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**FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY 23rd JANUARY 2024**

Present:	
Councillors:	K Smith (Chairman), S Apps, G Dennis, I Durnin-Duffy, N Gardiner, L Gow, A Houghton, N Key, J Murphy, G Olley, K Saunders, P Newton-Smith and R Williams
Town Clerk:	D Rose
Assistant Town Clerk:	C Haines
Representatives:	Tom Falding - Fandangos
Members of the Public:	3
Apologies:	Councillor F Haines (Family Commitments) Councillor S Weisinger (Health Reasons)

		Action
78	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None	
79	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME & CORRESPONDENCE (Maximum 10 Minutes): None	
80	MINUTES OF THE MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING: RESOLVED to confirm and sign the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28 th November 2023.	
81	WRDE UP: Tom Falding provided the following information regarding the Wrde Up Festival following the takeover by Fandangos: The original objectives of the WRDE UP committee was to hold the event and raise money for charities, last year the event made less that £300.00 profit, and each year the committee have asked Fandangos to take on more and more. Fandangos put forward a financial offer to take over the event, which was accepted. It is an important event in the town, with 90% of ticket sales being purchased by Highworth residents, the plan is to grow the audience and the event as a whole. Fandangos asked for support from Highworth Town Council (HTC), and will forward suggestions to be considered at a future meeting.	TF

	<p>RESOLVED to waive the fees for the usage of the Lower Recreation Ground for this year's festival (July 2024). Voting was unanimous, and the Resolution was duly carried.</p>	
82	<p>COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:</p> <p>a. Finance & General Purpose – 21st November 2023 b. Neighbourhood Plan – 28th November 2023</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan Chairman advised HTC that the draft NHP2 was approved by the Committee today and will be going to Regulation 14 imminently.</p> <p>The Committee Meetings Minutes were noted.</p>	
83	<p>INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT:</p> <p>RESOLVED to accept the Internal Audit Report. Voting was unanimously in Favour, the Resolution was duly carried.</p>	
84	<p>HIGHWORTH LIBRARY:</p> <p>RESOLVED by Councillors to approve the continued library funding for 2024/2025, subsidising 2 x library assistants of 15 hours per week and to increase the agreed precept to £685,447.00 (six hundred and eighty-five thousand, four hundred and forty-seven pound). Voting was unanimous, the Resolution was duly carried.</p>	
85	<p>HIGHWORTH TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB (HTFC) SUMMER FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT:</p> <p>RESOLVED by Councillors to approve the request for HTFC to hold their annual summer tournament on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd June 2024 on the Upper Recreation Ground. Voting was unanimous, and the Resolution was duly carried.</p>	
86	<p>MEMBERS BUSINESS:</p> <p><u>Councillor J Murphy:</u> Concerns were raised regarding the missed waste collections in Highworth.</p> <p>Councillor N Gardiner advised waste collections has been a problem across the borough, Swindon Borough Council (SBC) have been chased, the new system has had teething problems and the vehicles have had some issues, but they now have additional vehicles in place. Any updates going forward will be shared with HTC.</p> <p><u>Councillor G Olley:</u> Residents have reported an issue with pigeon droppings in the High Street.</p> <p><u>Councillor K Saunders:</u> Police officers have advised they can now deploy stingers to electric bikes that do not stop.</p> <p><u>Councillor A Houghton:</u> Resident has been in contact as their sharp bins are not collected and the doctors or chemist will not take them and you now have to call SBC or fill a request online which is not easy for some people. The Town Clerk advised that some residents that require assistance already come into the office and we assist with completing the online form.</p> <p><u>Councillor K Smith:</u> The clock on St Michaels Church is now working with the correct time</p>	

87	<p>RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC:</p> <p>RESOLVED by Councillor K Saunders and Seconded by Councillor P Newton-Smith to exclude the Public and Press from Agenda item 11 and 12 to consider legal advice and to consider commercial interests of transfer of services. Councillors unanimously agreed and the Resolution was duly carried.</p>	
88	<p>ST MICHAELS CHURCHYARD:</p> <p>Councillors discussed the legal advice on maintenance of the closed Churchyard. The Town Clerk is to continue talks with the Church to find a solution that suits both parties.</p>	DR
89	<p>SERVICES:</p> <p>Councillors discussed the possible transfers of Services from SBC. The Town Clerk is to continue talks with SBC, investigate what is possible to take over and the indicative costs involved so a decision can be made.</p>	DR
<p>Meeting Closed 8:35PM</p>		

Signed:

Date: