

OAKENGATES TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON Monday the 11th January 2010
AT THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES 22 LIMES WALK, OAKENGATES

Present:

Chairman: Mayor Councillor Rhodes

Councillors: Booth, Doody, Ellis, Goodchild, Hine, Maddy, Norton, Trafford, Warner, Wood and Willis

Clerk: Michael Gledhill

Members of the Public: 3

Visitors: Rev. K Evans (Wombridge Parish Church)

The Town Mayor Councillor Rhodes welcomed all those present and opened the public session at 06:45 pm.

Public Session:

The mayor was welcomed back and condolences were offered in respect of her recent loss.

Mrs Christine Orford (Chairman Oakengates Chamber of Trade) made representation to the members.

It was further reported that the car park lights on Limes Walk were not working.

At 7:00 pm the public session was declared closed.

The Chairman of the meeting Mayor Councillor Rhodes welcomed all those present and opened the Council meeting at 07:00 pm.

Minute number
611/09

Agenda Item No
Title & minute
1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN

Mayor Councillor Rhodes welcomed all those present. She congratulated Councillor Trafford on his birthday today and reminded members that the retirement presentation to Derrick Moore would now take at 6:30 pm on Tuesday the 2nd February 2010.

612/09 2. Apologies for absence and reasons

Councillor Goodchild, currently in a traffic jam.	Noted and authorised
Councillor Pearce, ill health.	Noted and authorised
The police have apologised for not being able to attend.	Noted

The apologies were unanimously accepted and duly noted and authorised.

Councillor Pearce entered the meeting

613/09 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Maddy declared an interest in agenda item no. 7
Councillor Warner declared an interest in agenda item no. 13
Councillor Rhodes declared an interest in agenda item no. 9a

614/09 4. MINUTES

615/09 a. It was proposed by Councillor Trafford and seconded by Councillor Willis "That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 14th December 2009 having been circulated, be certified as a true record of the proceedings thereof with the following two

changes; in Item 13 to remove Councillor Doody and replace him with Booth as being elected, and for the final line to be deleted regarding the closure of the meeting.”. The resolution was carried unanimously and the minutes were duly signed by the chairman.

616/09 b. It was proposed by Councillor Doody and seconded by Councillor Trafford “That the minutes of the Town Council meeting held in private session on the 14th December 2009 having been circulated, be certified as a true record of the proceedings thereof”. The resolution was carried and the minutes were duly signed by the chairman.

617/09 c. It was proposed by Councillor Trafford and seconded by Councillor Ellis “To receive the draft combined minutes for the public and closed session meeting of the Budget Committee held on the 8th December 2009”. The resolution was carried and the draft minutes were received.

618/09 **5. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

It was resolved that, under standing order 75, standing order 15 be suspended for the remainder of the meeting.

619/09 **6. MARKET**

The Town Clerk informed the members that a meeting is to take place at the Civic offices at 11am on Friday 15th regarding the appointment of a Market Manager by Telford and Wrekin Council . Organiser of the meeting Steve McWalters, has been tasked with writing a paper for Cabinet (to be delivered by the end of January 2010) and to formally agree a job description, implementation plan and management structure for the post. The Town Clerk will provide members with an update when available.

620/09 **7. WOMBRIDGE LEVEL CROSSING – RESTRICTED BYWAYS 63 AND 64**

The Town Clerk informed the members that an acknowledgement had been received from NetworkRail, by telephone, confirming that they have received the request for the level crossing gates to be repaired and that they have also received our request for a warning system. The clerk was requested to ensure that the Town Council views regarding the importance of this crossing be sent to the Borough of Telford and Wrekin.

621/09 **8. WOMBRIDGE PARISH CHURCH**

It was reported that a support letter has been sent in respect of the development of facilities at the church and a grant application form has also been sent.

The Mayor, Councillor Rhodes relinquished the chair and took no part in Item 9, Planning Applications, due to a declared interest. Councillor Woods took over the meeting as Chairman.

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. Applications for consideration

622/09 i. W2009/1034 – Siting of a mobile catering van – Travis Perkins, Holyhead Road, Oakengates, Telford. No objections were raised.

623/09 ii. W2009/1045 – Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 2 no. Dwellings with associated gardens and car parking – Craig Lea, Church Parade, Oakengates, Telford. No objections were raised.

b. For Information – Applications Granted

624/09 i. W2009/0871 – Erection of a dormer bungalow and detached garage – land adjacent to 9 Hadley Road, Oakengates, Telford.

