hardwork over the past year.

To agree any items to be dealt with after the public, including the press have been excluded. (A resolution to be passed by Councillors)
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WTC691: Freedom of Ware

The nominations were reviewed, Terry Philpott Town Clerk to advise successful nominees.
Presentation to be held at the Annual Town meeting on 18th March 2024.

WTC692: WTC Property Strategy update

The report was reviewed, it was agreed to continue with more fact finding to enable a formal decision to be made.

Signed

Dated