

Present: **Councillor Dave Eggleton**
 Councillor S Evans
 Councillor Will Hamilton
 Councillor Miss L M Hillier
 Councillor Sarah Miller
 Councillor David Nimmo Smith
 Councillor Ian Reissmann (subbing for Councillor
 Miss K Hinton)
 Councillor Glen Lambert (Mayor)
 Councillor Ken Arlett (Deputy Mayor)

In Attendance: **Mrs J Wheeler – Town Clerk**
 Ms H Barnett – Town Manager
 Mrs N Taylor – Committee Administrator
 Councillor D Crook
 1 Member of the Press
 1 Member of the Public

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Mayor called for nominations for the election of Chairman for the year 2018-19.

Councillor Will Hamilton proposed and Councillor S Evans seconded that Councillor Sarah Miller be elected.

Councillor Ken Arlett proposed and Councillor Sarah Miller seconded that Councillor Miss L M Hillier be elected.

There being no further nominations, and following a vote **IT WAS RESOLVED**

**that Councillor Miss L M Hillier be elected Chairman of the Town and
Community Committee for the year 2018-19.**

Councillor Miss L M Hillier took the Chair.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Chairman called for nominations for the election of Vice-Chairman for the year 2018-19.

Councillor Miss L M Hillier proposed and Councillor Dave Eggleton seconded that Councillor Sarah Miller be elected.

There being no further nominations, and following a vote **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that Councillor Sarah Miller be elected Vice Chairman of the Town and Community Committee for the year 2018-19.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee received and noted the Terms of Reference of the Town & Community Committee. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that the Terms of Reference be noted.

4. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Miss K Hinton - Councillor I Reissmann substitute.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Councillor Donna Crook informed members of a scheme that has been launched in Oxfordshire. It is intended to help anyone feeling vulnerable in a pub or bar to be able to discreetly signal they need help.

If someone feels uncomfortable in a licenced venue they can now go to the bar and ask 'is Angela in?'

Staff will then offer discreet help, such as keeping an eye on them, calling a friend, relative, taxi or the police, or simply help them leave the building via an alternative exit.

Founded in Lincoln in 2016 the 'Ask for Angela' campaign is now available across a number of towns and cities in the UK.

The scheme is particularly aimed at those who are on a date with someone they have only just met online, or via a dating app, who may not to be how they expected.

Participating venues can be recognised by a blue sticker in their window and posters displayed in bar and toilet areas.

The 'Ask Angela' campaign will be rolled out across towns in the Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire District this summer.

7. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Town and Community Committee held on 3 April 2018 were received, approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

8. APPOINTMENT OF SUB COMMITTEES, THEIR TERMS OF REFERENCE AND THE MEMBERSHIP THEREOF.

The Committee considered the appointment of Sub-Committees; the membership thereof and their Terms of Reference for the ensuing local government year.

Events Sub Committee

IT WAS RESOLVED

that the Terms of Reference be approved and the Events Sub Committee be re-appointed for the municipal year 2018-19 with the following membership.

Councillor Ms S Abey
Councillor D Eggleton
Councillor S Evans
Councillor Sarah Miller
Councillor Miss L M Hillier (ex-officio – Chair Town & Community)
Councillor Glen Lambert (ex-officio - Mayor)

Townlands Steering Group

IT WAS RESOLVED

that the Terms of Reference be approved and letters be sent to the local community members to see if they wish to continue on the Advisory Committee or add additional members;

that letters be sent to SODC and OCC to see who they would like to represent them on the Advisory Committee;

that an item be placed on the next Full Council agenda to agree the membership of the group

9. APPOINTMENT OF AD HOC WORKING GROUPS, THEIR TERMS OF REFERENCE AND THE MEMBERSHIP THEREOF:

The Committee considered the appointment of ad hoc Working Groups; the membership thereof and their Terms of Reference for the ensuing local government year.