625/09 ii. W2009/0917 – Siting of 1 no. 9 metre long storage container, portable WC and 2 metre high palisade fencing and retention of existing 8 no. Storage containers and club hut – Oakengates Leisure Centre, New Road, Wrockwardine Wood, Telford.

626/09 iii. W2009/0964 – Erection of single storey extensions to create enlarged reception/offices area and formation of external disabled access ramp – Oakengates Medical Practice, Limes Walk, Oakengates, Telford.

627/09 10. INVOICES FOR PAYMENT

Invoices for payment to the value of £11,690.82 and other payments as listed below were presented for payment. The List was validated by Councillor Hine and Councillor Ellis proposed and Councillor Booth seconded the motion that the payments be made. The proposal was unanimously carried and the cheques were duly signed.

Payee	Reason	Cheque Value
West Mercia Supplies	Gas supplies	
West Mercia Supplies	Gas supplies	£57.01
Clenit Cleaning Services	Office and Public toilet cleaning	£738.53
SBM Digital Systems	Photocopier volume charges	£29.28
Verrall's	Fixing office door lock	£45.00
Telford & Wrekin Council	Office rent for Jan 2010	£564.00
Limetree Landscape Services & Nurseries Ltd	Replanting planter winter bedding	£143.75
British Gas Business	Electricity November 2009	£83.55
Scadge Ltd	Light switch on DVD	£575.00
Securasound Ltd	New catinary wires	
Securasound Ltd	2 Double Holly Effects	£9,412.39
Severn Trent Water	Water bill Aug 09 to Nov 09	£42.31
Total external Cheques Value		<u>£11,690.82</u>

The following were tabled at the council meeting on 11th January 2010

		Cheque Value
Salaries, office expenses, etc.	Shropshire County Pension Fund	£300.54
Salaries, office expenses, etc.	Post Office (HMRC)	£409.10
Salaries, office expenses, etc.	Salary & Expenses	£836.95
Salaries, office expenses, etc.	Salary & Expenses	£387.84
Salaries, office expenses, etc.	Salary & Expenses	£211.46
Total Salaries, office expenses, Cheques Value		<u>£2,145.89</u>

Anticipated Direct Debits / Standing Orders

Tiscali billing (Broadband)	Due 1st Monthly	£22.99
Total Automated Payments		<u>£22.99</u>

TOTAL PAYMENTS £13,859.70

(A transfer into the current account to cover these payments will be done prior to the cheques being issued)

Inter Account Transfer Value 14,000.00

628/09 11. PRECEPT

The Council is required to set the precept for the financial year starting the 1st April 2010. The budgetary figures had already been provided to members in the Budget Committee Meeting minutes dated 8th December 2009.

To facilitate the number crunching exercises, the budget figures were on a spreadsheet visible to members through a computer screen in the Council Chamber. After deliberation the following figures were agreed upon:

Budget for 2010/2011	2009 Expenditure to date		2009 Expenditure projection		2010 - 2011 Budget	
	Totals	£	£	£	£	£
		63,253		83,445		141,800
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION						
Office expenses	£	820	£	1,093	£	2,350
Telephone	£	263	£	591	£	600
Insurance	£	2,405	£	2,405	£	4,000
Audit - external	£	550	£	550	£	600
Audit - internal	£	150	£	150	£	200
Computer	£	604	£	805	£	1,500
Photocopier	£	503	£	671	£	1,000
OTHER EXPENDITURE						
Elections	£	3,785	£	4,700	£	5,000
Staff Costs	£	10,966	£	14,621	£	25,000
Chairman's Allowance	£	-	£	250	£	500
Training and Conferences					£	1,600
Society of Local Council Clerks	£	-	£	-	£	200
Publicity	£	424	£	565	£	7,500
Ceremonial	£	-	£	-	£	250
Accommodation	£	7,239	£	9,652	£	48,000
Community Activities	£	23,332	£	31,110	£	25,000
Street Furniture	£	-	£	-	£	500
Public Toilets	£	5,471	£	7,295	£	8,000
Youth Projects	£	2,500	£	3,333	£	2,500
Regeneration	£	-	£	-	£	1,000
Oakengates Market	£	-	£	-	£	7,000
Grants (Section 137)	£	550	£	733	£	2,000
INCOME						
Bank Interest					-£	2,500
PRECEPT						
Precept 2010 - 2011					£	141,800
Precept 2009 - 2010					£	141,865
Reduction for 2010					£	65
Percentage reduction						0.05%

The agreed budget figures and the setting of the precept at £141,800.00 for the financial year starting on the 1st April 2010 was proposed by Councillor Norton and seconded by Councillor Ellis. The motion was carried unanimously.

