



Ware Priory, High Street, Ware, SG12 9AL

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WARE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 13th March 2023

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

MINUTES

WTC568: To receive and accept Apologies for Absence

- None received.

WTC569: To receive any Declarations of Interest and review any requests for Dispensation submitted to the Clerk.

- None declared.

WTC570: Minutes from the previous meeting: to receive and sign the minutes of the last Town Council meeting held on 9th January 2023.

Resolved: The minutes are an accurate record

WTC571: Discussion with Sergeant David Miller, Hertfordshire Police

Sergeant Miller presented information.

- Recorded crime has increased based on the 2022 v 2023 figures, the increase based on theft from motor vehicles.
- Targeting Anti Social Behaviour, working with the housing teams.

- King George Park visual audit taken place, working with East Herts Council to improve the area, further works with Network Homes. Focus on improving the lighting.
- Encouraging more OWL (neighbourhood watch) recruits.
- Easter gifts being worked on.
- Coffee with a Cop days being promoted.

WTC572: Correspondence and Clerks report (TP)

- Green space by New River at Amwell End / Gilpins Field no further update.
- EV Charging points installation survey to be completed Tuesday 14th March, terms to be agreed with the Museum for the electric supply.
- Meet your Councillor events put on hold until after the May 2023 election.
- 15 Priory Street, potential sale of freehold has been passed to Solicitor to action.
- Cemetery Bund work completed.
- Priory Play Area opened to the public on 4th March 2023.
- CCTV update, Town Centre cameras replaced, additional camera at Amwell End operational. Priory Park installation being finalised.
- Priory Park toilets are closed following vandalism, contractors for new toilets are being invited to site meeting to agree proposals.
- Mens Shed subject to grant approval will be operational at the Cemetery Lodge in the next couple of months.
- Annual Town meeting will take place on 20th March 2023 in Fletchers Lea.

WTC573: Grants

Update of Grant Policy

Resolved: To approve the updated Grant Policy increasing the limit to £1000 for officer approval, and remove the reference to Animal Charities.

Grant applications

The grants report outlining grants allocated was noted.

Resolved: To support the Mens Shed application for £2400 to pay for rent for new premises.

WTC574: Mayoral Role and voting (discussion document)

To note that this item will not be progressed but may be reviewed again in the future.

WTC575: Feedback from members of Ware Lido Project group (TP/RF)

To receive feedback from the LPG and agree the next steps.

The Contractor report was distributed at the meeting.

Design brief including cost for supply and installation has been received.

2 x Landscape designers have been briefed and undertaken a site visit, awaiting quotes prior to appointment.

Mechanical Engineer Has been appointed to review the hot water options for the showers etc and will visit site on 14th March.

WTC576: Feedback from members of Neighbourhood Plan Forum (Cllrs)

Regulation 16 consultation has been concluded, Jan Stock is consolidating the feedback for review by the NPSG.

The NPSG have agreed on the appointment of an Inspector and have advised EHC.

Once a referendum date is chosen the challenge will be to differentiate the Neighbourhood Plan and the NE Ware masterplan development that falls outside the scope of the plan.

WTC577: Reports from Committees – to receive and note the minutes of following committees:

Finance and Policy – 30th January 2023

Community and Environment – 13th February 2023

Human Resources – none

WTC578: Agenda items for next meeting

WTC579: Mayor's Closing Remarks (RF)

Cllr Fernando commented on the positive feedback from the Civic Service and Freedom of Ware celebrations.

Civic Dinner to be held on 14th April 2023.

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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Resolved: To exclude the press and public in relation to WTC580

WTC580: Potential Community space for rent (TP)

A broad discussion took place re the potential community space in Star Street available in 2026. It was felt that any decision re WTC involvement should be based on a wider strategic plan to be evolved as part of the new business plan following the May 2023 election.

With no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed

Dated