

Present: Councillor Miss L M Hillier (Chair)
Councillor Sarah Miller (Vice-Chair)
Councillor K Arlett
Councillor Julian Brookes (substitute for Councillor D Nimmo
Smith)
Councillor D Eggleton
Councillor S Evans
Councillor Will Hamilton
Councillor G Lambert (Substitute for Councillor Miss K Hinton)

In attendance: Mrs J Wheeler – Town Clerk
Mrs N Taylor – Committee Administrator
Councillor I Reissmann
3 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

56. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Miss K Hinton, D Nimmo Smith and S Smith.

57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

58. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

None received.

59. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Town and Community Committee held on 5 September 2017 were received, approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

60. BUDGET

Members received the Management Accounts to 30 September 2017.

It was agreed that the CCTV paper tabled at Full Council should be an agenda item for the next meeting of this Committee on 28 November where it can be discussed and any subsequent amendments to the budget made.

Members received and considered a report on 2018-19 Draft Budget Figures.

The Licence increases suggested for Market Place seating, Weekend Markets, Charter / Farms Markets, Upper Market Place Parking, Red Lion Lawn Embarking / Disembarking and the Angel on the Bridge were all agreed.

Schedule 2 was discussed and it was agreed that Friday – Sunday 0000-0100 rates should be increased by the same percentage rate as all the others.

The cost of hiring the kitchen was also discussed and it was agreed that a check should be made with other venues around the town as to how much they charge for the use of kitchen facilities.

It was RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

that an item be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of this Committee to discuss the CCTV paper tabled at Full Council then any subsequent changes to the budget can be made;

that the draft budget figures included in Schedule 1 and explained further under 3.1 to 3.4 be accepted;

that the Town Clerk checks how much other venues such as the Cricket Club, Rugby Club and River & Rowing Museum charge for the use of their kitchen facilities.

Post Meeting Note: A check has been made with the Cricket Club, Rugby Club and River & Rowing Museum who have all confirmed that they make no additional charge for the hire of their kitchen facilities.

61. EVENTS SUB COMMITTEE

Members received and considered the notes of the Events Sub Committee meetings held on 3 July and 11 September 2017. A Member queried why the name of the Committee had been changed from the Christmas Events and Decorations Sub Committee to the Events Sub Committee if all that is discussed is Christmas, and was advised that the Committee will be discussing events other than Christmas when appropriate.

The lack of notes for the meeting held on 6 October was queried. It was noted that the notes were unfortunately not ready for circulation as the Administrator only works two days a week. **It was RESOLVED**

that the notes be noted, and

that the notes of the meeting held on 6 October be brought to the next meeting of this Committee for consideration.

62. TRANSPORT STRATEGY WORKING GROUP

Members received and considered the notes from the meeting held on 4 September 2017. **It was RESOLVED**

that the notes be noted.

63. TOWNLANDS STEERING GROUP

The Chairman welcomed Councillor I Reissmann to the table.

Councillor Reissmann informed Members that the main point of the Steering Group Meeting was to consider if the Steering Group still had a role to play, and the overall view was that yes it was still required. Councillor Reissmann stated that Councillor R Aitken (Bix & Assendon Parish Council), Councillor Miss K Hinton and himself would be the Steering Group representatives at future meetings of the Stakeholder Group

There was, Councillor Reissmann stated a meeting that morning of the Stakeholder Reference Group where it was decided that as the remit of the group had now

changed from lobbying to save the hospital, to a group monitoring and scrutinising how the hospital was being run the Terms of Reference of the group needed to be re-written.

It was agreed that due to this change the qualifications of the membership should also be re-assessed.

Members then received and considered the notes of the Townlands Steering Group Meeting held on Wednesday 27 September 2017.

It was noted that paragraph 6 should have also stated that if the Townlands Stakeholder Reference Group are failing in their duty, then the Townlands Steering Group should be quickly revived.

Councillor Brookes had volunteered to act as a substitute should Councillors Aitken, Hinton, or Reissmann not be available to attend a Reference Group Meeting and was advised that a check would have to be made with the Reference Group to see if that would be acceptable.

It was questioned if there was any need for Townlands to remain a Town Council meeting or if it should now stand independently. Councillor Reissmann advised that being associated to the Town Council meant that the Council provided much appreciated administrative services, and that any decision to not be associated with the Town Council must be made by the Steering Group membership.

A Member queried what had happened to the naming of one of the rooms / wards at the Hospital the 'Terry Buckett' room / ward as agreed by this Council some time back. Councillor Reissmann advised that three people had passed away during the time it took to save the hospital and no rooms had been named after any of them, but he would check and report back.

