

# Highworth



## Town Council

Council Offices  
3 Gilberts Lane  
Highworth  
Wiltshire  
SN6 7FB

**Tel.** 01793 762377 or  
01793 763511  
**Fax.** 01793 762933  
**Email**  
david.lane@highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

**Town Clerk** Mr D C Lane

**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB-SITE AT:**  
[www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk)

11.

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL 19 JULY 2016

#### PRESENT

Councillor A Bishop (In the Chair)

Councillors: (Mrs) J H Bishop  
(Mrs) J Clark  
(Mrs) A M Durrant  
G Edwards  
N Gardiner  
(Mrs) M R Penny  
((Mrs) P M Webster  
S Weisinger

#### IN ATTENDANCE

5 Members of the Public,

#### APOLOGIES

31. Councillors P Adams and C Adams (Holiday), C J Cahill, G Evans (Business), (Mrs) A H Lival (Unwell) and (Mrs) L Vardy (unwell).



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

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## DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

32. None

## PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (10 Minutes Limit)

33. a. Mr P Newton-Smith. In addition to his previous questions regarding Highworth Library, he asked if Highworth Town Council (HTC) has been approached for a contribution towards staffing costs for the Library. HTC has received no approach.
- b. A lady asked if the Co-op has been informed of the proposed changes to the staffed opening hours of the Library. It is believed not yet as the proposal is for 2017.
- c. Mr K Smith. He asked if HTC would be prepared to pay the £51,000 costs of operating the Library building out of the Precept if it was not funded from the SBC Library budget. If the Town Council were approached it would be an Agenda Item and the subject debated.

## MINUTES OF MEETING

34. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21 JUNE 2016 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED.**

## MATTERS ARISING

35. Minute 29a. Councillor S Weisinger reported that he spoke to the Farmer and the footpaths were re-instated within a week.

## COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR

36. [CLLR ALAN BISHOP 2016 - 2017](#)  
[MAYOR OF HIGHWORTH](#)  
[ATTENDED FUNCTIONS](#)

- **SUNDAY 15 MAY 2016** - Mayor Making, Devizes Town Council, St John's Church, Devizes
- **TUESDAY 17 MAY 2016** - Complimentary Launch Evening, Spice Kitchen, 10 Swindon Street, Highworth

- **TUESDAY 17 MAY 2016** - Highworth Scout Group, AGM, Scout Hall, Eastrop, Highworth (Mayor had to cancel)
- **THURSDAY 19 MAY 2016** - Local Representative's Briefing, RAFCTE, Douglas Bader House, Horcott Hill, Fairford, Glos 4RB
- **WEDNESDAY 8 JUNE 2016** - Defence Academy Cocktail Party to Celebrate the Birthday of Her Majesty The Queen, Joint Service Command and Staff College at the Defence Academy, Shrivenham
- **SATURDAY 11 JUNE 2016** - The High Sheriff's Charity Concert, Christ Church, Old Town, Swindon
- **SUNDAY 12 JUNE 2016** - Marlborough Civic Service, St Mary's Church, Marlborough
- **SUNDAY 19 JUNE 2016** - Highworth Civic Service, "Queens Birthday", St Michaels Church, Highworth
- **SUNDAY 26 JUNE 2016** - Choral Evensong, Malmesbury Town Council, Malmesbury Abbey, Malmesbury
- **MONDAY 4 JULY 2016** - 36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, Prospect Hospice, Wroughton
- **SATURDAY 9 JULY 2016** - RAF Fairford Enclosure, Royal International Air Tattoo, Fairford
- **TUESDAY 19 JULY 2016** - Highworth Safe Places Launch, The Bridge, 8 Sheep Street, Highworth. This is to be a future Agenda Item.
- **WEDNESDAY 20 JULY 2016** - Golf Course (Highworth), The Rec, Texas Scramble Competition
- **SATURDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2016** - Highworth Produce and Craft Show, Warneford School, Highworth

**CLLR NICK GARDINER 2016 - 2017**  
**DEPUTY MAYOR OF HIGHWORTH**  
**ATTENDED FUNCTIONS**

- **TUESDAY 17 MAY 2016** - Complimentary Launch Evening, Spice Kitchen, 10 Swindon Street, Highworth

#### **MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

37. **RESOLVED TO ACCEPT AND CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:**

**Leisure Committee 5 June 2016**

**General Purpose and Finance Committee 5 June 2016**

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

38. None.

## CORRESPONDENCE

39. Community Governance Review. An email received from Stephen Taylor, Director of Law & Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer, Swindon Borough Council. While the Parish Boundary maps shown on the SBC website show no apparent change to the Highworth Parish, it seems that there is a small adjustment in the vicinity of the Supermarine Roundabout. In addition to the Boundary, clarification is to be sought by the Town Clerk on the implications contained in the Cabinet Papers regarding Governance changes.

## REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

40. a. Borough Councillors.
- Councillor A Bishop - he reported that he had attended and undertaken the following:-  
 Streetsmart Meeting  
 City & County Consultation re Burdrop Park  
 Planning Committee  
 Full Council at SBC  
 Saturday Councillor Surgery - no visitors at either the Highworth one, or the one in Blundson.  
 He has dealt with a request for a dropped kerb in Cotswold Way and been told that the road surface in Brookfield is not bad enough to warrant resurfacing.  
 The planters for the Fox Roundabout are on order  
 Meeting the Traffic Officer on Thursday morning at 7.30am regarding the traffic light phasing.  
 Attended two meetings regarding the Community Governance Review.
  - Councillor (Mrs) M Penny. She reported that she has attended and undertaken the following:-  
 She has been on holiday in this period, but did not miss any of her commitments to SBC.  
 There have been the usual complaints about potholes and grass/bush cutting back, however, it would appear that Swindon is being a little over zealous in what they feel is HTC's commitment to this. She has brought this to the attention of the Borough and will be having a meeting with officers and the Town Clerk to try and ensure that Highworth is treated correctly in what we have contracted to do.  
 She has attended Full Council as Deputy Mayor,  
 Castle Eaton Parish Council,  
 Graduations at New College,  
 and councillors' surgery, which no one attended.
  - Councillor S Weisinger. He reported that he has attended or undertaken the following:-  
 Adults Health Social Care and Housing Scrutiny meeting,  
 External Auditors meeting,  
 Community Governance Reviews Public meetings re Parishing,  
 Audit Committee,  
 Streetsmart and Highways Scrutiny meeting,  
 Wiltshire Pension Fund,  
 Surgery,

Standards Committee,  
 Children's & Young person's overview Scrutiny meeting,  
 Stanton Fitzwarren Parish Council,  
 SBC Full Council

- b. Swindon Transportation. None.
- c. Local Consultative Group (Police). Councillor (Mrs) M Penny reported that there have been no meetings and that she has written to the Chief Inspector asking if this Group has been discontinued.
- d. Highworth Youth Centre. Councillor (Mrs) A H Livall sent an email of her report to all Councillors and further drew attention to the final paragraphs regarding the Building/Property Services Review being undertaken by Swindon Borough Council and asking the Borough Councillors to help to keep this building funded for all those who use it due to its location.
- e. Town Twinning. Councillor G Edwards reported that the Safari lunch was successful and well attended. Some residents of Wassenberg are coming over for the Highworth Festival.
- f. Executive Committee WALC. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny has offered to attend any meetings of the Swindon Area Committee whenever Councillor (Mrs) L Vardy is unable to attend due to ill health or other reasons. There has been no notification of a meeting currently.
- g. Highworth Community Partnership Group (HCPG). Councillor N Gardiner was unable to attend the last meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> July. Councillor (Mrs) A Durrant reported that the principle subject discussed was the Library. The Group is considering potential proposals to put forward.
- h. Fair Trade. Councillor (Mrs) A Durrant. The group was involved in the May Day Market and is hoping to be involved in the Highworth Festival.
- i. Working Party Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor (Mrs) P M Webster reported that the Reg. 14 Consultation has now been closed. The information collected through responses to the Consultation is now being extracted to a spread sheet and all responses are being collated. The next meeting of the Working Party is scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016 when the responses to the Reg 14 Consultation will be considered, as will be the necessity for any additions, corrections to the draft plan which was written by Liz Beth (Planning Consultant) and Keith Smith. A time line will be established for the next stages of the plan. At that meeting will be representation from Forward Planning at SBC and our Planning Consultant to ensure that all necessary obligations are observed when taking the plan forward.
- j. Highworth Rec. Councillor N Gardiner reported that progress on the management of the Rec being taken on by HALO is going well. There will be more communication with the staff at the Centre this week and the anticipated completion date looks achievable.
- k. Nexus Project. Councillor N Gardiner reported that an application has been made for Charitable status for the project - which will be known by September. Attendance is good and increasing. Two outings were arranged recently which were enjoyed by the attendees. The group is looking for new premises.

## HIGHWORTH BOWLS CLUB

41. Councillor A Bishop. He and Councillor S Weisinger attended an informal meeting with the Bowls Club to hear about its plans for the future. Councillors suggested that the Club is invited to a future Planning Meeting.

## LIBRARIES UPDATE

42. Councillor A Bishop confirmed that there are no changes to be made until at least 2017. He was unwilling to speculate what eventual changes might be, citing the current Political uncertainties regarding changes in Prime Minister, The Cabinet and Brexit.

## PARKING SWINDON STREET

43. The Borough Councillors are still working on this, Councillor (Mrs) M Penny is in the process of setting a meeting with the Cabinet Member in charge of Parking Enforcement - once the Officers can confirm which Member it is. Councillor S Weisinger will be visiting the Resident.

## UPDATE BREWERY STREET PUBLIC CONVENIENCES/PODIUM

44. a. The Clerk reported that the Stone to be used for the Public Lavatory building has now been passed by The Conservation Officer, as have the roofing materials. The roller door for the depot is still under Consideration but the Building Regs have been passed. There is a meeting arranged with the Builders for Thursday morning.
- b. Several proposals have been put to the Council so far. There is approximately £2000.00 difference in the cost of the compacted surface (as used for the Cemetery Path) and a paved surface, the Conservation Officer will also have a view. Illustrations and costings are to be brought to the next Leisure Committee meeting for a full debate.

## QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

45. a. Councillor (Mrs) J Clark. She has brought to the attention of the Conservation Officer a number of Properties within the Conservation Area that require works to be undertaken.
- b. Councillor (Mrs) P Webster.
- 'Matters Arising' is to be listed as separate Agenda Items underneath each set of Minutes to be confirmed.
  - A further letter is to be sent to the Highworth Hotel as there is a car, constantly parked outside, obstructing the pavement.
- c. Councillor (Mrs) A Durrant. She is to liaise with the Clerk to put together various policies for the Council to discuss.

d. Councillor N Gardiner. Enquiries are to be made regarding the cost of the Social Media Training being arranged by Haydon Wick Parish Council. Interested Councillors are to inform the Clerk. Councillors also asked for the cost of bringing the trainer to Highworth for all the Councillors to benefit.

**The Meeting closed at 8.30 pm**