

Highworth



Town Council

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www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

45.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL 21 MARCH 2017

PRESENT

Councillor A Bishop (In the Chair)

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

IN ATTENDANCE

5 Member of the Public, Leon Barrett (Head of Street Smart SBC)

APOLOGIES

120. Councillors (Mrs) A H Livall, C A Adams



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

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PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (10 Minutes Limit)

121. None

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

122. None.

TRANSFER OF SERVICES – LEON BARRETT (Street Smart SBC)

123. Street services were transferred to HTC by SBC under Deed some years ago, but now SBC proposes that HTC take on the grass cutting of 2 small triangular pieces of verge at Sevenhampton, to a minimum standard of 6 cuts per annum. It currently has a value with SBC of £2900 per annum. SBC would offer transitional funding to HTC of 50%, £1450, in the financial year 2017/2018 and a further payment of 25%, £725, in the financial year 2018/2019. It was proposed that this be achieved through a Deed of Variance on the current Deed, which it was proposed would also include wording to define the Powers and Permissions on Fly-Tipping, minor Tree Maintenance and street signs and bollards, restricted to those signs that were within head height of an individual person.

- a. Resolved by Councillor S Weisinger and seconded by Councillor (Mrs) J Clark that a Deed of Variance be agreed with Swindon Borough Council (SBC), to amend the current Deed with SBC, agreeing to carry out services originally provided by SBC as follows:-
- To transfer the responsibility for grass cutting on the two small areas of verge outside the Church at Sevenhampton, as shown on the plan provided, for which SBC will provide transitional funding of £1450 in the financial year 2017/2018 and a further payment of £725 in the financial year 2018/2019.
 - To include wording in the Deed to allow HTC to deal with small instances of Fly-Tipping which it feels capable of carrying out, but where it does not accept that it can deal with the incidence, that this will be logged with SBC for the Borough to effect its removal.
 - Permission to carry out minor tree maintenance work which can be effected from the ground using hand tools.
 - Permission to wash road signs and bollards

Voting was unanimously in favour to accept resolution. The Resolution was duly carried and action is to be taken to agree the Deed of Variance with SBC.

MINUTES OF MEETING

124. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21 FEBRUARY 2017 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED.**

MATTERS ARISING

125. None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR

126. The Mayor reported that he has attended Grove Hill Residential Home and to remind people that the Mayoral Charity Ball is being held on 31st March at the Blunsdon House Hotel. He also reported that he had attended the following events:

- **SATURDAY 10 DECEMBER 2016** – Highworth Choral Society, A Christmas Concert, St Michaels Church, Highworth
- **SUNDAY 11 DECEMBER 2016** - Service and Tea, Church of St John the Baptist, Inglesham
- **WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER 2016** – Eastrop Infant School, Christmas Plays, Highworth

- **SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER 2016** – Carol Service, St Michaels Church, Highworth
- **FRIDAY 23 DECEMBER 2016** – The Highworth Hotel, Meeting a Half Marathon Runner on final run for the 12th day of Christmas
- **FRIDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2017** – Grove Hill Nursing Home, James Dunn 100th Birthday, Highworth
- **FRIDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2017** – Civic Dinner, With members of the 4 Military Intelligence Battalion as guests of honour, Marlborough Town Council
- **FRIDAY 31 MARCH 2017** – Highworth Mayor's Dinner, Blunsdon House Hotel, Blunsdon, Swindon
- **SUNDAY 2 APRIL 2017** – Service for the Rule of Law & Declaration, Salisbury Cathedral, Salisbury

Councillor N Gardiner: Deputy Mayor of Highworth has attended the following events:

- **FRIDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2017** – Girl Guiding Wiltshire North's Annual Awards & Celebration of Guiding, The Legends' Lounge, Swindon Town Football Club, The County Ground, Swindon (Venue changed to Swindon Academy on Beech Avenue)

MINUTES OF MEETINGS

127. RESOLVED TO ACCEPT AND CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:-

- a. **Planning Committee 7 March 2017**
- b. **General Purpose and Finance Committee 7 March 2017**
- c. **Leisure Committee 7 March 2017**

MATTERS ARISING

128. An extra ordinary Planning and Leisure meeting will be held on Tuesday April 18th in the Council Chambers 7pm.

CORRESPONDENCE

129. None

REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES

130. a. Borough Councillors.