Members were advised that every other meeting of the Stakeholder Reference Group was now held as a public meeting, Councillor Reissmann advised that he has suggested that the meetings should all be treated like Council Meetings with open session at the beginning of the meeting and any sensitive items being discussed at the end of the meeting in confidential session.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Stakeholder Reference Group would take place on 23 January 2018 in the Council Chamber and the Townlands Steering Group on 17 January 2018. **It was RESOLVED**

that the notes be noted.

64. BUS WORKING GROUP

Members received and considered the notes of the Bus Working Group Meeting held on Friday 8 September 2017 and Friday 6 October. **It was RESOLVED**

that the notes be noted.

65. WASTE WORKING GROUP

Members received and considered the notes of the Waste Working Group Meeting held on Monday 2 October 2017.

It was noted that the date of the next meeting had yet to be set, and the notes of the Meeting with the Environment Agency would be available soon.

It was requested that Gillotts Field (dog waste bin area) be added to the list of grot spots. **It was RESOLVED**

that the notes be noted.

66. STREET CLEANING

Members received and considered a report on Street Cleaning.

After an in-depth discussion **it was RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that powers be delegated to the Town Clerk to liaise with Councillor Tony Harbour on the best way forward with this project, i.e. purchase or hire, and operation of equipment.

67. WOOTTON MANOR CAR PARK

Members considered installing a pay and display machine as the car park which is meant to be a short term car park for the use of shoppers is being used as a long term car park by commuters, builders and traders selling vehicles.

It was agreed that the issue with the builders would only be short term whilst the development behind the shops was taking place. **It was RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the situation be monitored and if it continues a sign be erected stating two hours free parking, and a fine of £60 for over stay.

68. REFILL

Members considered a request for the Town Council to support a new 'free tap water' campaign fronted by Councillor Sarah Miller which is designed to reduce the plastic pollution and promote healthy hydration by making refilling a water bottle easy, social and rewarding by making people think twice about buying another bottle of water rather than refilling their old one.

Due to the lead pipes in the Town Hall and the taste of the water they produced it was agreed not to just pour water from the taps into jugs for meetings but to provide a water dispenser to fill jugs that could be placed on the table.

Water fountains around the town were also suggested.

It was RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

that a dispenser and water be purchased, and

that investigation be carried out as to the possibility of installing drinking fountains around the town, and

that the Town Council endorses the initiative and gives its support

69. MAY FAYRE

Members considered a request from Councillor Sarah Miller for this Council's continued support of the May Fayre in its second year. Last year the Council provided admin support and provided a budget £1000 towards the cost of organising the event. **It was RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the Council provides its administrative support and a budget of £1000 again this year.

70. MEMORIAL BENCH

Members considered a request for a memorial bench to be placed in the town. It was noted that there is currently no more room along the river for any memorial benches to be placed but there used to be a bench at the Friday Street / Thameside junction and there is space on Singers Park.

After due consideration it was **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that permission is granted for a bench to be installed at no cost to the Council at Singers Park.

71. STREET ANGELS / STREET RANGERS

Members received and considered a report from Councillor Miss L M Hillier on the suitability of either Street Angels or Street Rangers in Henley.

It was agreed that Reading Street Angels (with the help of Wantage Grove and Wallingford) should continue to be used for the Regatta and the Festival as they are extremely well trained and their volunteers work every four weeks so are using their training all the time. Any residents who registered an interest should be advised of the Reading training programme.

Street Rangers are a group of people who are:

- Friendly
- Approachable
- Highly visible
- Dedicated to helping both members of the public and businesses in and around the town centre

The goal of a Street Ranger is to:

- Help people get the best from the town
- Giving directions
- Providing information about activities and events
- Working with the Police to help reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
- Overall helping to make the town an enjoyable, clean and safe place to spend time in
- Clean Team, street cleaning, graffiti removal and litter clearance
- Be a voice for business, speaking to the Council on behalf of businesses to help with issues from street lighting to parking

It was **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that further consideration should be given to having Street Rangers rather than Street Angels in Henley.

72. PROGRESS

Members had before them a report on progress, and after the following observations noted the information contained therein.

Sound Vision and Light System for the Town Hall

The Project Manager will be at the Town Hall during the afternoon of Wednesday 25 October setting up different combinations of equipment – Councillors are invited to come along and listen.

Georgian Paving in Bell Street

Keith Stenning chasing up background information.

Town Entrance Signs

A letter to be sent to Liz Hodgkin regarding the flower beds under the entrance signs on the Fairmile and Reading Road.

Angel on the Bridge Bin Store

Meeting still to be arranged.

Litter Bins

Bins still awaiting installation, Park Services to be chased again.

Red Lion Lawn Licence

Item to be removed from progress.

CCTV

Visit to be arranged before the next meeting of this Committee.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Nt

Chairman