

Present: Councillor Miss L M Hillier (Chair)
Councillor Sarah Miller (Vice-Chair)
Councillor K Arlett
Councillor Donna Crook
Councillor D Eggleton
Councillor S Evans
Councillor Will Hamilton
Councillor D Nimmo Smith
Councillor Miss K Hinton (Mayor)

In Attendance: Mrs J Wheeler – Town Clerk
Mrs N Taylor – Minute Taker
Ms H Barnett – Town Manager
Mr H Thomas – Thames Water
Inspector N Anns – Thames Valley Police
PC B Taylor – Thames Valley Police
Councillor S Gawrysiak
Councillor J Brookes
6 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

122. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received

123. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Miss L M Hillier declared a pecuniary interest in item 15 Progress – Duck Pond Markets as she is the owner of a Coffee Shop

124. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Councillor Donna Crook informed the meeting that she had picked up a leaflet from the Library advertising the Duck Pond Market as a Food and Craft Market in Henley upon Thames.

Mr Ian Clarke – Cromwell Road queried if the Market Place Mews development was still going ahead and was advised that this was an item being discussed later in the meeting.

125. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Town and Community Committee held on 20 February 2018 were received, approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

126. WATER FOUNTAINS

The Chairman welcomed Mr Huw Thomas to the table. Mr Thomas worked with the Mayor of London's office installing water fountains across London. Thames Water, he informed the meeting were happy to work with the Town Council if it decides to install fountains but a third party provider would have to be found as Thames Water do not actually carry out installations but will happily provide

guideline documents, details of companies who may be able provide the equipment required and the water.

It was noted that the general cost to install a drinking fountain is between £4-5,000, by law a water meter will be installed plus the ongoing cost of the water used.

Thought needs to be given as to the design of the fountain and the location, as if left uncontrolled in an open area the fountain could potentially be used for things other than drinking. Shielded nozzles are a good idea and the public need to see that the fountains are regularly maintained and kept in a clean and appealing condition.

Thanks were given to Mr Thomas for attending the meeting who then left at 7.50pm.

127. POLICE

The Chairman welcomed Sergeant Neil Anns (new Neighbourhood Sergeant) and PC Barbara Taylor to the table where the following questions / statements / observations were made:

- Due to the additional funding received from the raise in Council Tax no further cuts in local policing were required.
- Nationally there has been a 10% reduction in establishment numbers and an increase in crime but cuts have now settled in, there should be no more losses and a better plan for the future.
- Visibility in the town is being prioritised.
- Nothing could have been done to change the outcome of the recent incident outside Swiss Farm.
- Teams are located at strategic central holding points that allow them to get to incidents in approximately 11 minutes.
- Communication and people's perception of how long it takes the police to attend an incident is not always correct, and Social Media should be better utilised to correct public misconception and general communication.
- A Thames Valley Police Facebook page should hopefully be available by July.
- Police response times should only be counted from the time that an incident is actually reported to the police, not when the incident occurs.
- Violence in Henley has fallen recently and licensed premises are very forthcoming in helping with ongoing investigations.
- Although the front desk is no longer open at the Henley Police Station, Officers still work out of Henley.
- TVP are still in support of Street Wardens / Street Angels.
- The requested ANPR on the bridge to be progressed.

Thanks were given to Sergeant Neil Anns and PC Barbara Taylor who then left the meeting at 8.15pm.

128. VARIATION IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

In accordance with Standing Orders 5 (a) (vii), it was **RESOLVED**

that the order of business on the agenda be altered so that agenda item 14 – Market Place Mews be moved up the agenda and considered before item 7 – Budget.

129. MARKET PLACE MEWS UPDATE

It was noted that the works on the Market Place Mews are scheduled to resume by the end of this month (April 2018). The extended break in the works was due to legal issues taking longer than expected before conditions were satisfied.

