

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF COLESHILL TOWN COUNCIL'S RESOURCES & AMENITIES COMMITTEE**

**14 JUNE 2017 IN THE HUDSON ROOM AT THE TOWN HALL**

**Present:** Cllrs. Wootton (in the Chair), Breeze, Mason, Richardson and Symonds.

**1. APOLOGIES**

None received.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were declared.

**3. PREVIOUS MINUTES**

There were no previous minutes to accept as the December 2016 meetings had been previously adopted and the March 2017 meeting did not take place.

**4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

It was proposed by Cllr. Mason and seconded by Cllr. Breeze that Cllr. Symonds be elected as Vice Chairman. This was **AGREED** unanimously.

**5. INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

The Town Clerk had circulated a paper that described how there had been previous reviews of insurance in the last few years, allowing the reduction of duplication and taking alternative quotations. This had achieved savings worth thousands of pounds. The policies currently in place were:

<u>Description of Insurance</u>	<u>Provider</u>	<u>Annual Prem.</u>	<u>Renewal</u>
Local Auth. General & public liability	Zurich	£4,670.08	1 June '18
Caretaker's Household	Aviva	£339.04	4 April '18
Commercial Vehicle	Zurich	£655.34	18 Mar '18

The Council also paid a British Engineering Services boiler fee but this included an annual inspection and recommendation rather than purely an insurance policy.

Each policy has been assessed for market comparison at the time of renewal. Members were happy to continue that arrangement and that there was no further action required.

**6. WATER SUPPLY TO THE AUTHORITY**

The gas and electricity market had been open, for several years, to new suppliers in both the domestic and business markets and the council had twice taken options to save unit costs by switching suppliers. A broker has assisted with these market reviews. The supply of water to businesses was opened to a number of new suppliers in April 2017.

The Town Clerk has contacted Utility Advice Bureau Ltd for advice on the market and had authority in financial Regulations to review all utilities provision. UAB Ltd had recommended moving from Severn Trent Water to Everflow Ltd., a new operator based at Castle Eden. In doing so, the Council would receive an overall percentage decrease of 6.8% unit cost and a contract saving of £600 over the next 3 years. Annual cost would fall from £2954 to £2754. Members unanimously **RATIFIED** the change in water supply. Severn Trent Water would still be responsible for sewerage control.

7. **PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL CIVIC REGALIA**

The Council had a Mayor's chain and Mayor's Consort's small ribbon and pendant. It also had a Deputy Mayor's ribbon and pendant but nothing for the Deputy Mayor's Consort. In addition, there was a retiring Mayor's ribbon and pendant which was of standard design and did not commemorate two or more years' service for the holder.

Members **AGREED** unanimously to purchase a Deputy Mayor's Consort's pendant and ribbon. It was also felt worth examining the Deputy Mayor's ribbon to see if that needed replacement at the same time.

It was also unanimously **RESOLVED** that from the 2016/17 year onwards, retiring Mayors would be offered a commemorative chain with the year of service etched on to it. In the case of Cllr. Wallace, the 2016/17 Mayor, the ribbon would have a separate bar for each of four completed years of service. As far as offering the etching of the year of service for those Mayors who were longer retired, that was to be the subject of another paper to this committee after the **Administration Manager** had investigated costs.

8. **PROMOTING THE ROLE OF COUNCILLOR**

The measures suggested in the Town Clerk's report to this committee were all duly **ADOPTED** unanimously apart from the exclusion of the individual member's pledges and aspirations. To have individual Councillor pledge-statements was believed to conflict with the 'one council' ideal.

9. **UPDATE ON THE YOUTH COUNCIL**

This was discussed as the 4-Year Plan suggested an update was due. However, members were content that the Administration Manager had written to the Coleshill School (via the Head Teacher's office) to offer Town Council support if the school wished to reintroduce a Youth Council.

It was also noted that the Head Teacher of St Edwards RC primary school was still hopeful of setting up a youth council with other primary schools (the Coleshill Schools Consortium) but progress was not evident.

10. **THE HUDSON ROOM WALLS**

The walls of the Hudson Room had recently been repainted in a white /cream and a drop-down screen installed on the end wall, with the side walls left bare. A framed, 1927 picture map of the Father Hudson site had been donated by Hub Volunteer Ms. Brenda Matthews.

It had been suggested that the room could be given more interest, character and historic relevance if the donated and other framed items were affixed at the same time. Other suggested pictures were a portrait of George Hudson and a historic photograph of the entrance to the site. The Civic Society might be able to provide copies of other interesting items such as an early Town Hall view, the effect of the river flood in the High Street, a historic town map and historic charters or certificates. It was **AGREED** that the **Administration Manager** was to contact the Civic Society for items and then liaise with the chairman of committee regarding which items to feature.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 8.00 p.m.

.....  
Chairman