



Highworth Town Council

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E&L.27.

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL (ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE MEETING) 2 MARCH 2021

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
(Mrs) M Penny
K Smith
(Mrs) L Vardy
S Weisinger
R Williams
S Wolfensohn

IN ATTENDANCE

Five Members of the Public and One Member of the Press

APOLOGIES

85. Councillor G Olley



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

86. Councillor K Smith declared an interest in Agenda item 8 'Closure of the High Street' as he is a resident, there is no pecuniary interest and he was permitted to participate in the debate.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

87. None

CORRESPONDENCE

- 88.
- a. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny received correspondence regarding available funding for street tree planting. The scheme is the National Street Tree Sponsorship Scheme funded by DEFRA.
Councillors agreed for this to be an Agenda item at the next Neighbourhood Plan Committee Meeting.
 - b. A resident has written to all Highworth Town Councillors regarding support available to Highworth Pre-School. MP Justin Tomlinson has responded detailing the support and all Councillors have been copied into the reply.

MINUTES OF MEETING

89. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE MEETING (E&L) HELD ON 2 FEBRUARY 2021 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED.** The Minutes were adopted and to be duly signed.

MATTERS ARISING

90. None

HIGHWORTH TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB & HIGHWORTH TOWN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

91. Resolved by Councillor K Smith and Seconded by Councillor N Gardiner to waive the Fees & Charges for all periods where Football was not permitted by Government COVID-19 Regulations and to backdate to March 2020. This is to be kept under review for 12 months. Voting was 11 in favour, 3 against and 0 abstentions, the Resolution was duly carried.

PROPOSAL FOR QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE

92. This item is deferred until June 2021. Once Government Restrictions have been eased the Council is to ask for representation from Community Groups to be involved in organising the event.

CLOSURE OF THE HIGH STREET

93. Councillors unanimously agreed not to pursue investigating measures in the High Street relating to Social Distancing and Road Closures.

REC TRACTOR

94. Full Council Minute 78. Resolved by Councillor P Newton-Smith, Seconded by Councillor (Miss) J Murphy to dispose of the Massey Ferguson Tractor and replace with an additional leased Torro Flail Mower. Councillors unanimously agreed and the Resolution was duly carried.

In line with Standing Order 22 no comments have been received therefore the Resolution is duly carried.

BLOSSOM TREE

95. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny reported several species of blossom trees available and associated costings. A plaque will be secured to the tree with an inscription to commemorate Highworth victims who have passed due to COVID-19 and to serve as a lasting reminder. Councillors unanimously agreed for the Acting Town Clerk to liaise with the Grounds Manager on a suitable species to be sited at St Michaels Church Yard. If this location is not possible Highworth Cemetery is the second choice of location.

MEMBERS' BUSINESS

96. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny: Reported if any residents are having issues with renewing their green waste subscription she is able to pass their details to an operative in SBC who will contact them via telephone to process the payment.

Councillor (Mrs) L Vardy: Concerns were raised at the amount of litter around the Town. A strong message regarding the disposal of litter is to be put on Social Media and a poster campaign aimed at school children is being implemented by the Sustainable Highworth Working Group.

Meeting closed at 8:54pm

Action Points

- The National Street Tree Sponsorship Scheme run by DEFRA is to be an Agenda item at the next Neighbourhood Plan Committee Meeting
- Platinum Jubilee is to be an Agenda item at the Environment & Leisure Meeting in June 2021
- The Acting Town Clerk to liaise with the Grounds Manager on a suitable species of blossom tree