Councillor A Bishop – Councillor A Bishop reported that he had attended and undertaken the following:-

- A Full Council meeting in Swindon
- A Police Crime Commissioners Workshop in Chippenham
- A Police Crime Commission meeting in Salisbury
- A Street Smart meeting
- A Saturday morning surgery
- A resident in Newburgh Place requested new road signs, checked with SBC not deemed necessary
- Litter picking
- Tree Surgery

Councillor (Mrs) M Penny. Councillor (Mrs) M R Penny reported that she had now attended three meetings with the Rural Parishes. She has managed to resolve, among others, several issues with the terms and conditions of the Deeds being offered, issues on Fly-Tipping and disparities between offers being made to different councils. She also carried out the following:

- helped on the litter pick on 12 March
- Attended a SAC meeting at Haydon Wick

- Attended a resources committee at SBC, but nothing to report back to HTC
- Cricklade Road now has fully functioning drains, the gulleys have been repaired and the yellow lining put down, taken up and put down in the right place.
- Some Residents at Sevenfields have been complaining about the size of the trees next to their property. They will have their trees reduced, but there is no certainty as to the timescales.
- She has liaised with Highways to stop the relining of the car parks until after the removal of the bring site so that lines can be put down where it was sited.
- Two tenants, one in Orange Close and one at Newburgh Place, now have functioning Central Heating/hot water systems – one was an emergency as the lady in question was a vulnerable adult.

She has also attended:

- One full council meeting at SBC

As Deputy Mayor of Swindon she has attended or taken part in:

- International Women' s Day
- Reach Inclusive Arts
- Pride of Swindon Awards
- Shoe Box Theatre
- Met the Vicar at Christchurch as he has agreed to be her Chaplain.

She has also attended Hannington and Castle Eaton Parish Council Meetings

Councillor S Weisinger. Councillor S Weisinger reported that he has attended:

- St Andrews Parish Council meeting
- Chaired the SBC audit committee
- A Wiltshire Pension Fund meeting at Trowbridge
- A Stanton and Blunsdon meeting with Leon Barratt
- A Re-generation Committee meeting
- A Standards Committee meeting
- A Scrutiny Meeting
- A Highways Officers' meeting

b. Swindon Transportation. None

c. Local Consultative Group (Police). None

d. Highworth Youth Centre. A letter is to be sent to SBC informing the Borough Council that the building is in such a bad state of repair that it is not fit for purpose in its current state and should not be rented out to anyone for functions or events.

e. Town Twinning. Councillor G Edwards reported that £500 has been received from the EU and visits have been arranged. A successful AGM has taken place and new committee members have been accepted.

f. Executive Committee WALC. None.

g. Highworth Community Partnership Group (HCPG). Councillor N Gardiner reported a lot of work has been done around supporting the library opening. Still actively campaigning to raise awareness of "safe places". Will be looking to update the Town Vision.

h. Fair Trade. Councillor (Mrs) A Durrant A successful coffee morning was held on 12-3-2017. The ongoing support of The Town Council is still required.

i. Working Party Neighbourhood Plan.

- Resolved by Councillor (Mrs) J Bishop and seconded by Councillor K Smith that the Final Highworth Neighbourhood Plan, as amended by the Examiner's recommended amendments, be accepted and that it be put before the Cabinet at Swindon Borough Council for acceptance and to be put forward to a Referendum. Voting to accept was unanimous and the Resolution was duly carried. Forward Planning Department at SBC is to be informed of this decision.
- Resolved by Councillor (Mrs) M Penny and seconded by Councillor (Mrs) J Clark, that a budget be set of £1000 to enable the Town Clerk to organise printing and distribution of flyers to be delivered to all households in Highworth, to publicise the Referendum on the Highworth Neighbourhood Plan in order to encourage local residents to come out and vote on this important issue. Carried unanimously. The Town Clerk is to take this forward.
- A leaflet drop is to be arranged using a local company. Councillors instructed that the Post Office not be used as it delivers many brochures all together so ours might be missed.

J. Nexus Project. Councillor N Gardiner reported Nexus is continuing to grow and the mentoring is being supported by the schools.

DOUBLE YELLOW LINES – ON STREET PARKING

131. Borough Councillors have been asked to approach Swindon Borough Council Traffic Management and Parking Services to request the current "double yellow lines" parking restrictions, apart from at bus stops, be removed from Swindon Street. The Highway there is very wide and, taking into account for Highworth's need for more Town Centre parking, there appears to be no good reason for these restrictions.

MEMORIAL – GEOFF HALLS

132. Councillors agreed that a memorial bench may be put on the Upper Rec field in memory of Geoff Halls if one is required by public subscription.

The meeting was informed of the time and date of his cremation and the reception afterwards at Wrag Barn Golf Club.

QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

133. Councillor K Smith: A letter will be written to the enforcement officer requesting removal of the recruitment banner in Redlands close.

Councillor N Gardiner: The next Community Litter Pick is 3pm Sunday 26th March 2017 meeting at Highworth Town Council Offices.

The Meeting closed at 8.40 pm