

RWBTC/3/2017-2018

6th July 2017

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council held on Thursday 6th July 2016 at 7.00pm at Manor House, Lime Kiln, Royal Wootton Bassett.

PRESENT: Councillors: Robert Anstee, David Bowler, Steve Bucknell, Mary Champion, Mike Farrow, Janet Georgiou, Nic Hughes, Mike Leighfield, Marion Sweet, Steve Walls.

Officers in Attendance: Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, Michelle Temple, Administrative Services Manager, and Emily Maiden, Administrative Officer.

27. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Paul Heaphy, Rebecca Hearne, Sue Hughes, Jenny Stratton and Steve Watts.

28. 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 Thursday 12th July 2012.

RESOLVED to note that no Declarations of Interest were made.

29. HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE TOWN

The Council received a report from the Town Clerk, copy previously circulated.

The Mayor, Councillor Steve Bucknell, has been in correspondence with representatives from the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) regarding the possibility of granting 8 Training Battalion the Honorary Freedom of Royal Wootton Bassett. Should the Council be minded to approve the granting of the Honorary Freedom of the town, the original suggestion had been to hold a Freedom Parade in October 2017, as close to the anniversary of the granting of the Letters Patent as would be possible.

Subsequent correspondence from Colonel Ed Heal of REME has highlighted the need for further investigation into a number of issues, which would not provide enough time to organise a Parade for October 2017. The Council was therefore asked whether it wished to continue the dialogue with REME and further investigate the possibility of granting the Honorary Freedom of the town to REME, with a view to holding a Freedom Parade in Spring 2018.

RESOLVED to continue the research into the granting of the Honorary Freedom of the town to REME. Members were also encouraged to consider nominating individuals to receive the Honorary Freedom of Royal Wootton Bassett, with any suggestions to be forwarded to the Town Clerk.

The meeting closed at 7.41pm