

# Highworth



## Town Council

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E&L17.

### MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE MEETING 7 JANUARY 2020

#### PRESENT

Councillor (Mrs) L Vardy (In the Chair)

Councillors: A Bishop  
(Mrs) J H Bishop  
N Gardiner  
P Newton-Smith  
G Olley  
(Mrs) M Penny  
K Saunders  
K Smith  
R Williams  
S Wolfensohn

#### IN ATTENDANCE

19 Members of the Public, and one Member of the Press.

#### APOLOGIES

58. Councillors G Evans, (Miss) J Murphy, (Mrs) K Barber & S Weisinger



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

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## **MOBILE PHONES**

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

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

60. None.

## **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

61. Mr I James. He asked the Council about the clearance of leaves between Oak Drive and Westhill House along Cricklade Road, as an elderly resident has cleared it. He was informed by the Clerk that Swindon Borough Council (SBC) is responsible for cleaning the roads, and Highworth Town Council, the pavement. Both SBC and HTC are to undertake the work, scheduled for 16 January 2020 along both sides of Cricklade Road. The opportunity is also to be taken to clear out the gullies as notices are to be put on vehicles requesting that there is no parking along the road to enable. Concern was expressed that the resident should not be endangering herself and road users by working in the road. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny further explained that the leaf fall was later than usual this Autumn and had the work been done sooner, the leaves would have remained in the road until the next scheduled sweep in the summer.

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

62. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING (E&L) HELD ON 5 NOVEMBER 2019 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED.** The Minutes were duly signed.

## **MATTERS ARISING**

63. None.

## **REPORT BY WILD-FLOWERS GROUP**

64. A productive first meeting was held, and a trial is to be undertaken in three small areas, the two disused flower beds at the front of the bungalows in Fair View, and a difficult area to mow next to Brewery Street, at the end of Park Avenue. The work is to be carried out by volunteers and at minimal cost to this Council. The result will be reviewed and after which it is to be decided whether to expand the project.

## **HIGHWORTH GOLF COURSE**

65. Borough Councillors (Mrs) M Penny and S Weisinger together with the Clerk had a meeting with Borough Councillor Keith Williams, Borough Cabinet Member responsible for the Golf Course, and Rob Richards (Head of Property (SBC) Legal) to put forward the Highworth Town Council (HTC) request to be allowed to take over the management of the Golf Course Land under a lease, preferably 99 years. HTC has already registered this land as an Asset of Community Value, which has been agreed. Nothing has been heard from SBC on this to date. Since then, Councillor (Mrs) M Penny has given the Clerk contact details of Neil Pullen from Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, who has just been appointed Development Manager for Swindon area. He is very keen to help in any way he is able, and a meeting is to be arranged as soon as possible.

## **FEES AND CHARGES 2020/2021**

66. The Fees and Charges shown at pages E&L 21 to E&L 27 have been unanimously agreed and are to be taken into use from 1 February 2020.

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

67. Councillor R Williams. Councillors agreed that the Christmas lights were very well received this year and extended their thanks to Faringdon Electrical Services for all the hard work. Potential enhancement of the display is to be an Agenda item for the next E&L meeting.

## VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

68. Sandra Rendall, the organiser of the May Day Market on Saturday 2 May 2020, has supplied a list of what can be expected at the Market, the theme of which is to be VE Day Celebrations. These are expected to be as follows:

- Spicy Piper
- Military Wives' Choir
- Delores (Vintage Singer)
- Square entertainments by Fandangos (2 acts and 2 shows, both with walkabout)
- Full size Spitfire aircraft
- Military vehicles
- Stalls
- St Michael's food and, hopefully, street party
- Feel the reptiles
- Farm
- Home Guard display

Enquiries are to be made to ascertain the cost of commissioning commemorative mugs for the Pupils of the Highworth Schools.

## CORRESPONDENCE

69. Councillors unanimously instructed the Clerk to write a letter to a resident informing him that he will receive no further replies to his many letters all relating to the same subject.

## MEMBERS' BUSINESS

70. a. Councillor S Wolfensohn. He has been contacted by a resident in Queens Avenue regarding problems with parking in the area. This is either something that needs to be addressed by Swindon Borough Council or in extreme cases, the Police. Highworth Town Council has no authority over this issue.
- b. Councillor K Smith. A further meeting is to be held. Following the moving on of PCSO Thomas Fryszka, regarding Youth Engagement future inclusion in our meetings will require consideration.
- c. Councillor G Olley. A letter is to be written to Mrs L Dibble who organised the cleaning of the Coleshill Road verge from the Farm to Eastrop. Farmer G Dibble also asked that the Council be reminded that he has a snow plough at the disposal of HTC, should it be required.
- d. Councillor N Gardiner. The lease for the Lower Rec is still in progress, we are awaiting SBC Legal department to review the Mirror lease and revert to us. The current delay is due to the solicitor who was appointed to represent SBC has been on long term sick leave and there was no-one available to take over. Councillor Penny has intervened with the Chief Legal Officer and there is hope for some forward movement on this.

**Meeting closed at 8.00 pm.**

Action Points: -

- A meeting is to be arranged with Neil Pullen of the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust
- Christmas lights is to be an Agenda Item for the next E&L Meeting
- Ascertain the cost of Commemorative mugs
- Youth Engagement to be an Agenda item on the next E&L Meeting
- Letter to be sent to the resident referred to in Correspondence
- Letter to be sent to Mrs L Dibble