130. BUDGET

Members received the Management Accounts to 28 February 2018. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that the Management Accounts be noted.

Members received and considered budget requests from the Transport Strategy Group for a 20mph zone for central Henley, Kill your Engine campaign and Trees and Greening. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that an initial payment of £2,600 be approved for the design and application for a 20mph Traffic Regulation Order;

that a payment of £1000 be approved from the Transport Budget for the Kill Your Engine campaign;

that a payment of £485 per planter be approved for two planters for the Trees and Greening project. Maintenance and watering of the planters to be added to the watering contract.

131. EVENTS SUB COMMITTEE

Members received and considered the notes of the Events Sub Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 30 January.

It was noted that in future any meetings that are to discuss events that have happened should be called Wash up Meetings so as not to be confused with the Events Sub Committee Meetings.

IT WAS RESOLVED

that the notes be noted.

132. TRANSPORT STRATEGY GROUP

Members received and considered the notes of the Transport Strategy Group Meeting held on Monday 5 March 2017.

IT WAS RESOLVED

that the notes be noted.

133. TOWNLANDS UPDATE

IT WAS RESOLVED

that the item be deferred to the next meeting of this Committee.

134. HENLEY WI-FI PROJECT

Members considered a report on the current Wi-Fi. It was noted that the current contract finished on 1 April 2018 and agreed that the free Wi-Fi in the town centre was no longer required as so many shops and businesses in the town provided customers with free Wi-Fi. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that the contract should not be renewed.

135. HENLEY PLASTIC REDUCTION SCHEME

Members considered following the grant of free use of a town hall room for a meeting with SODC if there were any further practical ways that HTC could assist with the Henley Plastic Reduction Scheme initiative (an organisation with the aim of educating

on the reduction of plastics, showing films – Bag It, putting on exhibitions and working with local anti-plastic campaigns such as Refill). **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that Julia Carey be invited to give a presentation to the next meeting of this Committee.

136. HENLEY BRIDGE LIGHTS

Members discussed the lights on the bridge. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that different options for illuminating the bridge be investigated and a report be brought back to the next meeting of this Committee.

137. 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

Full Council approved two quotations which have been put forward by the Accountant for Grant Funding. If successful a Business Plan will be brought back to this Committee for consideration. The lighting aspect of the project has still to be approved. The Chairman and Town Clerk will seek pre-planning advice and will progress to the planning stage in conjunction with the Conservation Officer and historic England.

Town Managers Report

Remove from progress.

Town Noticeboards and Town Centre Signage

It was noted that two of the Town entrance signs have still not been erected.

Post Meeting Note: Park Services Team advised.

Report from the Town Manager to next meeting.

Waste

Next Waste Meeting taking place on Monday 9 April 2018.

Street Cleaning and Chewing Gum Removal

A Doodle Poll will take place once the better weather arrives to decide a suitable date for a further demonstration of a street cleaning machine.

CCTV

A date to be arranged with the Monitoring Station for a visit and the date to be offered to all who wish to attend.

Wootton Manor Car Park

Contractor have cleaned the car park and filled in all the potholes.

Councillor Eggleton to bring papers to the next meeting on his suggestion of turning some of the bays into 'Residents Parking'.

Henley Royal Regatta

It was noted that the bridge was due to be repaired once the better weather arrives in time for the Regatta.

Moto Gelato

It was agreed that if Mr Rodgers did not want to sign up to a full time Charter Market pitch then permission would be withdrawn.

Duckpond Markets

A leaflet was picked up by a Member in the Henley Library advertising the market as a Food and Craft Market in Henley upon Thames. Some Members expressed their concern that the leaflets mentioned food as it was approved as an Artisan Craft Market only. In addition it was noted that Henley is 'on' Thames not 'upon'. As some Members had expressed an opinion that there should be no food, a list of what food stalls they were proposing to bring was requested. It was also stated that there should be no café stall serving food or beverages to the public.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm

Chairman