



3 GILBERTS LANE
HIGHWORTH SN6 7FB
01793 762377

www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY 17th JANUARY 2023**

Present:	
Councillors:	(Ms) J Murphy (Chairman), (Mrs) K Barber, (Mrs) J Bishop, G Dennis, G Evans, N Gardiner, P Newton-Smith, G Olley, K Saunders, K Smith, (Mrs) L Vardy, S Weisinger, R Williams and S Wolfensohn
Town Clerk:	(Mrs) D Rose
Assistant Town Clerk:	(Mrs) C Haines
Representatives:	PCSO Harriman – Wiltshire Constabulary
Members of the Public:	18
Apologies:	Councillor A Bishop

		Action
82	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None	
83	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (Maximum 10 Minutes) & CORRESPONDENCE: a. A member of the public asked Highworth Town Council (HTC) to clarify why a complaint they had raised had been found to be unfounded, a letter was passed to the Town Clerk. b. A member of the Old Golf Course (OGC) Action Group asked Councillor S Weisinger in his capacity as Borough Councillor, if the OGC was being marketed to be sold? Councillor S Weisinger advised he had no knowledge of this, the Town Clerk will request an update from Swindon Borough Council (SBC). c. A representative from Highworth Community Shed asked that now they have secured a site at Coleshill and have a third of the money required for the next two years would HTC re-consider the grant application previously applied for. The Town Clerk advised that as Coleshill is outside the Parish it may not be possible for HTC to give a grant but has requested further advice and will advise once the information has been received.	DR DR

	<p>d. A member of the public requested a copy of the costing for future May Day Events, the Town Clerk will reply directly.</p>	DR
84	<p>MINUTES OF THE MEETING:</p> <p>RESOLVED to confirm and sign the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 15th November 2022.</p>	
85	<p>NALC AND LEVELLING UP:</p> <p>Councillor K Smith gave a presentation on Levelling Up.</p> <p>Councillors were encouraged to research this and write to our local MP to ensure Parish Councils inclusion.</p>	ALL
86	<p>COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:</p> <p>COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <p>a. Finance & General Purpose – 25th October 2022 b. Environment & Leisure – 4th October 2022 c. Extra Ordinary Planning – 5th December 2022 d. Environmental Sustainability Committee – 10th October 2022 e. Neighbourhood Committee – 27th September 2022</p> <p>The Committee Meeting Minutes were noted.</p> <p>f. RESOLVED to purchase a branded Gazebo as recommended by E&L Committee (Minute Reference 50). Voting was 12 in Favour, 2 Against, and the Resolution was duly carried.</p> <p>g. RESOLVED to carry out a survey to ascertain the public demand for ongoing community litter picks as recommended by E&L Committee (Minute Reference 52). Voting was unanimously in Favour, and the Resolution was duly carried.</p>	DR DR
87	<p>WILTSHIRE CONSTABULARY:</p> <p>A report was provided by PCSO Harrison.</p> <p>Highworth is in the top 10 safest small towns in Wiltshire (currently 6th) and is in the top 20 centile in the Country.</p> <p>Current Highworth statistics:</p> <p>X5 Violence/Sexual Assault (4 Domestic Violence & 1 Fight) X4 Criminal Damage Incidents X1 Shoplifting</p> <p>PCSO Harrison confirmed a high priority is tackling young people wearing balaclavas on electric scooters/bikes and how to best police this with the current laws in place.</p> <p>The Police are scheduled to bring their Exhibition Vehicle to the Market on Saturday 28th January 2023, and would like to encourage members of the public to attend.</p>	

