



# Winslow Town Council

Annual Town Meeting

24<sup>th</sup> April 2014

7.30pm St.Laurence Room Winslow

# The ANNUAL TOWN MEETING of

## WINSLOW TOWN COUNCIL

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 7.30pm  
St Laurence Room, Market Square, Winslow MK18 3AD

*As for all meetings of the Council, this meeting of the Town of Winslow is open to all residents, businesses, organisations and others with interests within the town.*

*Should a poll be requested during the meeting, only those Local Government electors of the Town present are entitled to vote.*

### AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of minutes of Annual Town Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013 and Matters Arising
3. Report of the Chairman of Winslow Town Council
4. Presentation of Parochial Charity Reports and Accounts:
  - War Memorial Institute Fund to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014
5. Presentation of Grant Cheques
  - Buckingham Winslow and District Citizens Advice Bureau
  - St Laurence PCC
  - Winslow and District Community Bus
  - Marie Curie Cancer Care
6. Presentation of Citizen of The Year
7. Committee Reports: Questions and Concerns to Chairman and Committees - from the floor
  - Amenities
  - Development
  - Events
  - Resources
8. Any other business

***Councillors invite you to join them for refreshment after the meeting***

Visit the website: [www.winslowtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.winslowtowncouncil.gov.uk)

## MINUTES OF WINSLOW ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Held at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013 in the St Laurence Room, Market Square, Winslow.

**Present:** Councillors Monger (Chair), Barry, Cawte, Chambers, Gibbs, Knight, Payne, Reeves, van de Poll, Wiseman; the Clerk and Deputy Clerk.  
51 members of the public. No members of the Press.

**Apologies:** Cllr Castle, Mr J Knight, Cllr S Renshell (AVDC), Mrs Harding (CAB), Mr & Mrs Lloyd.

The Chairman opened the meeting and explained that for various reasons the presentation of Grant Cheques and Citizen of the Year would, this year, precede the core business of the Annual Town Meeting.

### Grant Cheques

Winslow & District Citizens Advice Bureau - £2,000 from precept to support the provision of services in Winslow – accepted by Mr G Hawking who spoke about the way the service has been delivered over the past year and the expected pressures of the climate of benefit change and new housing.

St Laurence PCC - £3,250 from precept to maintain the churchyard and £500 from the Winslow War Memorial Institute Fund (WWMIF) towards the periodic pollarding of the lime trees on the High Street – accepted by Mr T Capstick who spoke about how vital this funding is in order to suitably maintain the grounds that are such a focal point in the town.

Winslow Playgroup - £900 from precept towards training to accommodate new expanded age range and £200 from WWMIF to host National Playday event in August – accepted by Ms H Hedges spoke about how their service has expanded in the past year and will continue to adapt to the changing needs of the community (a “Thank You” card from the children was presented to the Mayor)

Treehouse Preschool - £1,000 from WWMIF to purchase equipment to meet the needs of younger children – accepted by Mrs K Beeley who spoke about the invaluable use of last year’s funding in providing extra sessions for a small number of children in particular need, as well as explaining that as there is no private nursery facility in the town both Winslow Playgroup and Treehouse Preschool meet the demand for both privately paid, publicly funded and social services referral cases within charitable and voluntary management structures.

Royal British Legion, Winslow Branch - £1,000 from WWMIF towards the cost of refurbishing the Club kitchen – accepted by Mr D Barnes who advised that the work is now complete and will now meet the current and future needs of the Club and those who hire the facility.

Winslow Oral History Project - £252 from WWMIF to purchase recording and listening equipment – accepted by Mrs M Hunt who explained that the project is well underway and parts will soon be available on the [www.winslow-history.org.uk](http://www.winslow-history.org.uk) website. The full archive will ultimately be available via the Library.

Winslow Anglo French Twinning Assoc (WAFTA) - £750 from precept and £250 from WWMIF to meet the cost of hiring the hall for events when Cours la Ville visits Winslow – accepted by Cllr G Wiseman who explained the background and current objects of the Association and that this year on 8<sup>th</sup> May Winslow will host 108 (the largest contingent ever) including a musical group, judo players, firemen, Councillors and a young man who has walked all the way and will have a special reception on 9<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am in the Market Square.

Winslow & District Community Bus - £3,000 from precept and £1,000 from WWMIF towards running costs – accepted by Cllr T Cawte who gave details of the scheduled bus services, outings, hirings, volunteer drivers and users of this valuable local service, both in the past year and those in to come next year.

Winslow Big Society Group - £200 from WWMIF to publish the first annual Really Useful Guide to Winslow – accepted by Mrs V Corben who spoke about how the group started, their projects to date. Monthly Friendship lunches for the socially isolated are well established and may expand shortly, twice per month Gentle Walks for the less mobile, Befriending and CAB promotional materials which has demonstrated their worth already. The group's work is mainly health and wellbeing centred and will be focussing on young families and the integration and needs of newcomers to Winslow.

