

Highworth



Town Council

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Town Clerk Mr D C Lane

L15.

MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING 3 JANUARY 2017

PRESENT

Councillor (Mrs) L Vardy (In the Chair)

Councillor:

R Akers
A Bishop
(Mrs) J H Bishop
(Mrs) J Clark
(Mrs) A Durrant
G Edwards
N Gardiner
(Mrs) M R Penny
K Smith
(Mrs) P M Webster

IN ATTENDANCE

3 Members of the Public

APOLOGIES

35. Councillors C A Adams, P L Adams (Family Medical Reason) and S Weisinger

QUESTIONS FROM PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

36 A resident questioned how successful his suggestion to 'grade' all utilities covers that protrude from the verges around Highworth to save time on grass-cutting had been. He was informed that most of them seemed to belong to Thames Water and that the office has tried to take it up with them but other priorities have stalled the attempts. It was suggested that Gloucester House or the Community Pay Back group might be able to assist.



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

37. None.

FEES AND CHARGES 2017/2018

38. Resolved by Councillor (Mrs) M Penny and seconded by Councillor (Mrs) J Clark that the fees and charges for the year 2017/2018 shown at pages L19 to L24 be agreed. Carried unanimously. These charges are to be taken into use from 1 February 2017.

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE/STREET CLEANING

39. Verge cutting has now ceased for the current year and is not due to re-commence until Spring. The Grounds staff is now concentrating on trimming and cutting the hundreds of shrubbed areas in the town. Street cleaning is continuing and Paul Tilling is conducting a regular check of all the litter "Plague Sites" as frequently as he can. He makes the comment that in these sites a clean-up can be ruined within minutes of the street cleaner leaving the site by residents dumping litter which will not be dealt with until he returns to that site when next due on his roster.
- A letter has been sent to a Swindon Street Fast Food outlet to warn the owner not to dump his shop and food waste in the litter bin outside his shop. Any further offences and the bin will be removed and we will inform residents of the reason in the Link magazine.

SKATEBOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

40. Councillor (Mrs) P Webster presented a report by Councillor P Adams following a meeting in November between the Bowls Club, Highworth Town Junior Football Club and the Wheelers.
- There was a meeting with Tracey Scott from Swindon Borough Council regarding an ownership query over part of the Lower Rec Field.
 - 'Wheelscape' has agreed to draw up a design and give advice on signage
 - £7500 to be used to open a bank account
 - Mr K Saunders to submit an application to the Freke Norton Charity for assistance in March 2017.
 - There may be up to £45,000 available from Highworth Town Council.

Councillors agreed that the part that HTC had been asked to undertake has been achieved and that the Wheelers may wish to continue without interference until such time they want to approach the Council for assistance again. The question is to be asked at the next meeting scheduled for the 26th January.

CORRESPONDENCE

41. a. E Mail from Organisers of Highworth Annual 5 Mile Race. The race this year will be on 19 March 2017, starting and finishing at Warneford School as usual.

b. Letter from Collard and Co. Solicitors. Request for the Council to consider if it would be prepared to accept a negotiation from Highworth Town Junior Football Club to increase the notice period on its licenses with the Council. A reply is to be sent acknowledging the request. Councillors are curious as to why the Club would like to extend the period as it was not envisaged that notice would be served by the Council.

MEMBERS' BUSINESS

42. a. Councillor A Bishop. Swindon Borough Council Highways has agreed to serve enforcement notices on owners who park their cars causing damage to the verges - especially on St Michaels Avenue.
- b. Councillor K Smith. HCPG are currently investigating preventative measures as people are driving vehicles onto the village greens at Windrush, getting stuck and causing damage to the ground.
- c. Councillor N Gardiner. The Community Clean Up group would find it useful to know of the litter 'Plague spots' identified by the HTC groundstaff with a view to targeting its litter picking.

STAFF ADMINISTRATION (The Members of the Public were excluded at this point)

43. This item is Minuted separately and is confidential.

The Meeting Closed at 10.15 pm