Bus Working Group

IT WAS RESOLVED

that the Terms of Reference be approved;

that Councillor I Reissmann be replaced on the Working Group by Councillor D Eggleton;

that Councillor D Nimmo Smith although wishing to remain on the group, is no longer the representative for Oxfordshire County Council, so a letter should be sent asking who they wish their representative to be.

that subject to confirmation from Oxfordshire County Council the Bus Working Group be re-appointed with the following membership:

Councillor Ken Arlett
Councillor Julian Brookes
Councillor Donna Crook
Councillor Dave Eggleton
Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak
Councillor Miss L M Hillier
Councillor David Nimmo Smith
Councillor Jane Smewing
Mr B Brown
Ms D Conduit
Mrs G Dodds
Mr M Dodds
Mr D McEwen

Waste Working Group

IT WAS RESOLVED

that Councillors Will Hamilton and Miss K Hinton be replaced on the Working Group by Councillors David Nimmo Smith and Sarah Miller.

Councillor Ken Arlett
Councillor Julian Brookes
Councillor Dave Eggleton
Councillor Stefan Gawrysiak
Councillor Miss L M Hillier
Councillor Sarah Miller
Councillor David Nimmo Smith
Town Manager
Town Clerk

10. BUDGET

It was noted that there are no Management Accounts for April 2018. The May Management Accounts will be circulated during June.

11. POLICE

Members received a Local Area Update from PC Barb Taylor.

It was noted that Inspector Neil Anns had been invited to attend this meeting but was not available.

Following a recent meeting between the Police and several Councillors it was agreed that the notes of that meeting should be circulated to all Councillors. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that the Police be invited to attend the next meeting of this Committee;

that the notes of a recent meeting with the Police be circulated to all Members.

It was noted that Sgt Neil Anns intends to start a Community Forum to address Police matters. Several dates are being considered.

12. TOWNLANDS UPDATE

Members received and considered the update deferred from the 3 April meeting plus the latest update from Councillor Reissmann.

Councillor S Evans raised some concerns regarding the remit of the Steering Group and the expertise of the members of the Group, and suggested that clearly defined objectives should be set. She was advised that paragraph 7 of the Terms of Reference stated the objectives / remit of the group. This Group is now an Advisory Committee as the development is not yet complete. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that the update be noted and the Terms of Reference be adopted.

13. HENLEY BRIDGE LIGHTS

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that as Oxfordshire County Council who are the owners of the bridge do not wish anything permanently fixed to the bridge a cost is being sought for laser lights to be beamed onto the bridge.

Councillor David Nimmo Smith queried when the existing lights were being removed as both the water levels and the weather are good. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that Councillor Gawrysiak be asked for an update on when the existing lights will be removed and when the repairs to the underside of the bridge would take place, and that costings for a possible solution using laser lights be brought to this Committee.

14. TOWN AND COMMUNITY MANAGER UPDATE

Members received a verbal update from the Town Manager and noted the information. The following comments / observations were then made:

- Next retail meeting taking place tomorrow (Wednesday 13 June 2018)
- Currently 13 businesses signed up Shopwatch with radio's
- Businesses taking pride in themselves and how they look with both Lawrence and the Sole Man taking advantage of the Shop Front Scheme
- Planning application for Lovibonds not supported by SODC
- Three interested parties looking at the old Loch Fyne building
- Following recent incidents in the town, a larger first aid box to be available at the Town Hall and staff to be provided with first aid training
- Two entrance signs – Fairmile and Reading Road entrance are still missing and need to be reinstated.
- SODC stopped contributing toward the cost of Town Manager positions in the district as the funding was never permanent and was just there to encourage parishes to get established. Economic Development is now focusing on the business side of the whole district.
- Councillor Hamilton to ascertain why the Town Manager was asked not to attend a recent retail meeting set up and organised by Frank Brown.
- It was queried what is 'the Tourism Alliance?'
- The size of premises available in the town restricts some of the larger retail businesses from opening here.

Councillors Evans and Hamilton led the thanks to the Town Manager for her comprehensive report.

15. MARKET PLACE MEWS

Members received a verbal update from the Town Manager on the progress of Market Place Mews. The Following comments / observations were then made:

- There is still one pre-condition still not satisfied but it is expected that the developer will be back on site after the Regatta.
- An explanation as to why SODC sold car parking space for this development when parking is at a premium in Henley, how much was raised from the sale of the land and what that money will be spent on.
- There will be a loss of 30 spaces for 18 months while the building works take place, the developer should find space for these 30 cars to park during the time of the development and should ensure that the work force of the development do not use the remaining spaces to park in whilst they are working on the site.