### **Citizen of the Year**

The Chairman introduced all nominees and detailed the work for which they had been recognised:

Margaret Langley: for, as well as her constant helping hand to those less able or fortunate than herself, her Chairmanship and reinvigoration of the Women's Section of the Royal British Legion as well as organising the Poppy Appeal house to house collections.

Julian Hunt & David Noy: for their leadership in establishing the Winslow History Project which has created the Winslow History website, publishing books and pamphlets, translating records, lecturing and fundraising to further the group's aspirations.

Paula and Steve Lloyd: for their support and leadership at Winslow Playgroup, securing the facility for future generations as well as their work to ensure young families are made welcome at St Laurence Church. They could not attend tonight but had asked that the teams they had worked with should also be recognised for their achievements.

Vron Corben: for her part in organising the town's Silver, Golden and Diamond Jubilee celebrations, helping with Playgroup, active membership of Winslow Anglo French Twinning Committee for around 30 years, founder member of Winslow's Churches Together Group and instrumental in many fundraising activities, initiating Winslow in Bloom and more recently the Big Society Group.

Each nominee was presented with a certificate and the Citizen of the Year 2013 was announced as Mrs Veronica Corben who also received a commemorative paperweight and a bouquet.

**Minutes of Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2012** were accepted as correct and signed.

**Presentation of the Report and Finances of the Winslow War Memorial Institute Fund** these had been circulated, there being no questions they will be submitted to the Charities Commission.

### **Report of Chairman of Town Council:**

The Chairman spoke to his annual report and those of the Committee Chairmen which had been circulated to all present. It had been a phenomenal year with the Diamond Jubilee celebrations swiftly followed by the Olympic Torch procession through the town. Special thanks are due to the Vron and the organisations that co-ordinated and co-operated to deliver a full programme of Jubilee Activities. Also thank you to Winslow Combined School for inviting all surrounding schools to join them at the roadside and afterwards at the school in an Olympic themed afternoon. Also thanks to Mrs Claire Beech, Mrs Janine Beatty for giving their business skills free of charge to make the event such a superb experience for the whole town.

Winslow has also featured in this week's Save Aylesbury Vale Environment annual awards – the Farmers Market, Redfield and Transition Group each won an award in their respective categories.

The Chairman then thanked all those who volunteer in the town, his fellow Councillors and his staff (between them 1 full time employee) and all those present tonight for everything they do to contribute to make Winslow a vibrant community.

**Questions and comments from the floor (and responses):**

**Cantell's Shop - What is anticipated to happen?**

There has been no planning application yet.

**Lights in the Lime Trees on the High Street - When will they be removed?**

These were installed as a trial before Christmas, it is anticipated that a more slightly permanent arrangement will be implemented, once the appropriate permissions have been secured. They were purchased (with the Hospice Tree of Lights equipment) with funds generated by the Farmers Market – i.e. not from Council Tax.

**Youth Centre - What is the future of the Building & the Youth Cafe?**

BCC withdrew funding for Youth Services, the building has now been leased to Winslow Town Council (WTC) at a £1 per annum rent, in tandem with a Service Contract to provide youth services. WTC is responsible for delivering youth services and has contracted this out to Friends of Winslow Youth Centre who continue to provide the Youth Cafe on Friday evenings. Other users eg Young Farmers, Playgroup, Winslow Bus are all now tenants/customers of WTC. The intention is to become self funding.

**Petrol Station - The "Give Way" on the ground has nearly disappeared what can be done?**

This is a private matter for the garage, but Bucks County Council is the Road Safety authority and WTC will refer this matter to the Local Area Technician for his attention.

**War Memorial Plaque - There are inaccuracies in the names and dates, when will these be corrected?**

If details are passed to the Clerk the matter will be investigated.

**Council Website - When will minutes of meetings be available on the new improved version?**

Shortly, once it has been uploaded and thoroughly tested.

**New Free School - When the school is using the Winslow Centre will existing facilities still be available?**

The School will be self contained in what was the Options area of the building with shared use of the Hall and Art Room. Furze Down School sixth formers will be using one room not usually used for other activities, whilst their rebuild is in progress. No existing facilities should be impacted by the arrangements for the new school.

**Bus Services - When can improvements be expected? Route 60 is shockingly awful in terms of frequency, lateness and fleet. MK service needs improvement in frequency and route.**

Council is meeting with County and Arriva shortly and these areas are being addressed in the Neighbourhood Plan process. However, residents are reminded that they must use the existing services consistently before they can expect significant improvements

**Annual Litter Pick - Are there any plans to have such a project?**

Amenities Committee are currently looking at this as Winslow has entered the Bucks Best Kept Village Competition which will be judged in June. The assistance of all residents in regularly picking up any litter they see is appreciated – though of course not dropping it would be even better!

**There being no further business the Mayor invited those present to remain for refreshment.**

Meeting closed.8.50 pm

## **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL**

When I was voted in as Mayor of Winslow last May, having served as Deputy for two years, I considered it an honour to be asked to represent the Town and I would just like to take this opportunity to say that carrying out the duties as Chairman of the Council and Town Mayor of Winslow during the past year has indeed been a privilege. Everywhere I have been and whatever function I have attended on your behalf I have received nothing but praise for Winslow.

