

Highworth



Town Council

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E&L4.

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE MEETING 2 JULY 2019

PRESENT

Councillor (Mrs) L Vardy (In the Chair)

Councillor: A Bishop
(Mrs) J Bishop
N Gardiner
(Miss) J Murphy
G Olley
K Saunders
K Smith
(Mrs) P Webster
S Weisinger
R Williams

IN ATTENDANCE

9 Members of the Public, Glyn Moody (Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service), P Adams & N Costello (Highworth Wheelers), and one Member of the Press.

APOLOGIES

11. Councillors P Newton-Smith, S Wolfensohn, G Evans and (Mrs) M Penny



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

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MOBILE PHONES

12. Reminder to Councillors and Public that Mobile Phones should be silenced.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

13. None.

SAFE DRIVE STAY ALIVE (Presentation by Dorset and Wilts Fire Brigade)

14. Glyn Moody (Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service). He gave a presentation to Councillors about a hard-hitting Road Safety Campaign, aimed at all 15 – 19 year olds in the area, which has been running since 2006. Funding for the campaign has been severely cut and he is approaching Parishes to raise money to transport the young adults from Schools and Colleges to the Empire Cinema to see the roadshow.

Resolved by Councillor N Gardiner and seconded by Councillor R Williams to grant the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service the sum of £1100.00 (One thousand, one hundred pounds) to be used over the next three years towards its running costs for the Safe Drive Stay Alive Roadshow. Councillors agreed unanimously.

SKATEPARK (PROGRESS REPORT)

15. Pam Adams representing Highworth Wheelers. She gave the following update to the Council:-

The Committee has received quotes from 3 companies – Maverick Industries Ltd, based in Poole was chosen. They have built several parks for local councils and Mark Clogg, who came to discuss the Committee's plans, demonstrated a vast knowledge of construction, design and planning applications. He submitted plans and details of the works to Swindon Borough Council (SBC) very quickly after the Committee commissioned the company to do the work. The cost is £100,000. (Plan provided to Councillors).

The park's layout features a half pipe at one end, and has a rail and a ledge. It also features lower ramps and tables on its broad expanse of concrete nearly 28 metres long by 10 metres wide. The construction would take about eight weeks from start to finish and is to be a multi-use facility, suitable for scooters and BMX as well as skateboards.

The chosen site is on the lower field of the Rec close to the road entrance and parallel with the main road.

The Committee, over the last 2 years, has agreed with the Town Council and SBC as well as the Football Club and Bowling Club that the site is well positioned. Detailed plans are now approved and need to be ratified with a Certificate of Lawful Development. This must be completed by 25 July 2019.

When this is complete the Committee can start applying for grants to pay for the project. They will be asking the Town Council to confirm the grant offered when the project was first discussed. Other grant applications will be sent to The Community Asset Fund (Sport England), Hussey Freke Trust and Hills Waste Solutions. Grants requested cannot be agreed until the plans are fully agreed with the Borough Council.

Skate Park history - prepared by The Clerk 10 June 2019

For many, many years there have been efforts to build a skate park within the Town. However, there has always been open resistance to all sites.

E&L6.

In 2012, Highworth Town Council (HTC) was within a hair's breadth of having a skate park and MUGA (multi-use games area) built at the Community Centre site in the old Northview Primary School. However, the application was opposed by the Community Centre, at the very last minute, and the build could not go ahead.

In 2016 a committee was formed by local residents and they approached the Council. This group of people did not want the Council's involvement and wished to complete the project themselves, to include employing a Skate-Board Construction Company and the finding of the necessary funding. What this group did ask the Council to do was to help find a suitable location for the site and help with the acquisition and Planning aspects of the project once a site was found.

A site was found at the Lower Rec to the North of the Golf Club entrance Road.

There was a possible conflicting request for this site and a Committee was set up to mediate between both applicants. This was successfully completed with the Skate Boarders being allowed the site they requested. After this the Council did not authorise the mediation Committee to proceed any further.

The Office successfully carried out the negotiations with SBC to get permission for the site to be developed. The Office then proceeded to negotiate with the SBC Planning Department to obtain a Certificate of Lawful Development, which is now at the validation stage with the Planners.

The Residents' Group has employed a firm of Constructors and are now actively seeking funding. And will, no doubt, include a request for some funding from HTC at some stage. The Group has expressed that they are satisfied with those aspects to do with the site and Planning issues.

Once completed, HTC has agreed that it will take on the skate park as an asset of the town. This will allow for the on-going maintenance and running of the site.

No funding has been formally requested from this Council and there is no current commitment from HTC to either be involved with the construction or funding of the project. If a grant is likely to be requested the Committee has been advised it will need to approach the Council and request this formally.

Councillors congratulated the Committee for its success so far.

MINUTES OF MEETING

16. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING (E&L) HELD ON 4 JUNE 2019 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED.** The Minutes were duly signed.

MATTERS ARISING

17. None.

CORRESPONDENCE

18. None.

COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

19. Councillor N Gardiner. He is to arrange a Meeting of the Community Litter Pickers and then it is to be a future Agenda Item.

FIREWORKS 2019

20. The date for the Fireworks event is 1 November 2019.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2019

21. The date for Christmas Lights is 29 November 2019.

MEMBERS' BUSINESS

22. None.

Meeting closed at 8.20 pm.