

- 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:** District Councillor Mrs J Bland
Mrs J Wheeler – Town Clerk
Miss L Hastings – Minute Taker
Mr James Churchill-Coleman – Town Sergeant
13 Members of the Public
1 Members of the Press

91. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

92. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor, Councillor G Lambert declared a pecuniary Interest. He is a Trustee of the new Bluebells Day Care for people with dementia.

93. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 08 January 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

94. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms Freda Whitaker – Henley Symphony Orchestra – spoke about advertising boards. Town and Community minute 8.2. Thanked the Council for replying to her emails and for their support. The orchestra is local as is the audience but they don't have the facilities in Henley to hold larger concerts. The Henley Symphony Orchestra would like to put up their posters this weekend and take down next weekend, advertising their next concert.

Mrs Susan Edwards – Milton Close – Henley Choral Society – spoke about encouraging young people to join the Youth Choir and eventually as young adults may go on to sing professionally. The choir is dependent on advertising and word of mouth. Most of their concerts are held at St Mary's Church or the Christchurch Centre. The next concert is the 23rd March. The Choir has a large following in Henley who are included in concerts held elsewhere. The Henley Choral Society is dependent on advertising and word of mouth.

Councillor Miss L Hillier – is supportive of any organisation needing to go outside of Henley. The Town Clerk has been given delegated powers to amend the policy.

Mr Ian Clark- Cromwell Road – stated that the Government gave £1.1billion to local authorities across the country. How much did Oxfordshire get? Councillor S Gawrysiak advised that Oxfordshire will be getting £3million.

Mr Clark then queried the monies raised from recycling – Cllr Gawrysiak would come back to him with the answer.

Mr Richard Guy – New Street – wanted an up-date on the potentially illegal gate on the mooring at Thames Side. He was informed that there was no progress. *(Post meeting note: the Town Clerk needs to carry out extensive research into this query to enable a brief to be sent to the solicitors. She has been told that the legalities are complex.)*

Mr Guy also queried why the kiosk at Mill Meadows was being closed this summer. He was informed that it was for budget reasons and the Council was in discussion with other options such as the River and Rowing Museum.

Councillor D Crook thanked Councillor S Gawrysiak for getting the work done in Mill Lane.

95. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Members had before them reports from three District Councillors.

The District Councillors had been sent a list of eight questions by Councillor Arlett. Councillor Bland spoke at length to all the questions and confirmed that no additional monies had been offered to the Town Council on a range of items.

Councillor Gawrysiak disagreed with some of the answers from Councillor Bland and sought to advise different advice.

Councillor Miss L M Hillier advised that she had chaired the SODC budget meeting and would be happy to answer any questions from the public or from Town Councillors.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillor Gawrysiak had not received any questions but advised that Oxfordshire County Council had bought a piece of land near Chipping Norton that joined two other small strips. The Council will now sell the whole piece of land which can be used to build a thousand new homes.

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

No reports received.

97. MAYOR'S CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS

The Mayor advised of an event taking place at the Kenton Theatre with money going to the Mayor's Charities. Members received the Civic Engagements from **08 January – 04 March 2019. It was RESOLVED**

that the list of Mayoral Civic Engagements for the period 08 January – 04 March 2019 be received and noted.

The Mayor advised that Civic Dinner tickets are still available including a chance to come to the event later in the evening to listen to the band.

Councillor Mrs J Smewing congratulated the Mayor on so many engagements and his work on Bluebells.

98. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Planning Committees held on 15th January, 5th February and 26 February 2019 were before the Council.

It was RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Planning Committees held on 15th January, 5th February and 26th February 2019 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the Town and Community Committee held on 29th January 2019 were before the Council.

Minute 81 Posters

The Town Clerk will add an amendment 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.

It was RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Town and Community Committee held on 29th January 2019 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 22nd January 2019 were before the Council.

It was RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 22nd January 2019 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the Finance Strategy and Management Committee held on 12th February 2019 were before the Council.

Minute 82 Community Grants

Councillor W Hamilton requested that the £900 left in the Grants Budget should be spent on supporting the Regatta Fireworks. Unfortunately he needed to have applied for a grant in March along with all the other grant requests.

Minute 84 Bluebells Day Centre Grant

The Mayor advised that Bluebells will be up and running next month. It is a vital support service for those suffering from dementia and their carers. The Civic Dinner will also be helping to raise money for the Centre.

It was RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Finance Strategy and Management Committee held on 12th February 2019 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

99. BARBECUES AT MILL MEADOWS 2019

The Chair of Recreation and Amenities Committee commented on the number of meetings this item had gone to. She proposed a permanent ban on holding barbecues at Mill Meadows. Other Councillors requested an amendment to make the ban for just one year – however this was not supported. A recorded vote was requested.

Proposal to extend a permanent ban on barbecues at Mill Meadows: Vote:

IN FAVOUR

Cllr Arlett

Cllr Crook

Cllr Eggleton

Cllr Gawrysiak

Cllr Hillier

Cllr Hinton

Cllr Lambert

Cllr Miller

Cllr Reissmann

Cllr Smewing

AGAINST

Cllr Abey

Cllr Brookes

Cllr Evans

Cllr Hamilton

Cllr Nimmo Smith

Cllr Plant

MOTION CARRIED – 10 VOTES IN FAVOUR, SIX AGAINST.

It was RESOLVED

To extend the current ban on barbecues on Mill Meadows as a permanent measure.

100. FUTURE HIGH STREET FUND

Councillor L M Hillier advised that she had chaired a cross party group discussing ideas, accessibility and parking issues. The project most likely to be put forward was a project on decking one of the town carparks. Ideas needed to be finalised and sent to SODC by 22nd March. The Working Group had delegated powers to progress this opportunity.

It was RESOLVED

That a bid would be sent to South Oxfordshire District Council.

101. 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.

102. STREET CLEANING

The Councillors considered new legal advice and the recommendation from the Finance Committee meeting held on 12 February 2019. The advice and the resolution are recorded in Appendix A.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.