

Present: Mayor, Councillor G Lambert
Deputy Mayor Councillor K Arlett
Councillor Miss S Abey
Councillor Julian Brookes
Councillor Miss D Crook
Councillor D Eggleton
Councillor Sam Evans
Councillor S Gawrysiak
Councillor Will Hamilton
Councillor Miss L M Hillier
Councillor Miss K Hinton
Councillor Sarah Miller
Councillor D Nimmo Smith
Councillor L Plant
Councillor I Reissmann
Councillor Jane Smewing

In attendance: Mrs J Wheeler – Town Clerk
Miss L Hastings – Minute Taker
21 Members of the Public
1 Members of the Press

The Mayor, Councillor Glen Lambert, opened the meeting with thanks to all the out-going Councillors who were not standing for re-election. He also said farewell to the Town Clerk as this would be her last Full Council meeting. He extended an invitation for everyone to attend Mayor-Making on 13 May 2019.

103. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

104. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There no Declarations of Interest.

105. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 05 March 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

106. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs Helen Gaynor – Bell Street. Friends of Freeman’s Meadow. Thanked the Council for the new children’s playground and the work that the Working Group had achieved. The Group taking on board the broad balance of the residents views.

Mrs Pam Phillips – St Mark’s Road. Spoke about the danger of the sloping tow path at the bottom of Friday Street without a bollard. Any car turning could easily go into the river.

Mrs Phillips also said that it was a great shame to close the kiosk at Mill Meadows during the summer and hoped that the Council would reconsider especially as they are hoping to put in a lido and splash pool.

Councillor D Eggleton advised that the piece of sloping land was privately owned and that Councillors had already approached the owner. He also stated that he would like to see the kiosk at the river re-opened along with the putting green.

Mrs G Dodds – Greys Road – hoped that the mermaid statue would not be put back on Red Lion Lawn as she felt that it wasn't appropriate to site it there.

Mr Laurence Morris – Made a case for the Christmas Festival to remain on 29 November 2019. If it was a week later, it would only give retailers three and a half weeks of festive trading.

Councillor S Miller thanked Henley Town Council for all of their support with the May Fair.

Councillor D Nimmo-Smith advised of the sad death of Mr Allen Jones – Town Councillor from 1977 – 1991. He was co-founder of the Henley Borama Friendship Group.

Councillor Sam Evans hoped that all the newly elected Town Councillors would work as hard as Jane Smewing and Laurence Plant.

107. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Members had before them reports from two District Councillors.

Councillors Hillier and Gawrysiak both advised that they had not been sent any questions and stood by their reports.

Cllr Hinton thanked all the District Councillors for their work over the last four years.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillor Gawrysiak had not received any questions but advised that on the 10th May resurfacing would take place on the piece of Marlow Road from the roundabout to the Rugby Club. Work will be carried out from 8pm through the night until 6am. Everyone will be informed. His County report would be emailed round as it had missed the agenda pack.

108. FEEDBACK FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF OUTSIDE BODIES (max 5 min total)

Councillor W Hamilton advised that the Bled Twinning is going from strength to strength. The Rowing World Championships are being held in Bled in 2020. The open water swimmers will also be going to Bled next year. It is also hoped that the Slovenian women cyclists will be joining in the OVO cycle race starting in Henley on 12th June 2019.

Councillor Miss S Evans advised that it is the tenth anniversary of the Regatta for the Disabled. There is an event in the Town hall on the 22nd May.

Councillor Miss K Hinton – Henley Educational Trust is now in a new financial year. Anyone needing school uniform, trips or books for their children please come forward.

109. MAYOR'S CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS

Members received the Civic Engagements from **05 March – 29 April 2019. It was RESOLVED**

that the list of Mayoral Civic Engagements for the period 05 March – 29 April 2019 be received and noted.

Councillor Miss L M Hillier thanked the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor and Councillor S Gawrysiak for all of their hard work Councillor Mrs J Smewing congratulated the Mayor on so many engagements and his work on Bluebells.

110. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Planning Committees held on 19th March, 9th April and 23 April 2019 were before the Council.

It was RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Planning Committees held on 19th March, 9th April and 23rd April 2019 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

Councillor Nimmo Smith had some plans for Henley dating back to the 1950s – there was a short discussion on the aspirations in those days.

Cllr Brookes wanted to know who would be compiling the consultation documents on the Reading Road project – he was informed that the Planning and Project Manager would compile the draft.

The Minutes of the Town and Community Committee held on 26th March 2019 were before the Council.

Minute 93 Road/Pavement Works

Councillor D Eggleton had concerns over the quality of the works and wished to review this with the Town & Community Committee.

The Town & Community Manager, Ms H Barnett advised that she had written ask what the process is regarding street works – no reply has been received as yet.

An amendment will be added to allow poster advertising for Henley based organisations holding events outside of Henley. Each request will be considered on an individual basis to control the advertising in Henley town.

Minute 102 – Progress

Councillor Miss Sam Evans advised that a kind benefactor has paid to recover the mermaid given to Henley-on-Thames. Crowdfunding had more than covered the costs needed for installation. Michaela Clark and Cllr Evans were both looking forward to the return of the mermaid and are very happy about what has been achieved.

It was RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Town and Community Committee held on 26th March 2019 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 12th March 2019 were before the Council.

Minute 80 Progress

Provision of toilets - Councillor D Nimmo-Smith felt that if the provision of toilets at Mill Lane is being discussed then perhaps vehicle electrical points should also be on the agenda for Mill Meadows car park.

Signage – Councillor Miss S Evans spoke about the signage and the welcome wall and asked that both be progressed and not forgotten. Councillor Miss K Hinton advised that the signage project is still ongoing.

Minute 81 Makin's Recreation Ground – Councillor D Eggleton doesn't agree with spending money on CCTV as it won't stop the problem. He felt that the youth needed to work with NOMAD and start workshops etc. Giving youngsters a voice in the town will help. Support them at a younger age.

It was RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 12th March 2019 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the Finance Strategy and Management Committee held on 2nd April 2019 were before the Council.

Councillor I Reissmann thanked Councillor Mrs Jane Smewing for her hard work chairing the Finance Committee for the past two years. With her array of skills, knowledge and careful preparation Councillor Smewing holds the respect of every Councillor around the table. Her sound judgement will be missed.

It was RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Finance Strategy and Management Committee held on 2nd April 2019 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

111. FREEMAN'S MEADOW

Councillor Miss K Hinton thanked Councillor Miss S Evans for all of her hard work. They had worked together over the past eight years. Councillor K Hinton showed members the new play design for Freeman's Meadow. It is hoped that the playground will be open by the summer holidays. The Open and Green Spaces Committee selected three suppliers to give presentations and the winning design from Wicksteed was a unanimous decision.

112. STANDING ORDERS REVISION

Councillor I Reissmann advised that the Town Clerk's recommendation to appoint a Working Group should be accepted. All elected Councillors will be invited to work with this Group.

113. CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Councillor Gawrysiak spoke to keep the festival on 29 November as ratified at Full Council in January. There were lots of other events which would clash if the festival was moved.

It was RESOLVED

To leave the date of the Christmas Festival unchanged – 29 November 2019

114. OFFICIAL RESIGNATION OF THE TOWN CLERK

Councillors noted the recruitment process and timetable. Councillor W Hamilton thanked the Town Clerk for all of her hard work during her time in Henley. Councillor Miss K Hinton also thanked the Town Clerk and asked if she would like to say anything. Mrs Janet Wheeler advised that she loves Henley and will miss it.

115. STRATEGIC RISK ASSESSMENT

Councillor I Reissmann proposed that the information on the assessment be adopted. Councillor Miss K Hinton advised that there had been an extraordinary amount of work done by Henley Town Council Officers.

It was RESOLVED

That the Strategic Risk Assessment attached to the agenda be adopted.

116. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was moved by the Chairman and **RESOLVED**

that the public and the press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business transacted.

117. STREET CLEANING

The Councillors considered new legal advice from the barrister.

It was RESOLVED

To amend the Part 36 offer in line with the legal advice. The details are recorded in Appendix A.

(Post meeting note)

An agreement has been reached and the details are recorded in Appendix B.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

jw

Chairman