MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, NEWBURY TOWN COUNCIL, MARKET PLACE, NEWBURY ON MONDAY 19th OCTOBER 2026 AT 7:30 PM.

PRESENT

Councillors Phil Barnett, Vera Barnett, Jo Day (Town Mayor, Chair), Sam Dibas, Billy Drummond, Nigel Foot, David Harman, Chris Hood, Roger Hunneman, Ian Jee, Pam Lusby Taylor, David Marsh, Stephen Masters, Vaughan Miller, Andy Moore, Sarah Slack, Graham Storey.

In Attendance

Toby Miles-Mallowan, Chief Executive Officer

60. APOLOGIES

Councillors Alistair Bounds, Elizabeth O'Keeffe, Gary Norman, Meg Thomas, Martha Vickers and Tony Vickers

61. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Phil Barnett, Billy Drummond, Nigel Foot and David Marsh Declared that they are also Members of West Berkshire Council. Councillors Billy Drummond and Phil Barnett declared that they are members of Greenham Parish Council, Steve Masters declared that he is a member of Hanpstead Marshall Parish Council and Councillor Sam Dibas declared he is a member of Enbourne Parish Council. These are declared as a general interest and a dispensation is in place to allow them to partake in discussions relating to the relevant Council business.

62. MINUTES

Proposed: Cllr Miller
Seconded: Cllr Masters
Resolved: to approve the minutes from Monday 27th July 2026.

63. QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (appendix 1)

One question was **received**, see appendix 1 for question.
Proposed: Cllr Day
Seconded: Cllr Miller
Resolved to lay a red poppy wreath this year for remembrance and to raise the question of a red and white wreath for Newbury Town Council in future years at the Civic Pride Arts & Culture committee.

64. MEMBERS'S QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

No questions were **Received** from members.

65. MAYORS REPORT

A verbal report from the Mayor was **received.**

66. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT (appendix 2)

The Chief Executive Report was **received**.

67. COMMITTEES

The draft minutes from the meetings of the Town Council's Committees were **received.**

68. APPLICATION TO RECIEVE THE FREEDOM OF THE TOWN

Nominations of Dr David Peacock and Mr Anthony Pick were **received.**
Proposed: Cllr Miller
Seconded: Cllr Masters
Resolved to defer the decision until full council on 25th January 2027.

69. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR) - ANNUAL GOVERNANCE CERTIFICATE 2025/26

The annual governance certificate was **received.**
Proposed: Cllr Miller
Seconded: Cllr Masters
Resolved to accept the AGAR certificate ending 30/03/2026, that was published with the AGAR parts 1&2, plus the notice of conclusion of audit, on Newbury Town Council noticeboard and website on 22nd September 2026.

70. INTERNAL AUDIT (1ST APRIL TO 31ST JULY 2026)

The internal audit report for 1/04/2026-31/07/2026 was **received** and **accepted.**
Proposed: Cllr Masters
Seconded: Cllr Moore
Resolved the proposed actions against the internal auditor's recommendations, as recommended by the Policy and Resources Committee (12th October 2026).

71. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The amendments recommended by the Policy and Resources Committee were **reviewed.**
Proposed: Cllr Masters
Seconded: Cllr Jee
Resolved to adopt the updated financial regulations as recommended by Policy and Resources Committee.

72. BUDGET 2027/28

The budget review timeline was **noted.**

73. LOCAL DEMOCRACY WEEK

An update on the Local Democracy Week was **received.**

74. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The forward work programme was reviewed and updated.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRPERSON DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 20:21 HRS

Signature:_____ Date:_____

Appendix 1: Question from member of the public.

Each year, Newbury Town Council participates in Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day commemorations, laying wreaths of red poppies to honour those who have served and sacrificed their lives in conflicts.

The red poppy is an established symbol of remembrance, sacrifice and hope for a peaceful future. However, other coloured poppies are also used to recognise different aspects of remembrance.

In particular, the white poppy, introduced by the Peace Pledge Union, symbolises a commitment to peace, opposition to militarism and remembrance of all victims of war, including civilians.

I believe that incorporating both red and white poppies into the wreaths laid by Newbury Town Council would provide an opportunity to recognise both the sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces and the wider human cost of conflict, while reinforcing our collective aspiration for peace.

My question to Newbury Town Council is:

Would Newbury Town Council consider adopting wreaths incorporating both red and white poppies for its annual Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day commemorations, thereby recognising the traditional significance of the red poppy alongside the white poppy's message of peace and remembrance of all victims of war?