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**ENVIRONMENT & LEISURE MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Present:</b>               |   |
| <b>Councillors:</b>           | K Saunders, G Dennis, I Durnin-Duffy, N Gardiner, L Gow, J Murphy, and R Williams |
| <b>Assistant Clerk:</b>       | C Haines  |
| <b>Members of the Public:</b> | 4   |
| <b>Apologies:</b>             | Councillors: F Haines (FA Meeting) and G Olley (Vacation)                         |

|    |   | Action       |
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| 24 | <b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:</b><br><br>None  |              |
| 25 | <b>PUBLIC QUESTION TIME &amp; CORRESPONDENCE (Maximum 10 Minutes)</b><br><br>a. A member of the public requested an update on the installation of white gates and road marking at Redlands that were first raised in January 2022.<br><br>Councillor N Gardiner is working with the Town Clerk in progressing this and has reported to Swindon Borough Council (SBC) to investigate.<br><br>b. A member of the public requested an update on the community flag scheme that was being organised by a member of the public.<br><br>The Assistant Clerk advised Highworth Town Council (HTC) is still waiting on some flags to be handed in but will follow up with those not received, once all the flags have been received the dates can be arranged for when they will be flown in the High Street. | NG<br><br>CH |
| 26 | <b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING:</b><br><br>a. <b>RESOLVED</b> to confirm and sign the Minutes of the Environment & Leisure Committee Meeting Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2023.<br><br>b. Councillor L Gow reported she had investigated possible grant funding for the cemetery bell restoration however to make a successful case you need to demonstrate its significance to the local community.   |              |

E&L.07



Twinned with  
Wassenberg



Twinned with  
Pontorson

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|    | c. Councillor L Gow reported on Highworth Library being an information hub, sharing information and holding events.  |    |
| 27 | <b>ROADS IN HIGHWORTH:</b><br><br>Councillor N Gardiner has reported to SBC the lack of cleaning of the roads in Highworth, SBC has confirmed it is now on their work list and will be completed within the next ten days, email confirming this is to be sent to the Town Clerk.  | NG |
| 28 | <b>ALLOTMENTS:</b><br><br>Allotment inspections took place in June 2023 with many improvements noted. A full inspection of the allotments is taking place again at the end of September early October 2023, there is a waiting list for allotment plots.   |    |
| 29 | <b>PUBLIC CONSULTATION – COMMUNITY LITTER PICK:</b><br><br><b>RESOLVED</b> by Councillor R Williams, Seconded by Councillor J Murphy to approve the community litter pick survey. Voting was 6 In Favour, 0 Against, 1 Abstention, the Resolution was duly carried.  | DR |
| 30 | <b>WILDFLOWER SEEDS:</b><br><br><b>RESOLVED</b> by Councillor R Williams, Seconded by Councillor G Dennis to recommend to Finance & General Purpose (F&GP) to purchase wildflower seed for the Lower Recreation Ground and other suitable areas in Highworth. Councillors unanimously agreed and the Resolution was duly carried.  | DR |
| 31 | <b>GROUNDS TEAM VEHICLES:</b><br><br><b>RESOLVED</b> by Councillor R Williams, Seconded by Councillor G Dennis to recommend to Full Council to purchase fleet vehicles. Voting was 6 In Favour, 0 Against, 1 Abstention, the Resolution was duly carried.  | DR |
| 32 | <b>PLAY AREA WORKING PARTY:</b><br><br>Councillor G Dennis reported the Play Area Working Party have reviewed the consultation responses and discussed a plan to develop the three sites over the next 3 years and aligned potential funding. The next stage is to reconsult with the public on the draft designs.   |    |
| 33 | <b>POST BOX AT HIGHWORTH CEMETERY:</b><br><br><b>RESOLVED</b> by Councillor N Gardiner, Seconded by Councillor J Murphy to approve the installation of a white post box in Highworth Cemetery for 'Letters to Loved Ones' sponsored by Hilliers Funeral Service and Highworth Memorials. Voting was 6 In Favour, 0 Against, 1 Abstention, the Resolution was duly carried. | DR |
| 34 | <b>HGV TRAFFIC THROUGH HIGHWORTH A420:</b><br><br>Councillor N Gardiner advised the Transport Working Group at SBC met on the 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2023, and are aware of the issues with HGV Traffic through Highworth. Councillor N Gardiner will update at the next Environment & Leisure (E & L) Meeting.   | NG |

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| 35                            | <p><b>MEMBERS' BUSINESS:</b></p> <p><u>Councillor L Gow</u> : Held her first Councillor session at COOP, and reported it was a good information sharing session.</p> <p><u>Councillor I Durmin-Duffy</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. A member of the public has asked why Highworth has not done anything about Pride week. The Chairman advised no request has been submitted to HTC to consider.</li> <li>b. St Michaels Hall may not be available after July 2024, not sure if there is anywhere else suitable for large groups.</li> </ul> <p><u>Councillor N Gardiner</u>: Following on from the Backhouse travel survey results it was asked if the public footpath that runs along Wrag View can be accessed via Backhouse. He has contacted both Backhouse and SBC to report this as an action.</p> <p><u>Councillor J Murphy</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Believes there were concerns on the Backhouse travel survey regarding crossing the road to access the Recreation Ground. Councillor J Murphy is to forward the information to the Town Clerk to be collated.</li> <li>b. Concerns that the bollards in the road near the Fox roundabout are still missing. Councillor N Gardiner is to follow up and report back.</li> <li>c. Residents have an issue with the cars parking on double yellow lines at the top of the High Street. The Town Clerk is to address this again with SBC.</li> </ul> <p><u>Councillor R Williams</u>: The bike rack on the podium has been removed and will be relocated.</p> | <p>NG</p> <p>JM</p> <p>NG</p> <p>DR</p> |
| <b>Meeting Closed 20:37PM</b> |   |   |

Signed: .....

Date: .....