



Highworth Town Council

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12.

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA-ORDINARY FULL COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 22 JUNE 2021

PRESENT

Councillor R Williams (In the Chair)

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

Town Clerk: (Mrs) D Rose

IN ATTENDANCE

Two Members of the Public



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

APOLOGIES

13.

29. Councillor G Olley

CORRESPONDENCE

30. An email has been received from Swindon Borough Council Planning Department requesting Highworth Town Council review their call in of application S/OUT/19/1195

Highworth Neighbourhood Plan states the following:-

4.1 " The number of dwellings achieved on this site should be a minimum of 42 unless constraints, which may be evidenced as part of a detailed planning application, are identified and require a lesser number".

This does not justify that 57 houses is acceptable. The detrimental impact of the additional dwellings will have a negative impact on the Town, in particular relating to traffic congestion. The Highway's report dated October 2019 states the roads are at capacity. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Para 109 acknowledges that Development should not be prevented or refused on Highway grounds unless severe or unacceptable. Highworth Town Council are of the opinion that it will be severe.

The provision of 57 dwellings would be overdevelopment and will compromise on the quality of housing being delivered both in size, contrary to the nationally described space standards, noise from the industrial estate and odour pollution from the sewerage plant due to the buffer zone being reduced to shoe horn the dwellings in, NPPF 117.

In regard to the "potential vehicle access" due to COVID-19 Pentylands Lane has become recognised as a real community asset for walkers and cyclists being used extensively. The Lane leads to the Country Park and the access is deemed unsafe and unsuitable particularly as the egress is onto a sharp blind bend.

With regard to your email advising that S106's has been provided for a cycle/footway across the adjacent recreation ground to Lechlade Road, Highworth Town Council have not been formally advised of this and no details have been provided.

Councillors unanimously concluded that nothing has changed since comments were submitted in May 2021. On this basis they still wish to call this in to the Planning Committee where a representative of Highworth Town Council will make representations.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

31. **RESOLVED TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 15 JUNE 2021.**

The Minutes were adopted and were duly signed.

MATTERS ARISING

32. Minute 26 Members Business: Councillor (Mrs) M Penny also requested that the Town Clerk arranges for the contact details in the Link Magazine, for Swindon Borough Councillors to be updated.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

33. a. Resolved by Councillor (Mrs) M Penny, Seconded by Councillor K Smith for the following statement to be an amendment to the adopted Standing Orders:

When a decision is made by a Committee with delegated authority from Full Council, the decision shall be notified to the Council within 7 working days. Members of the Council then have 5 days to call-in a decision. If 5 or more councillors request a call-in, the matter will be deferred to the next Meeting of Full Council. If Full Council objects to the decision it must explain reasons for this, i.e. it is contrary to policy or not consistent with the budget. Call-in must only be used in exceptional circumstances and only in relation to the belief that the committee's decision contravenes either legislation, budget restraints or existing council policy.

b. Resolved by Councillor (Mrs) M Penny, Seconded by Councillor S Weisinger the Chairman and Deputy Chairman can attend all Meetings but unless they are an elected Member will have no voting rights. Voting was 12 in favour, 2 against. The Resolution was duly carried.

c. Resolved by Councillor R Williams, Seconded by G Evans for all Committees to have a minimum of 5 elected Members and a maximum of 9 elected Members. The Staffing Sub-Committee to have a minimum of 3 elected Members and a maximum of 5 elected Members. Voting was unanimous, the Resolution was duly carried.

d. The Terms of Reference for all Committees were debated and were accepted with noted amendments.

e. The following Members were elected:

Finance & General Purpose Committee

Councillors: K Smith
 P Newton-Smith
 (Mrs) J Bishop
 G Evans
 (Miss) J Murphy
 K Saunders
 (Mrs) L Vardy
 S Weisinger
 S Wolfensohn

Environment & Leisure Committee

Councillors: K Saunders
 N Gardiner
 A Bishop
 (Mrs) J Bishop
 G Evans
 P Newton-Smith
 (Mrs) M Penny
 (Mrs) L Vardy
 S Weisinger

Planning Committee

Councillors: (Miss) J Murphy
 (Mrs) K Barber
 A Bishop
 N Gardiner
 P Newton-Smith
 K Smith
 K Saunders
 R Williams

Neighbourhood Plan Committee

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

Staffing Sub-Committee

Councillors: R Williams
 (Miss) J Murphy
 (Mrs) J Bishop
 P Newton-Smith
 K Smith

Resolved by Councillor R Williams, Seconded by Councillor (Mrs) M Penny that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Council are automatically assigned Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Staffing Sub-Committee.

14 in favour, 0 against Councillor P Newton-Smith
 11 in favour, 3 against Councillor K Smith,
 11 in favour 3 against Councillor (Mrs) J Bishop
 3 in favour, 11 against Councillor (Mrs) M Penny

Councillors P Newton-Smith, K Smith and (Mrs) J Bishop were duly appointed.

MEMBERS' BUSINESS

34.

Councillor K Smith: Has fulfilled his obligation required by the unknown complainant in apologising for inadvertently revealing a confidential matter to members of Highworth Town Council in a private Meeting. The Town Clerk is to forward these Minutes to the Monitoring Officer.

Councillor R Williams: To remind Councillors they are expected to adhere to the Code of Conduct and to leave personal issues outside of the Council Chamber.

MEETING CLOSED 8:36PM

Action Points

- The Town Clerk is to respond to Swindon Borough Council Planning Officer
- The Town Clerk is to update the Terms of Reference and Standing Orders and re-circulate to all Councillors