	<p>A new Facebook page has been set up called "Swindon North, East & Rural", the Town Clerk asked if the police could tag the HTC page.</p> <p>PCSO Harrison to check if the police are taking a multi-agency approach to tackling crime in the town as agreed by the Police Crime Commissioner when attending a meeting of Highworth Town Council.</p>	PCSO
88	<p>LECHLADE ROAD:</p> <p>RESOLVED by Councillor (Ms) J Murphy and Seconded by Councillor G Evans to respond to SBC confirming Councillors were unable to make a decision on the surrender of the lease held with SBC on Lechlade Road, due to the independent valuation which shows a significant difference in the valuations. The Town Clerk is to liaise with SBC and bring back to Council. Voting was 13 in Favour, 0 Against and 1 Abstention and the Resolution was duly carried.</p>	DR
89	<p>AUDIT REPORT:</p> <p>RESOLVED by Councillor K Saunders and Seconded by Councillor R Williams to accept the Internal Audit Report 2022. Voting was unanimously in Favour, the Resolution was duly carried.</p> <p>The team were congratulated on another outstanding audit.</p>	
90	<p>HIGHWORTH LIBRARY:</p> <p>RESOLVED by Councillor K Saunders and Seconded by Councillor R Williams to approve continued financial support of Highworth Library staffing costs and increase the 2023/2024 budget amount from £26500.00 to £27062.00 increasing the proposed precept from £657165.00 to £657727.00 (inclusive of council tax support grant). Voting was unanimously in Favour, and the Resolution was duly carried.</p> <p>Councillors reiterated the request for regular usage statistics.</p>	
91	<p>OLD GOLF COURSE (OGC) WORKING PARTY:</p> <p>RESOLVED by Councillor K Smith and Seconded by Councillor R Williams for the OGC Working Party to prepare a business plan in readiness to submit to SBC and arrange a meeting with Swindon Borough Councillors A Bishop, V Manro, S Weisinger and MP Justin Tomlinson to discuss how they can support the business plan and Local Green Space Application. Voting was unanimously in Favour, and the Resolution was duly carried.</p> <p>Councillor S Weisinger advised he will speak to Councillor G Sumner and see if a solution can be found where a representative from SBC can attend Old Golf Course Working Party Meetings.</p> <p>The survey summary results are to be published on the website and social media.</p>	DR SW DR
92	<p>FIREWORKS:</p> <p>The Chairman of Environmental Sustainability Committee reported on the impact of environmentally friendly firework displays, it is recommended that this year HTC continue as planned but explore other environmental options.</p>	

	RESOLVED by Councillor K Saunders and Seconded by Councillor R Williams to confirm the date of Friday 3 rd November 2023 for the annual fireworks display. Voting was unanimously in Favour, the Resolution was duly carried.	
93	PUBLIC BT TELEPHONE KIOSK, GROVE HILL, KNOWLANDS HIGHWORTH: RESOLVED to apply to adopt the public telephone kiosk on both Grove Hill and Knowlands. Voting was 13 in Favour, 0 Against, and 1 Abstention, and the Resolution was duly carried.	DR
94	DONATIONS OF DEFIBRILLATOR: RESOLVED to install a new defibrillator at a location to be confirmed by the Town Clerk. Voting was unanimously in Favour, the Resolution was duly carried. The Town Clerk is to write to CPC Civils to express the council's gratitude at this kind gesture. Councillor A Bishop is to contact Aldi regarding, funding, and installing a defibrillator on their site.	DR DR AB
95	HIGHWORTH TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB (HTFC): RESOLVED to approve the request for HTFC to hold their annual summer tournament on 17 th & 18 th June 2023 on the Upper Recreation Ground. Voting was unanimously in Favour, and the Resolution was duly carried.	
96	GINNETT CIRCUS: RESOLVED to approve Ginnett Circus to visit Highworth Town on 31 st July – 6 th August 2023. Voting was unanimously in Favour, and the Resolution was duly carried.	
97	MEMBERS' BUSINESS <u>Councillor (Mrs) J Bishop:</u> Highworth has had a lot of change over the years and change will always take place, it is a wonderful place to live. <u>Councillor N Gardiner:</u> Concerns were raised regarding the condition of Pentylands Lane as a direct access route to Aldi. Councillor S Weisinger advised he has already contacted SBC and will report back. <u>Councillor (Ms) J Murphy:</u> A resident has asked if a Borough Councillor can take up an issue with the licence at the Plough due to very late music. Councillor (Ms) J Murphy to email the details to Councillor S Weisinger and he will take to the appropriate department at SBC.	SW JM/SW
MEETING CLOSED AT 21:13PM		

Signed:

Date: