



# EVESHAM

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## TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024**  
**IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT THE TOWN HALL, EVESHAM AT 6:30PM**

- PRESENT:** Councillor: R. Raphael (Mayor)
- Councillors: J. Clatworthy, M. Goodge, R. Hale, P. Scurfield, Mrs S. Amor, M. Arens, S. Brotherton, J. Campbell-Muir, Mrs M. Griffiths, Miss S. Hemming, B. Kimberley, Mrs C. Kimberley, Ms A. Lyon, Mrs E. Nishigaki, Mrs E. Stokes and Mrs J. Tucker
- OFFICERS PRESENT:** Mrs J. Adams
- ALSO PRESENT:** District Cllr M. Tasker; Revd C. Green; 3 members of the public

**52. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs A. Booth, A. Dyke and Mrs C. Smith.

**53. Declarations of pecuniary or other interest**

Cllr Hale, item 9 (minute 60) Finance, as a director of LBG, which owned BHGS.

Cllr Nishigaki, item 10, (minute 61), as a Facebook friend of the applicant.

Cllr Goodge, item 14 (minute 65), as a member of Wychavon Licensing Committee.

Cllr Clatworthy, item 14 (minute 65), as a member of the Wychavon Licensing Committee.

**54. Announcements by the Town Mayor**

The Mayor reported that the Evesham River Festival and The Battle of Evesham Re-enactment Festival had taken place and had showcased Evesham at its best. In addition:

- i. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor carried out a 'walkabout' through the streets of Evesham with officers from Evesham Police. It was a truly enlightening experience and highlighted what amazing work the local police force do.
- ii. He thanked to council members and officers who supported Royal British Legion in their commemoration of VJ Day in August.
- iii. The Mayor noted the following upcoming events:
  - Service of Remembrance at Waterside Cemetery, Friday 13/06/24 10.30am
  - Mayor's Charity Quiz Night at Bengeworth Club, Friday 20/09/24 8pm
  - Gin Tasting at the Almonry, Sun 22/09/24 3pm, Tickets £35

**55. Updates from District and County Councillors**

Cllr Tasker reported. Wychavon District Council would be looking at the changes to the NPPF following the arrival of the new Government. There had been two new councillors following elections arising from casual vacancies.



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- Wychavon would be carrying out a Peer Review in the near future. This was inter-district and policies and procedures would be scrutinised.
- A survey would be undertaken by the Rivers Trust, and everyone was encouraged to submit a response.

### 56. Clerks Report

- i. Green Team: would shortly be replacing the Abbey Road flowers with pansies and wallflowers. Additional batboxes were being put up from Natural Networks funding. Preparations for wildflower seed to be planted on old graves in the council cemeteries would start soon.
- ii. The damaged gate pier at All Saints church has been repaired. The round finials that sit on top of the piers are off for repair and will be reinstalled when complete.
- iii. Councillors were invited to the opening of the Mop Fair on Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> October.
- iv. Preparations for the annual bonfire were underway, which would be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November.
- v. Almonry: August was the first month of free entry. Visitor numbers almost doubled to over 1000 for the month. More analysis was needed on shop spend but donations were up. Also:
  - Emergency roof works - the emergency works had been completed and the temporary roof was weatherproof. The roofing specialist would be doing final checks and arranging for the scaffolding to be removed.
  - Projector- the projector housing has been repaired and the projector reinstalled. The projection was running in the evening.
  - Restoration Project- tenders for the Lead Consultant and Project Manager had been assessed. An order has been placed for new Cotswold Stone roof slates and negotiation around timescales and delivery was ongoing.
  - The Almonry gardening volunteers had been working to develop the Almoners Garden, funded by the Royal Society. As part of the project we were able to buy a greenhouse. Volunteers were also helping to clear weeds and overgrowth outside the Almonry and maintain the gardens. Fortunately, despite a bad case of box blight, it looks like the team might have saved the box hedging in the back garden.
  - Fundraising- the team was continuing to fundraise for the Restoration Project. Special thanks due to Evesham Welcomes Walkers for setting up the Evesham Pilgrim Walks. Thanks due to Evesham Civic Society who have worked with a local artist, to produce 2 beautifully framed prints of the Almonry for sale and fundraising efforts.



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### 57. Reports from Outside Bodies

Cllr Goodge reported on behalf of the Samuel Wallace Smedley Trust. The trust was taking steps to create a CIO or Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The chair of the trust would present information to the council in due course.

### 58. Minutes of the Previous Meetings

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Town Council meeting of the 8<sup>th</sup> July and to approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting of the 29<sup>th</sup> July as true records.

### 59. Committee Minutes

- Planning and Estates – 15 July 2024; Amendment to remove Cllr Booth's name from the list of apologies.
- Town Plan – 22 July 2024; Amended as follows: with the addition of a request for an item for the next agenda concerning a Neighbourhood Plan and that this should be discussed by the committee annually.
- Planning & Estates – 5 August 2024
- Planning & Estates – 27 August 2024; changing 'Monday' to 'Tuesday' in the title
- Finance and General Purposes – 2 September 2024

It was resolved to approve the minutes, including the committee's recommendations, for the above meetings, subject to minor amendments noted above.

### 60. Finance

It was resolved to accept the Payments and Receipts for June and July 2024.

### 61. Sponsor of Love Evesham Award

It was resolved that the council would not sponsor an award for the 2024 Love Evesham event.

### 62. Request for additional benches

It was resolved to support the Civic Society's request for additional benches in Bridge Street. The bench for the King's Coronation would be purchased in the first instance, and the simpler design was chosen from two options. The design for benches to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW2 were not yet available.

### 63. Consultation for Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy

It was resolved that councillors respond to the consultation as individuals rather than a collective response issued from the council.



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**64. Biodiversity Policy**

The Biodiversity Policy had been created to comply with legislation. In order for the policy and its associated Action Plan to be effective, they needed support from the council as well as the council's committees. It was resolved to adopt the Biodiversity Policy and Action Plan. Cllr Goodge thanked Cllr Tucker for her work researching and creating the documents.

**65. Consultation into Pavement Licencing Policy**

It was resolved to support the policy with additional comments as follows:

- That the policy should be enforced
- That the council wished to be informed of all applications in its parish as part of the process
- That a list of pavement licences be made available online.

The council supported the need for pavement licence holders to keep the areas agreed upon clean and tidy and to restrict furniture to the defined areas.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.15pm.

Public Questions

A resident asked a question about town council grants.

Cllr R. Raphael  
Mayor