

Highworth



Town Council

Council Offices
3 Gilberts Lane
Highworth
Wiltshire
SN6 7FB

Tel. (01793) 762377 or 763511

Email admin@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Town Clerk Mr D C Lane

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB-SITE AT:

www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

E&L26.

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE MEETING 5 FEBRUARY 2019

PRESENT

Councillor (Mrs) L Vardy (In the Chair)

Councillors: P Adams
A Bishop
(Mrs) J Bishop
(Mrs) J Clark
G Edwards
N Gardiner
(Mrs) M Penny
K Smith
(Mrs) P M Webster

IN ATTENDANCE

Two Members of the Public

APOLOGIES

51. Councillors R Acres, (Mrs) A M Durrant, (Mrs) A H Livall and S Weisinger



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

MOBILE PHONES

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

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

53. a. Councillor (Mrs) J Bishop declared an interest in the request from St Michael's Church Parochial Church Council (PCC) regarding maintenance of the churchyard trees. She is a member of the PCC.

MINUTES OF MEETING

54. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING (E&L) HELD ON 9 JANUARY 2019 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED.** The Minutes were duly signed.

MATTERS ARISING

55. None.

CORRESPONDENCE

56. a. Letter of Termination as a Councillor to Charly Adams as he has not attended any meetings for over 6 months.
- b. St Michael's Church PCC letter regarding responsibility of tree maintenance in the churchyard, which is a closed churchyard and HTC is responsible for its upkeep. HTC is responsible for maintaining the churchyard to a standard of decency and, in addition, is responsible for keeping its walls, fences and gates in good repair. The Council is responsible for reporting any trees that are considered dangerous to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the PCC to take whatever action it considers necessary. The PCC wishes the Council to take responsibility for this. Councillors instructed the Clerk to reply that they do not agree that the Council has a liability to maintain the trees and to remind the PCC that its duty is to maintain the churchyard and its walls, fences and gates in a decent order. The Council, therefore, maintains its already stated position on this.
- c. Letter from a resident complaining that HTC did not carry out sufficient gritting to keep the High Street area clear of ice and snow. She also complains at the low standard of maintenance throughout the Town. Councillors were astounded at this letter. Particularly as they wished to commend the outdoor staff members on their efforts to keep the shopping area free of ice and snow. They were aware that the staff had voluntarily come in all over the weekend to do so, even asking the Clerk's permission to come into work over the weekend. The Clerk is to write to the complainant to advise her of this.

MEMBERS' BUSINESS

57. a. Councillor (Mrs) P Adams. A resident had requested that the leaves on Cricklade Road be attended to by the Council. There has already been a large and successful joint operation HTC and SBC to clear this road.
- b. Councillor K Smith.
- Councillors voted by 5 for, 3 against and 1 abstention that the Council's Community Room could not be used for a public meeting to encourage people to put themselves forward as "Independents" at the next Parish/Town election.
 - Borough Councillor (Mrs) M Penny informed the meeting that under the Library Strategy Review going before the SBC Cabinet, to be announced shortly, there will be no change to Highworth Library's delivery of service.
- c. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny. HTC is to apply for the Golf Course to be claimed as a Community Asset in order to pre-empt its disposal should the arrangements with Twigmarket fall through.

Meeting closed at 8.00 pm.