One of the highlights of my year is Winslow winning the Small Town, Best Kept Village award last year, which culminated in the presentation of the plaque, cup etc. by the Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire in September. Let's hope we can enter and give a good account of ourselves in 2014.

I think it is true to say that a few were of the opinion that we hadn't a chance, but we beat 9 other small towns, thanks largely to the hard work of volunteers who spent their time tidying up, litter picking, cleaning and other tasks. On behalf of the Council, my thanks to them all - We can't do it without you.

The visit from our Twin Town Cours la Ville in May was a great success and I would like to pay tribute to WAFTA for the organisation and events that were held.

It has been a busy year for Council, which has included the creation of the Winslow Neighbourhood Plan, which took an enormous amount of time and dedication by a number of people, not least by Councillors Llew Monger and Roy van de Poll., and the large number of Winslow residents that made such a big effort to support what is essentially their plan for the future.

The opening of the new Outdoor Family Fitness Area (OFFA) has proved to be a great success. Refurbishment of the playground is now finished and the Council has completed its first successful year in control of the Youth Centre helping to preserve Youth Services in the town.

The Farmers Market continues to be as busy as ever and goes from strength to strength, but is in need of more volunteers.

One mustn't forget all the usual tasks for which the Council is responsible, street lighting, litter bins, the Burial Ground etc. The Chairman of each Committee will explain further while giving their reports. Please ask them questions if you wish to know more detail, or indeed have any concerns or questions that need answering

We have welcomed Graeme Laws as a new Councillor this year so we are at full strength. This is very important as your Council is being asked to take on more work, due largely to changing legislation and potential devolution of responsibilities from Bucks County Council and Aylesbury Vale District Council.

As I am sure you will know, Bridget Bradford our Clerk for 7 years left us in October 2013. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Bridget for the vast amount of work she carried out, and for the dedication that she put into the job whilst she carried out the duties of Town Clerk. We now have Charles Loch as our Town Clerk and Karen Oddey as Deputy Clerk who are keeping us all on the straight and narrow. This has been a seamless changeover and the Council is functioning as well as ever. We must not forget our other staff, without whom life would be very difficult, and things would not get done as quickly and efficiently as they are now.

My personal thanks go to my fellow Councillors who give up their time on a voluntary basis for this wonderful community. Their loyalty, hard work and their patience when I sometimes get something wrong, is greatly appreciated. We work as a team and they all have strengths and expertise in various areas.

I am grateful for their support and I can confidently say that your town is in safe hands.

I am convinced that the Council and organisations in Winslow couldn't function as they do without the help of the army of volunteers who are always available in Winslow and I would like to pay special tribute to them all. Thank you all on behalf of the Council

**The Chairman's and all Committee reports are available on the Winslow Town Council website or available on request from the Clerk 01296 712448 or email [clerk@winslowtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@winslowtowncouncil.gov.uk)**

# WINSLOW WAR MEMORIAL INSTITUTE FUND

## Report of Activities and Finances for year ended 31st March 2014

Winslow Town Council is sole trustee of this charity. The aims of the Charity are that "The Trustees shall apply the clear income of the Charity as they think fit for any charitable purposes for the general benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Winslow for which provision is not made out of rates, taxes of other public funds".

The Resources Committee considers grant applications, and makes recommendation(s) to the Trustees. Potential applicants are invited to complete an application form (available from the Clerk) in order that all can be considered on an equitable basis.

The closing date for applications is 30th September each year, for payment at the Annual Town Meeting the following year. Funds are generally held at a level which could assist in an emergency funding situation should the need arise.

	2013-14 £	2012-13 £
Bank balances brought forward on 1st April	6,150.61	5,617.62
<i>ADD</i>		
Interest received on bank balances	1.75	2.07
Dividends from COIF investments	3,499.77	3,464.92
<i>DEDUCT</i>		
Grants 2013-14	£	
Treehouse Pre-school young equipment	1,000	
Winslow & District Community Bus – running costs	1,000	
Winslow Big Society Group – Really Useful Guide	295	
St Laurence PCC – Lime Pollarding	500	
Anglo French Twinning Society – Hall hire for visit	250	
Royal British Legion – Kitchen refurbishment	1,000	
Winslow Playgroup – Playday	200	
Winslow History Project – Recording Equipment	252	
Bank charges	35	
	4,532.00	2,934.00
Bank balances carried forward on 31st March 2014	5,120.13	6,150.61

\* Grants agreed and to be presented this evening (accounted for in next financial year) as follows:

Winslow & District Community Bus – running costs	1,500	
Marie Curie Cancer Care	540	£2,040

Total of Capital Funds invested with COIF valued at 31st March 2014 (£86,751.97)	£86,751.97
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**C Loch, Clerk, Winslow TC**

Report to be considered for acceptance by Trustees at their next meeting

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman, Trustees (& WTC) Date: \_\_\_\_\_.