629/09 12. PEDESTRIAN SAFETY – GREYHOUND ISLAND OAKENGATES

Discussion took place in which many concerns were raised regarding pedestrian and wheelchair users' safety at this very busy roundabout. Some of the road signs are covered up resulting in foreign lorries diverting into Oakengates, a route that is totally unsuitable. The underpass is not used by pedestrians and the current white lining of the roads is confusing to drivers. Councillor Trafford proposed "That Oakengates Town Council strongly urge Telford and Wrekin Borough Council to consider the installation of a pedestrian controlled crossing adjacent to the Greyhound Island Oakengates". Councillor Ellis proposed and Councillor Booth seconded an amendment for the wording "To enable safe crossings to be carried out". The amendment was carried and the original proposal now reading "That Oakengates Town Council strongly urge Telford and Wrekin Borough Council to consider the installation of a pedestrian controlled crossing adjacent to the Greyhound Island Oakengates to enable safe crossings to be carried out" was carried unanimously.

630/09 13. REGENERATION

The proposal by Councillor Wood, "I would like the members support to ask Telford and Wrekin to reveal to Oakengates Town Council their regeneration plans. Following Andrew Eade's statement at the Christmas Lights switch on he has indicated that there are plans, Oakengates Town Council cant move on or make plans ourselves until we know what's being planned" was discussed. In conclusion it was agreed that Councillor Carter and Mr Victor Brownlees be invited to the next council meeting in February to discuss the topic of regeneration and the Town Clerk was tasked with undertaking the invites.

631/09 14. POLICING

The motion: "This Council thanks Inspector P. Arnold (West Mercia Police) for acting on this Council's request by appointing a second ,fulltime C.S.O. to serve Ketley and Oakengates. This Council formally thanks the Police for their support at the "Christmas Light Switch On", 27th.November 2009 and looks forward to a good and positive future working relationship, between this Council and the Local Policing Team, ensuring much improved support for the Residents". Was proposed by Councillor Norton and seconded by Councillor Wood and carried unanimously.

632/09 15. TRAINING

The motion "To provide delegated authority to the Town Clerk to manage training and conference requests" was proposed by Councillor Ellis and seconded by Councillor Maddy. The motion was carried unanimously.

633/09 16. PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON MARKET STREET

The proposed consultation was discussed following an update from the Town Clerk who advised that it had come to light that the Consultation had been put on hold by Telford and Wrekin Council. This has now been reversed and Councillor Ellis tabled a report issued at the start of the meeting. It was proposed by Councillor Ellis and seconded by Councillor Trafford that Telford and Wrekin Council be informed that the Town Council wishes this consultation to go ahead as quickly as possible and for the views of the Town Council to be taken into account. The motion was carried unanimously.

634/09 17. COMMUNICATIONS

The Town Clerk read out a list of communications received.

635/09 18. COUNCIL MEETING DATES

In view of the forthcoming bank holidays consideration was given to future meeting dates. The following amended dates and times were agreed upon.

Date	Time	Meeting	Topic Included
Jan 18 th Monday	07:00 pm	Social	
Feb 2 nd Tue	06:45 pm 07:00 pm	Public Session Full Council	Citizen of the year
Feb 8 th Mon	Social	Social	
Feb 15 th Mon	06:00 pm 07:00 pm	Standing Orders Council	
Mar 2 nd Tue	06:45 pm 07:00 pm	Public Session Full Council	Newsletter
Mar 8 th Mon	07:00 pm	Social	
Mar 15 th Mon	06:00 pm 07:00 pm	Grants Full Council	
Apr 13 th Tue	07:00 pm	Social	
April 19 th Mon	06:45 pm 07:00 pm	Public Session Full Council	Year End Figures
May 11 th Tue	TBA	Annual Parish Meeting	Presentation of citizen of the year.
May 11 th Tue	TBA	Annual Parish Council	Mayor's Report Committee Chair's Reports Town Clerk Report

The dates and times were proposed by Councillor Ellis and seconded by Councillor Wood. The motion was carried unanimously.

636/09 PRIVATE SESSION

It was resolved that the public and press be now excluded from the meeting under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as adopted by Standing Order 25, on the ground that the items to be considered involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A thereof (as amended), by virtue of, respectively, descriptions 1, 2, 3 and 4 referred to therein.

The members of the public then left the meeting at 08:35 pm.

Chairman

____/_____/2010
Date