



G82.

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL
GENERAL PURPOSE AND FINANCE MEETING
19 MARCH 2019**

PRESENT

Councillor A Bishop (In the Chair)

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

IN ATTENDANCE

15 Members of the Public, Mr R Drayton (Twigmarket) and Mr R Williams (Market Manager)

APOLOGIES

81. Councillor R Acres and S Weisinger

MOBILE PHONES

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



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

83. None.

TWIGMARKET

84. Mr R Drayton (representing Twigmarket). He informed Councillors that the lease that Twigmarket has with Swindon Borough Council (SBC) is for 25 years, with the playing of Golf assured for 15 years.

He explained the current state of the sport and that last year two Courses per week closed in England and Ireland. The Golf Centre is losing golfers to other Courses, the reason given by the leavers being Highworth walkers and dog walkers ignore the paths and stray onto the fairways and into the Bunkers while games are being played and allow their pets to defaecate in the Bunkers. As Highworth is a pay-per-play course this results in financial losses – and is a disincentive to keep it open.

He is concerned that Golf is an expensive game and that the average age of people using Highworth is 70 yrs. The Highworth Course is being subsidised by Broome Manor and is not financially viable as a stand-alone course.

The parking for football tournaments and Wrd-e-up festival is also of concern to the Centre as it gives the impression to visiting golfers that the Centre is full.

HIGHWORTH MARKET

85. a. Correspondence None.

b. Market Manager's Report. Councillors were told that the Market continues to do well although it was cancelled due to high winds on the 16th March. Although the Market was cancelled, one trader still came which the Market Manager is concerned about because he is unsure if that trader has a 'Street Trading' Licence.

c. Market Accounts The accounts listed on pages G85 and G86 were agreed.

MINUTES OF MEETING

86. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING (GP&F) HELD ON 19 FEBRUARY 2019 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED.** The Minutes were duly signed.

MATTERS ARISING

87. a. Minute 80a. Point 2. Councillor K Smith reported that he has made little headway with his investigations at SBC regarding the Town Centre Development monies, however he has joined forces with the office so is hoping for more progress.

b. Minute 80b. There has been no written response as yet from Councillor David Renard, however his P.A. has sent an email to the Clerk which has been forwarded to Councillors.

Councillor (Mrs) M Penny has been appointed to the Honda Steering Co-ordination Task Group.

ACCOUNTS

88. The accounts listed on page G87 to G91 were approved and payment of bills authorised.

CORRESPONDENCE

89. Contemporary Art Holdings Valuation of the Fox Roundabout Sculpture is £25,000.00. The cost to include it in our Insurances has been quoted as £90.00 per annum. Councillors unanimously agreed to include the sculpture in our insured assets.

Councillors did express disappointment that the Fox is not as visible as they would have liked, but it complies with all the rules and laws relating to installations on Highways and roundabouts.

MEMBERS' BUSINESS

90. a. Councillor P Adams. She re-iterated that it was a shame that the Chevrons on the Fox Roundabout could not be lower.
- b. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny. She advised Councillors that BT would like to lease some of their land for allotments and asked if Highworth Town Council would be interested. Councillors voted in favour of pursuing the offer.

Meeting closed 7.50 pm