

# Highworth



## Town Council

Council Offices  
3 Gilberts Lane  
Highworth  
Wiltshire  
SN6 7FB

Tel. (01793) 762377 or 763511

Email [admin@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:admin@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk)

Town Clerk Mr D C Lane

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E&L14.

### MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE MEETING 5 NOVEMBER 2019

#### PRESENT

Councillor (Mrs) L Vardy (In the Chair)

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

#### IN ATTENDANCE

9 Members of the Public. Martin Suter (General Manager, Halo Highworth Recreation Centre)  
and one Member of the Press.

#### APOLOGIES

44. Councillors N Gardiner, G Olley



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

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#### **MOBILE PHONES**

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

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

46. Councillors R Williams on the HALO presentation and K Saunders regarding tree planting.

#### **PROVISION OF ACTIVITIES FOR MATURE RESIDENTS**

47. Martin Suter reported that HALO provides a Gymnasium, a Swimming Pool and a Sports Hall, all of which are used by the more mature attendees. There are 29 Fitness Classes weekly, of which 22 are suitable for all ages. There are also specific activities available for those over 66, such as Tea Dances, Walking Football, Health Improvement Sessions and a wide range of other activities.

Councillors thanked Martin for attending the meeting and providing the information.

#### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

48. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING (E&L) HELD ON 1 OCTOBER 2019 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED.** The Minutes were duly signed.

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

49. None.

#### **FLAGPOLES FOR HIGH STREET**

50. A letter has been received from a Resident requesting that the High Street buildings be provided with flag poles and that flags be flown on the buildings, annually, for a six period during May to September. It was agreed that Swindon Borough Council (SBC) should be consulted about legality and other factors before giving permission.

#### **VE DAY CELEBRATIONS**

51. There have been no concrete plans as yet. This is to be put on the agenda for January.

#### **CAR PARKING OUTSIDE "THE HIGHWORTH"**

52. It was agreed that this Council will support SBC Highways in investigating the efficiency of erecting bollards on the footway outside "The Highworth". The only stipulation was that any bollards must be in keeping visually with the Town's High Street, should SBC decide to go ahead.

#### **TREE PLANTING "TREES PLEASE"**

53. Councillor K Saunders is due to meet with Jonathan Wilshaw from SBC, Community Forest to look at Pentylands Country Park as an area for further tree planting. He will report back to the Council with the results.

### **HIGHWORTH VISITOR CENTRE – REQUEST FOR FUNDING**

54. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny reported that at a meeting in SBC, the Conservation Officer was disturbed to learn of the changes made to a Listed Building, namely the old Lloyds Bank Building in the High Street and is currently investigating whether all the Planning requirements have been met. It was agreed to hold back on any discussion about this until the Conservation Officer's decision is known.

### **E&L PRECEPT DEMAND FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2020/2021**

55. Because the National Joint Council (NJC) agreement on any pay increase for 2020/2021 has been notified, it was agreed to delay a final decision on the Precept Demand for year 2020/2021 until January.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

56. None.

### **MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

57. a. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny. Councillor Penny had a meeting with Borough Councillor Keith Williams and Rob Richards, Legal Officer in SBC Property Department. The meeting was to register that Highworth Town Council (HTC) is interested in acquiring the Golf Course land, most likely under a lease, when Twigmarket is successful in giving up its lease. The meeting was positive and SBC agreed to consider this proposal. The current lessee pays about £12,000.00 per year in rent for the lease. Councillor Penny expects that, if we are successful, we should get the lease at a sum very much reduced from this and that we will fight to get this.
- b. Councillor (Miss) J Murphy. There is a loose paving stone at The Upper Rec in the footway that runs between the Swimming Pool wall and the Football Changing Rooms. This will be repaired.
- c. Councillor R Williams.
- Christmas Lights to be added to the January Agenda.
  - A meeting of the Working Party (Planting of Wildflowers) to discuss wildflower planting is to be arranged.

**Meeting closed at 8.48 pm.**