

# Highworth



## Town Council

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[www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk)

E&L8.

### MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE MEETING 3 SEPTEMBER 2019

#### PRESENT

Councillor (Mrs) L Vardy (In the Chair)

Councillor: A Bishop  
(Mrs) J Bishop  
G Evans  
N Gardiner  
(Miss) J Murphy  
P Newton-Smith  
(Mrs) M Penny  
K Saunders  
K Smith  
(Mrs) P Webster  
R Williams  
S Wolfensohn

#### IN ATTENDANCE

8 Members of the Public, Mr A Steele (Headmaster, Warneford School), PCSO. T Fryszka (Community Co-ordinator, Stratton & Highworth, Wiltshire Police), Constable B Parsons (Swindon North, Wiltshire Police), and one Member of the Press.

#### APOLOGIES

23. Councillors G Olley and S Weisinger



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

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## **MOBILE PHONES**

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

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

25. None.

## **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND ALLEGED ASSAULTS**

26. Mr A Steele told the Council that he had been made aware by one of the Councillors that there had been an increase in anti-social behaviour over the Summer Holidays. He expressed his willingness to work together with the Council and the Police to attempt to identify ways of reducing incidents.

PCSO T Fryszka told Councillors that there has been the usual seasonal increase in anti social behaviour and assaults. This comes with warm weather and lighter evenings. He expressed concern however, that there seem to have been fewer reports of these issues than usual; unless incidents are reported in the correct manner (via 101 or the emergency number (if the incident is actually happening at that moment), then they are not recorded and manpower cannot be properly assessed and allocated.

It was noted that demographic tends to be school leaving age. There have been incidents occurring during the school holidays, which may have involved local young people, but these would not necessarily come to the attention of the schools even after term begins again.

There was a consensus that early intervention is key and not criminalising children and avoiding the alienation of parents is vital.

The PCSOs assigned to Highworth are building relationships with the youth of the town.

## **PROVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES**

27. Leading on from the debate around anti-social behaviour, Councillors agreed to become involved in the Police initiative of Community Safety Groups by forming a Working Party aimed at identifying what can be done to improve Youth Services. It was suggested that the Junior Football Club and the Schools might like to become involved.

An initial meeting is to be held with PCSO Fryszka.

Councillors appointed to the Working Party are:- (Mrs) L Vardy, S Wolfensohn, (Miss) J Murphy, A Bishop & (Mrs) M Penny.

## **LOSS OF PROVISION OF EXERCISE CLASSES FOR MORE MATURE RESIDENTS**

28. It was agreed to invite a representative from "HALO" to discuss with Councillors the lack of provision of exercise classes for the more mature residents

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

29. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING (E&L) HELD ON 2 JULY 2019 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED.** The Minutes were duly signed.

**MATTERS ARISING**

30. None.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

31. None.

**COMMUNITY LITTER PICK**

32. Councillor N Gardiner. He is to convene with Councillors K Smith & K Saunders to arrange a Litter Pick.

**MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

33. a. Councillor (Mrs) J Bishop. The Twinning Association has requested that Pontorson and Wassenberg, are considered in the future when naming new roads or developments in the town.
- b. Councillor P Newton-Smith. An invitation has been sent to all Councillors to the opening of the new Visitor Centre at the Old Lloyds Bank building on 21 September. It's first visitor was directed there on Saturday by one of the Market Traders, although it is yet to open.
- c. Councillor K Saunders. An agenda item, 'To set up a Working Party to assess the viability of wildflower places in Highworth' is to be added to an E&L Agenda.

**Meeting closed at 8.32 pm.**