

Highworth



Town Council

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www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

E&L12.

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL (ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE MEETING) 3 NOVEMBER 2020

PRESENT

Councillor: K Saunders (In the Chair)

Councillors:

(Mrs) K Barber
A Bishop
(Mrs) J Bishop
G Evans
N Gardiner
(Miss) J Murphy
P Newton-Smith
G Olley
K Smith
(Mrs) L Vardy
R Williams
S Wolfensohn

IN ATTENDANCE

Thirteen Members of the Public, One Member of the Press and Luke Tremblin – Cycle Routes and Link Up Presentation



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

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APOLOGIES

34. Councillors (Mrs) M Penny and S Weisinger

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

35. Councillor R Williams, as the Chairman of Highworth Recreation Centre Trustees, together with Councillor N Gardiner, also a Trustee, declared a financial interest in the Agenda items "Resolution to confirm the Funding Agreement between Swindon Borough Council (SBC) and Highworth Town Council (HTC) in support of Highworth Recreation Centre", and "Resolution to confirm the Funding Agreement between HTC and Highworth Recreation Centre through HALO". Their pecuniary interests are limited to £10.00 each. Councillors R Williams and Councillor N Gardiner were excluded from the debate and voting on these items.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

36. None.

CORRESPONDENCE

37. a. An Email has been received from the 3G Pitch Steering Group to invite a Councillor to be a Member of the Steering Group as a representative of Highworth Town Council. The Group has suggested either Councillor K Saunders as Chair of Environment & Leisure or Councillor K Smith as Chair of General Purpose & Finance.

Resolved by Councillor K Smith that Councillor K Saunders is to be the non-voting Town Council Representative of the Steering Group, Seconded by Councillor (Miss) J Murphy, Councillors unanimously agreed.

b. An Email has been received from Plastic Free Swindon asking for support for a Borough-wide activity to encourage less litter and use of plastics. They are working together with Keep Swindon Tidy on a poster-making activity to produce signs which can be displayed in Public places and problem litter areas. They are seeking the support of the Town Council for the campaign and agreement to display the posters. Councillors unanimously agreed to support this initiative and agreed to publicise on the Highworth Town Council Website and Facebook Page.

c. A Facebook message has been received with a request to have the Mayor recorded whilst turning on the Christmas Lights and posting it on Facebook for the residents to view, Councillors may wish to be included and record a Christmas message. Councillors unanimously agreed to support this request and the recording will post on the Highworth Town Council Website and Facebook Page.

MINUTES OF MEETING

38. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE MEETING (E&L) HELD ON 6 OCTOBER 2020 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED.** The Minutes are to be duly signed.

MATTERS ARISING

39. Highworth Town Football Club is continuing to correspond with the Event safety Advisory Group.

CYCLE ROUTES & LINK UP

40. A Presentation was received from Mr Luke Tremblin. A link to the presentation can be found through the Sustainable Highworth section on the Highworth Town Council Website.

Councillor (Miss) J Murphy invited Luke Tremblin to assist with updating Policy 7 Potential Cycle and Recreation Routes in the Neighbourhood Plan and is to invite him to the relevant Meeting.

Mr Tremblin informed the Council Councillor (Mrs) M Penny is scheduled to meet with the cycling group on 9 November 2020.

The Assistant Town Clerk is to email the presentation and zoom recording link to the Borough Councillors.

RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE FUNDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN SWINDON BOROUGH COUNCIL AND HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF THE HIGHWORTH RECREATION CENTRE.

41. Resolved by Councillor A Bishop and Seconded by Councillor G Olley to confirm and sign the Funding Agreement between Swindon Borough Council and Highworth Town Council in support of Highworth Recreation Centre. Councillors voted unanimously to accept.

RESOLUTION TO CONFIRM THE FUNDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL AND HIGHWORTH RECREATION CENTRE THROUGH HALO

42. Resolved by Councillor G Olley and seconded by Councillor P Newton-Smith to confirm and sign the Funding Agreement between Highworth Town Council and Highworth Recreation Centre through HALO to support the Recreation Centre. Councillors voted unanimously to accept.

REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE HIGHWORTH WORKING GROUP (SHWG)

43. Councillor N Gardiner reported the SHWG have met 3 times so far. Following an initial Public Consultation to establish what issues residents considered to be important to achieve a more sustainable Town, they are using the data to identify actionable areas and targets. This is to create a plan of which areas to cover and how they can be achieved. A Communication and Style Guide has been drawn up to ensure clarity and any proposals are to be brought back to the Council for approval.

A pilot website has been created which can be accessed through the Highworth Town Council Website, linking together all aspects of sustainable Highworth. Cycling has been a large topic for discussion along with cycle rack provisions within the Town. Planning requirements ie. Character areas, eco-friendly, wildlife areas and climate change are all issues that are being assessed. Research into the work that other Councils are doing is being undertaken to establish

what can be done to become carbon neutral. The group is building a picture of what can be achieved. The Minutes to all the SHWG Meetings are to be circulated to all Councillors.

Councillor P Newton-Smith is to report regularly to the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party to ensure that the work on sustainability in Planning is shared and that the different working parties are collaborating on work which is likely to become Policies in the Neighbourhood Plan currently under review.

SUSTAINABLE HIGHWORTH WEBSITE

44. Councillor P Newton-Smith has created a Sustainable Highworth Website, the site has been provided at no cost to the Council. The site is in addition to the HTC website but can be accessed through a link on the HTC home page. Communication with the office is required to ensure there is no duplication of content. Councillors unanimously agreed that the site can go 'live'.

WILDFLOWER GROUP UPDATE

45. Councillor K Saunders reported that further to potential wildflower sites being identified, Swindon Borough Council require a Maintenance Schedule. The Schedule has already been submitted to the Borough, and evidence of Public Consultation is to be forwarded once the Consultation period is complete. An online survey is to go 'live' this week for a period of 2 weeks and homes in the vicinity of the proposed sites are to receive the survey through the post. Councillors unanimously agreed that the survey be undertaken.

THE SEVENFIELDS DOVECOTE

46. Councillor K Smith advised the Council that the Dovecote has now been removed due to safety considerations and that a number of individuals have volunteered to work to provide a replacement. Councillors unanimously agreed to work alongside the Community to replace the Dovecote in Sevenfields, potential funding is to be investigated in addition to pledges of donations from residents.

MEMBERS' BUSINESS

47. Councillor N Gardiner: Due to current Government restrictions the Community litter pick scheduled for Saturday 7 November 2020 is cancelled.

Meeting closed at 8.37pm

Action Points

- The Deputy Clerk is to reply to the Steering Group and inform them that Councillor K Saunders is to be the representative.

- The Assistant Town Clerk is to post the plastic free Swindon campaign on the HTC Website and Facebook Page and display the posters
- The Mayor is to record a Christmas message while switching on the lights in the High Street, this is to be shared on the HTC Website and Facebook Page.
- Mr L Tremblin to be invited to the NPWP at the relevant Meeting.
- The Funding Agreement between Swindon Borough Council and Highworth Town Council in support of Highworth Recreation Centre is to be signed.
- The Funding Agreement between Highworth Town Council and Highworth Recreation Centre through HALO to support the Recreation Centre is to be signed.
- The Wildflower Public Consultation is to go live on Social Media by the end of the week