

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CIVIC COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, KING'S HOUSE, THETFORD,
ON THURSDAY 2nd JUNE 2016 AT 10.00 a.m.

Present

The Mayor Councillor T J Jermy

Councillors:

Mrs S J Armes
C Harvey
J Newton
S N H Wright

Mrs B J Canham
R G Kybird
Ms F Robinson

Officers in attendance:

Tina Cunnell PPP&C Officer
Chris Crimmen Committee Secretary

Also in attendance:

Janet Smith Gibbons Thetford Twinning Association
Mellisa Hawker Ancient House Museum

Minutes

- 41/16 ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE MAYORAL YEAR 2016/17
Chair
RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs S J Armes be elected Chairman of the Civic Committee for the Mayoral year 2016/17.
Vice Chair
RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs B J Canham be elected Vice Chairman of the Civic Committee for the Mayoral year 2016/17.
- 42/16 DECLARATIONS OF ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS
None.
- 43/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs J Hollis.
- 44/16 MINUTES
Resolved the minutes of the Committee's meeting, held on 6th April 2016, as received by Full Council on 26th April 2016, to be confirmed as a true record and signed/initialled by the Chairman.
- 45/16 CIVIC COMMITTEE PRIORITIES
The Chairman reviewed and Councillors agreed the Civic Committee priorities. Councillor Mrs B Canham proposed and Councillor Ms F Robinson seconded that the Civic priorities until the end of September 2016 are:
1. The Flint and Obsidian Conference.
2. Thetford's Great Festival.
3. Heritage Open Day.
RECOMMENDATION: The Civic priorities until the end of September 2016 are:

- 4. The Flint and Obsidian Conference.**
- 5. Thetford's Great Festival.**
- 6. Heritage Open Day.**

46/16

SKAWINA VISIT

Councillor Mrs B Canham reported that the event is taking place from 10th/12th June 2016 and was described as Partnership Days that celebrate 20 years of Twinning. The Town Crier was preparing a scroll signed by the Mayor to be given on the visit.

47/16

FLINT AND OBSIDIAN CONFERENCE

The Chairman closed the meeting and Melissa Hawker from the Ancient House Museum outlined the events surrounding the Flint and Obsidian Conference.

- Thursday 14th July 2016 - Ancient House and venues in Thetford
Thetford Schools- Give your students a taste of university life!
Lecturers from University of East Anglia, University of York and University of Southampton
Discover how science can reveal what Jomon (Japanese Neolithic) people ate, how a Stone Age man knapped a flint, what 'flash in the pan' means, how flint shaped the architecture of Thetford, learn some Japanese and more!

Friday 15th July 2016 – Carnegie Room

Join this fascinating conference bringing together specialists in the archaeology of the exploitation of sources of flint and obsidian. East Meets West will explore commonalities and differences in approach between Europe and Japan, and consider how a comparative approach can enhance our understanding of the development of lithic technologies in both regions.

Guest speakers include:

Dr Simon KANER (Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures and University of East Anglia, Norwich)

Peter TOPPING (University of Newcastle)

Professor SATO Hiroyuki (University of Tokyo, Japan)

Professor ONO Akira (Former Director of the Center for Obsidian and Lithic Studies, Meiji University, Japan)

Nick ASHTON (The British Museum)

Professor YAJIMA Kunio (Meiji University, Japan)

- Saturday 16 July 2016 - Kings House Gardens
Family Fun Day - See flint and obsidian knapping, hear a flintlock fire, handle real flint objects, enjoy tours of Thetford Priory, meet costumed characters, play Tudor games, learn about Jomon (Japanese Neolithic) cooking and even try some Jomon food! Plus crafts, refreshments and prizes to be won!

The Chairman reported that a reception will be held in the King's House Gardens on the 15th July 2016 for 150 guests with a buffet and a glass of wine. There will be gifts of the Town Crest Seals and pin badges for children. There was no cost for accommodation. The

Chairman stated that in order to reduce the cost she would prepare the buffet for 150 guests at cost thus saving around £1,000 from the total cost. Councillors thought this was a most generous offer and Councillor R Kybird proposed and Mrs B Canham seconded that the Council should accept the Civic Chairman's most generous offer to prepare the buffet for 150 and the Council would reimburse all the cost of purchasing the ingredients of the buffet.

RECOMMENDATION: The Council should accept the Civic Chairman's most generous offer to prepare the buffet for 150 guests and the Council would reimburse all the cost of purchasing the ingredients of the buffet.

After a discussion on total expenses Councillor R Kybird proposed and Councillor S Wright seconded that the Council will transfer £2.287 into Civic reserves from last year as the Civic budget is costed over a four year basis to take into account the varied demands year by year.

RECOMMENDATION: The Council will transfer £2.287 into Civic reserves from last year as the Civic budget is costed over a four year basis to take into account the varied demands year by year.

48/16

TWIN TOWN MAYORS VISIT TO THETFORD'S GREAT FESTIVAL

The Chairman closed the meeting and Janet Smith Gibbons outlined the Twinning Association's plans for the August Bank Holiday celebration of 20 years of twinning with Les Ulis.

They have seven guests) arriving on Friday 26th August. They include the President of the Comité de Jumelage des Ulis, Liliane Lefevre, who will be staying with me. All the guests will be hosted by members of the Twinning Association.

They will be having our main celebration day on Saturday, 27th August, which will include a proclamation by Mike Wabe, the Town Crier, at 10 am. She had requested that if possible, guests could be received by one or more councillors, and around 10 am on the Saturday, to fit in with Mike Wabe..

Hosts will then take guests to the events by the river for as long as they wish. In the evening there will have a social evening with a meal provided by the Association. She does not yet know where it will be held as it will depend on the numbers coming - in addition to the guests and hosts, other members of the Association may want to be included. At the moment we are considering the URC hall, or at one of our members' homes if numbers are low.

Some of the guests will be leaving on Sunday and some on Tuesday. Plans for those guests who stay on will be flexible, depending on what's happening in the town and what the guests would like to do.

The Chairman thanked Janet Smith Gibbons and reopened the meeting.

49/16

ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

50/16

PRESS RELEASES

It was agreed that a quote from the Mayor on these very important events would be suitable.

Chairman.