

Highworth



Town Council

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www.highworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

6.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HIGHWORTH TOWN COUNCIL 21 JUNE 2016

PRESENT

Councillor A Bishop (In the Chair)

Councillors:

- C A Adams
- P Adams
- (Mrs) J Bishop
- (Mrs) J Clark
- G Edwards
- N Gardiner
- (Mrs) L Vardy
- (Mrs) P Webster

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr R Williams (Market Manager) and 5 Members of the Public.

APOLOGIES

18. Councillors: C Cahill (Holiday), (Mrs) A M Durrant (holiday) G Evans (Business), (Mrs) M Penny and S Weisinger (Both at SBC Overview and Scrutiny meeting)



Highworth is a Fair Trade Town



Twinned with Wassenberg



Twinned with Pontorson

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PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (10 Minutes Limit)

19. a. Mr R Williams. He questioned why only three Councillors took part in the Civic Service Parade on Sunday 19th June. The Mayor, Councillor A Bishop was pleased with the attendance at the Service, which raised £311 towards the Mayors charity but acknowledged that many people were unable to march because the Service fell on Fathers Day.
- b. Mrs T Edwards. She asked what the Council is doing to stop illegal parking on Swindon Street. This Council has no enforcement powers, Swindon Borough Council does. The Police have advised this Council that they are keeping the matter under observation and Borough Councillor (Mrs) M Penny is in discussions with the Borough Councillor responsible for Highways trying to find a solution. This matter is to be on the next Full Council Agenda.
- c. Mr P Newton-Smith. He asked for an update regarding Highworth Library following the Election statements. Councillor A Bishop told the Council that all Libraries will be opening late on the 5th July so that the Library Staff can be updated. This is to be and Agenda item at the next Full Council Meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

20. None.

PARKING PERMITS - TRADERS

21. Advice from Highways at SBC is that it would be feasible to make Sheep Street Permit Only Parking for a period every Saturday. There would have to be a Road Traffic Order put in place which would cost around £1500.00 and if granted, proper signage would need to be put up, costing £1000.00 - £1200.00. It was made plain that Highworth Town Council would be expected to bear the whole cost of this. Although this measure is not considered of immediate importance, it should be considered. Borough Councillor A Bishop agreed to discuss this further with Highways.

TRAFFIC LIGHTS SWINDON STREET/HIGH STREET JUNCTION

22. Councillor A Bishop has a meeting arranged for 7.30 am with an SBC Officer to observe the problems with the Traffic Lights. He has agreed to ensure that the Officer is not wearing Hi-Viz, as this alerts drivers to behave. A resident has offered the use of her property to install a temporary camera to monitor the number of vehicles jumping the lights. This Council would be able to fund the provision of a camera for this purpose. This is to be on a future meeting. An Officer from SBC is to be invited to attend.

TO ACCEPT ACCOUNTING STATEMENT AND ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT YEAR 2015/16.

23. Resolved by Councillor C Adams and seconded by Councillor (Mrs) L Vardy to accept the Accounting Statement and annual Governance Statement for 2015/2016.

MINUTES OF MEETING

24. **RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10 and 17 MAY 2016 BE ADOPTED AND SIGNED**

MATTERS ARISING

25. None.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS

26. **RESOLVED TO ACCEPT AND CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:**

Leisure Committee 7 June 2016

General Purpose and Finance Committee 7 June 2016

MATTERS ARISING

27. Councillor N Gardiner is to provide Councillor P Adams with contact details for the group interested in finding a site for a Skatepark, as there has been no further contact from them.

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

28. a. Councillor A Bishop.

- 14th May 2016 Braeside School
- 24th May 2016 Licensing training
- 7th June 2016 Licensing
- 14th June 2016 Planning (Thatch Cottage, Blandford Alley)
- 15th June 2016 Full Council (Lydiard House and Parish Boundaries)
- 16th June 2016 Police Crime Panel
- Delivered hundreds of leaflets re Highworth Neighbourhood Plan
- Old Natwest Building (Coffee shop due to open at end of year)

- Libraries opening late on the 5th July 2016 to be updated on proposed library strategy before publication of Cabinet papers.

b. Councillor (Mrs) M Penny.

- Attended 1 Licensing meeting
- Resources and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny (Attended 1 meeting)
- Appointed Deputy for Wiltshire and Swindon Police and Crime Commission
- Appointed to Archaeological Advisory Board
- Highworth Recreational Management (Attended 1 Meeting)
- SEQOL (Attended 1 meeting)

These are necessarily light due to the possible clashes with the Deputy Mayoral role.

c. Councillor S Weisinger.

- Attended SBC Annual Council Meeting (including Mayor Making)
- Attended Civic Dinner
- Attended Councillors' Surgery
- Meeting with Highways Department
- Attended Standards assessment meeting
- Attended Extra SBC Full Council Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

29. a. Public Footpaths Obstructed by Arable Crops. An email from the Footpaths Officer at SBC regarding enforcement action against a farmer for obstructing local footpaths. Councillors agreed that the necessary action should proceed.
- b. Temporary use of Public Open Space. A resident has asked for permission to store hardcore and soil temporarily on land at Haresfield park, to be made good on completion of works; he also asked if it was possible to purchase some of the land. Councillors agreed to the temporary use, but decided that any sale of the property is out of the question.
- c. Progress on the Rec Centre. An email from Adrian Arnold at SBC. A preferred bidder has been identified and the Rec Centre Staff are being updated on the progress.
- d. Lechlade Road Crossing. Letter received from the Resident Sheltered Housing Officer, on behalf of the residents of Middi Haines Court and the Downsview bungalows. This is a request to upgrade the crossing by the Plough Inn to a single, level pedestrian crossing and remove the island currently in place to make it easier for those with mobility scooters, pushchairs etc. to cross. This is to be added to the next Full Council Agenda, in the meantime, Councillor A Bishop will approach the Localities team regarding funding.

QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

30. a. Councillor G Edwards. The Road Closure between Wessex Way and Edencroft on Roundhills Mead has been temporarily lifted but will close again in the next few days for resurfacing.
- b. Councillor (Mrs) J Bishop. Councillor A Bishop will liaise with Norman Jeffrey regarding the placing of Planters on the Fox Roundabout.
- c. Councillor N Gardiner. The Council is still waiting for the Conservation officer to decide on suitable materials for the new Public Toilets and Depot building.
- d. Councillor C Adams. He resolved that any Councillor wishing to allow a member of the Public to speak outside of Public Question time should ask for Standing Orders to be suspended. The Council should then vote on this, if it is agreed, this part of the meeting will not be Minuted. Councillor (Mrs) L Vardy seconded the Resolution and it was passed unanimously.

This is not the case where prior agreement has been given by the Chair of a Meeting for an individual to present to the Council, these proceedings would be Minuted if appropriate.

MEETING CLOSED AT 8.02 pm