



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL 15 OCTOBER 2019

PRESENT

Councillor (Mrs) J H Bishop (In the Chair)

Councillors: (Mrs) K Barber
A Bishop
N Gardiner
(Miss) J Murphy
P Newton-Smith
(Mrs) M Penny
K Saunders
K Smith
(Mrs) L Vardy
S Weisinger
R Williams
S Wolfensohn

IN ATTENDANCE

5 Members of the Public

APOLOGIES

46. Councillors G Evans and G Olley



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (10 Minutes Limit)

47. a. Mrs P Webster. Councillors agreed that this Council is to lobby Swindon Borough Council (SBC) to object to Planning Applications which have appeared on the Planning Portal and are contrary to the Highworth Neighbourhood Plan (HNP), which was adopted by SBC as part of its Local Plan.
- b. Mrs A Livall. She brought to the attention of the Council her concerns that the Bio-diversity surveys undertaken by Developers are not being conducted at the correct time of the year with regard to seasonal bat activity.
- c. Ms C Turbinskyj. She offered to lead a Tree planting initiative 'Trees Please' and asked the Council how best to proceed. Councillors agreed to put tree planting on the next E&L Agenda.
- d. Mr M Collett. He asked Councillors about the progress of the new lease for the Lower Rec. This Council is awaiting the final draft from Swindon Borough Council (SBC), before a 'mirror' lease can be negotiated for the Highworth Town Junior Football Club.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

48. None

MOBILE PHONES

49. Reminder to Councillors and Public that mobile phones should be silenced.

MINUTES OF MEETING

50. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17 SEPTEMBER 2019 BE ADOPTED** (The minutes were duly signed)

MATTERS ARISING

51. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny. Item 45c. She has made enquiries at SBC regarding mobile CCTV cameras, Councillor Donachie at SBC is dealing with this.

CORRESPONDENCE

52. None.

REPORTS BY BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

53. a. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny – she reported that she has dealt with the following issues:-
- She attended Councillor Surgery with Councillor S Weisinger.
 - Rivers Way residents are having cavity wall insulation and lagging in the attics.
 - She has received lots of feedback from residents concerned about the number of trees due to be felled on the proposed Redlands development site.
 - Shrivenham Road residents are concerned about the traffic and HGV's using Shrivenham Road and the speed at which they travel. She is to request another speedcheck.

- Stonefield Drive residents are complaining that the gutters are not being swept. It was discovered that all the aspirations for the cleaning machine at the beginning of taking on pavement sweeping in 2015 are not achievable. We do the very best we can with the resources at our disposal and have to prioritise. We have a statutory duty to clear certain areas on a daily basis and this is achieved, other areas are done on a reactive basis e.g. reports of broken glass.
- b. Councillor A Bishop – he reported that he has attended the following Meetings and dealt with those issues listed:-
- Swindon Borough Full Council.
 - Childrens Health.
 - Blunsdon Parish Meetings.
 - A replacement fence at Turnpike Road.
 - Meeting with a representative of the Golf Club.
 - Gullies in Broadbush and Blunsdon.
 - A Dog grooming business in Kingsdown Lane that was actually a motor vehicle repair shop, retrospective planning permission was sought and declined.
 - He continues to be in contact with the Air Training Corps.
- c. Councillor S Weisinger – he reported that he has attended and dealt with the following meetings and issues:-
- Stanton Fitzwarren Parish Council.
 - Councillors Surgery.
 - Planning Appeal issue re. Windrush property, Planning Enforcement Officers are looking at this.
 - Council Tax issue for resident, payments incorrect.
 - Council property light fusing – replacement requested.
 - Council property new toilet requested.
 - Online Books via Library enquiry for resident.
 - A request for double yellow lines on The Cullerns.
 - Residents Garden waste not collected.
 - Overgrown Weeds at Pentylands Lane, raised at surgery awaiting photos from resident.
 - A road widening request.

REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

54. a. Highworth Twinning Association (HTA) – Councillor R Williams. The visit by Ponterson was a huge success. The visit included trip to the Tythe Barn and the Windfarm. There is to be a German Cabaret Evening on 16 November at 7.00pm. Tickets are available from the Lighthouse Bookshop.
- b. Highworth Community Partnership Group (HCPG) – Councillor N Gardiner reported that there have been no recent meetings, however the AGM is due to be held on 16 October at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.
- c. Highworth Action For Fair Trade (HAFFT) – Councillor K Smith reported that there have been no meetings so far.

QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

55. a. Councillor N Gardiner. He suggested that Highworth Town Council might wish to consider taking on the lease of the golf course land should it become available. Councillors were informed that following Councillor (Mrs) M Penny's suggestion, the land is listed as an Asset of Community Value, and that a letter has been written to SBC expressing an interest. The possibility is to be a future Agenda Item.
- b. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny.
- A Redlands resident has contacted her to request that the speed limit be reduced to 30mph once the proposed new roundabout is installed.
 - A review of the Chairmanship and Code of Conduct to be discussed regarding Members of the Public being able to speak at meetings is to be an Agenda Item on the next GP&F meeting.

The Meeting closed at 9.00 pm