16. MERMAID STATUE

Members considered a report from the RFO on the possible purchase of the Mermaid statue.

Although it was generally agreed that the Mermaid was a popular addition to Henley, concern was raised at spending tax payers money on purchasing it.

The possibility of sponsorship was raised and **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that a Working Group be set up to discuss the future of the Mermaid and the possibility of sponsorship. The group to consist of Councillors Dave Eggleton, Sam Evans, Lorraine Hillier, Glen Lambert and Sarah Miller, and,

that the RFO to find out if there is still a time deadline on the decision to sell the statue, and

that a report be brought back to the next meeting of this Committee.

17. EVENTS SUB COMMITTEE

Members received and considered the notes of the Events Sub Committee Meeting held on 26 March 2018 and made the following observations:

- All local food retailers to be contacted to see if they wish to be a part of the Christmas event.
- Disappointment that more does not happen down Friday Street.
- The food court on Bell Street was too intense and crowded.
- More than four or five days' notice of meetings must be provided.

IT WAS RESOLVED

that the notes be noted

18. REGATTA PRE MEETING NOTES

Members received and considered the notes of the Regatta Pre Meeting held on 23 April 2018 and made the following observations:

- Councillor Hillier was present at the meeting and the notes need to be changed to show her attendance.
- The OCC road signage on the approach to Henley is very negative and needs to be changed to read Henley Royal Regatta – Peak Time Delays possible.

IT WAS RESOLVED

that contact be made with OCC and a request be made to change the Regatta road signs to read Henley Royal Regatta – peak time delays possible, rather than 'expect long delays',

that the notes be noted

19. WASTE

Members received and considered the notes of the Waste Meeting held on 9 April 2018 and noted the information.

Councillor Miss L M Hillier has passed the details of the ride on street cleaning machine that she was organising a demo of to the RFO so that a demonstration can take place. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

that the notes be noted.

It was noted that following a complaint from a resident regarding the amount of waste at the side of the Angel on the bridge, a site visit took place and additional tape (for the card board recycling) has now been provided by Grundon. The Landlord of the

pub has agreed to monitor the area and Grundon will be providing a daily collection before 09:00 which is hoped will improve this area.

20. HENLEY MAGAZINE

Members considered the future of the Town Council magazine and it was felt that if in the future there is a hard copy magazine then there should also be an electronic version available. It was agreed that the current Town Council website needs upgrading and that the present magazine needs to have a clear identity as there are similar 'life style' magazines on offer. **IT WAS RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that a survey be carried out by the Town Council and the local press to gain public opinion on how the magazine should proceed i.e. paper copy or electronic or both, and the content i.e. community, council and advertising, and

that a budget be made for improving the HTC website in 2019-20.

21. 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

Planning permission for the sound system has been granted and we are awaiting a grant decision from SODC by the end of June.

The planning application for the new lighting system has now been submitted and it is hoped that permission will be granted by the end of July.

Georgian Paving in Bell Street

Contact to be made with a conservation specialist and a report requested.

Henley Information Centre

Report to July Meeting along with footfall figures.

BT Phone Boxes

St Andrews Box scheduled to be completed by the end of June. Councillor Dave Eggleton to supply the administrator with details of a company who supply spare parts for the old phone boxes as the door on the Northfield End box has rotted.

Street Cleaning and Chewing Gum Removal

Details of a ride on street cleaning machine passed by Councillor Miss L M Hillier to the RFO to arrange a demonstration.

Wootton Manor Car Park

Councillor Ken Arlett to monitor the car park for six months once the building work is complete to see if there is still an issue with parking.

Refill

HTC to invite Julia Carey to speak to this Committee.

Battles Over

Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 19 June 2018.

22. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was moved by the Chairman and RESOLVED

that the public and press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

as the publicity would be prejudicial to the Public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

23. ITEM RELATING TO MARKETS

24. ITEM RELATING TO CCTV

The Meeting closed at 9.46pm

Chairman