

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

In attendance: District Councillor Mrs J Bland
Mrs J Wheeler – Town Clerk
Mrs N Taylor – Minute Taker
17 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

56. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ms H Chandler-Wilde. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Miss S Evans.

57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

58. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 10 October 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

59. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Valerie Alacia – Makins Road questioned when; following the recent incident on the towpath the gaps in the paving were going to be repaired along the riverfront. Mrs Alacia was advised that the land belongs to OCC and the condition of the paving has been raised with both the Chairman of OCC and Mr Keith Stenning – Highways who are currently evaluating the problem and working on a scheme of repairs.

Ian Clarke – Cromwell Road stated that he felt raising the Council Tax to pay for Community Grants was out of order, and suggested that it should be taken from business tax.

Val Stonor – Wyndale Close thanked the Council for changing the Sycamore tree to a Wishing tree and Councillor Eggleton for providing the stone that is placed by tree.

Pam Phillips – St Marks Road stated that she fully understood the precept raise as when she was on the Council there was a 2 to 3% raise every year.

She further stated that Henley was £67.7k short of the £100k gifted to the Rugby Club, in her opinion the people of Henley would not want a Waste Transfer Station in Henley and was sad that the Santa Fun Run had been cancelled as it was a fun affordable event that was enjoyed by many residents and raised quite a lot of money for charity. Mrs Phillips was advised that the

event had been cancelled as there were now Park runs every Saturday so the event would have to take place on a Sunday, and the only Sunday available was the 10 December which is also the date of the Family Festive day in the town, which is aiming to bring people into the town centre and not away from it. It was noted that an unexpected cost for running the website would also be incurred which would mean that there would be little or no money for charity raised.

It was noted that the Park Run although quite a different event for serious runners have agreed to people taking part in one of their runs wearing fancy dress or Santa hats for an optional donation to the Mayors charity.

The Mayor advised that offers to take over the organisation and running of the Santa Fun Run would be most welcome.

David Dickie – St Kathryns Road advised that he had been given a particulate reader and had carried out checks all around the town. Interestingly although the particulate readings everywhere were really high the Nitrogen Oxide readings were quite low.

Oxford, Mr Dickie stated has a very good clean air programme and a schools programme which has placed readers outside every school and suggested that Henley should do the same.

Councillor Miss S Evans entered the meeting at 7.44pm.

Mr Dickie further stated that SWALE had rejected a planning application for 200 homes because there was no plan to improve air quality and was advised that all new planning applications now have air quality questions to ensure correct levels.

Spotless Oxon was discussed, where people take responsibility for A Spotless Henley campaign was suggested where residents take responsibility for cleaning the pavement and kerb outside their own houses. District Councillor Bland advised that she had been promoting this action for ever and regularly cleaned outside her shop Asquiths.

Mrs Gill Dodds – Greys Road queried what was happening with the Mermaid statue on Red Lion Lawn as, as far as she could remember the statue should have been in situ for five years before it was sold, with the proceeds going to charity and a new statue taking its place.

Mrs Dodds was advised that it was four years and there is still one year left. Councillor Miss S Evans will research and report back exact details to the next meeting.

Post Meeting Note: Councillor Reissmann has investigated the situation and has advised that any damage to the statue is payable by the promoter up to £3M, it can be removed and auctioned at the Councils request after 3 years, and was installed in June 2013.

60. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Members had before them reports from all three District Councillors (reports attached).

A Member requested that copies of the Presentation provided for the Town & Parish Forum be distributed.

It was noted the electrical charging points in the car park would be shortly be available at a 50% charge but this would soon be upgraded.

It was RESOLVED

that Councillor Miss L M Hillier should distribute the presentation from the Town & Parish Forum to all Councillors.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Members had before them a report from County Councillor S Gawrysiak and made the following comments / observations: (report attached)

- The traffic lights in the town should be turned off, it should then be monitored how smoothly the traffic moves and air quality readings taken.

- Poor Air Quality is the largest risk to public health and OCC have unanimously passed a resolution that OCC and SODC will work together and use joined up thinking. Councillor Gawrysiak to try his hardest to ensure that Henley is represented.
- The Conservatives support all measures to improve Air Quality.
- A resolution was passed last week at SODC to look holistically at all areas including Henley.
- Following the incident on the riverside recently, it was noted how desperately the surface needed mending.
- Thanks were given to the people who helped out at the incident.
- It was questioned who was monitoring the patchwork on some of the pot holes around the town as many are failing.
- All potholes around the town have been reported to OCC but there is a huge back log. Some will be repaired this financial year but the rest will have to be put into the budget for repair next year.
- Failed repairs are being redone at no cost to OCC.
- The cuts to educational funding in was noted equate to a real time cut of 6.5% per pupil
- A proper debate at a future meeting of Town & Community was suggested.
- Oxfordshire received the least funding from the National Funding Formula £4,900 Oxfordshire £7,500 Haringey.
- Oxford City Council has resolved to stop all petrol and diesel vehicles driving into the City ASAP.
- The width restriction on Gravel Hill was queried, it was noted that a design is currently being drawn up and will be brought to Council shortly.
- The Traffic Advisory Committee has yet to be re-constituted.

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

The Mayor advised that she would provide a full update on her activities in the New Year.

Bled have been awarded the World Rowing Championships in 2020.

The 60+Club held a Management Meeting yesterday (20 November 2017) where it was reported that finances were good, and due to a legacy the Christmas lunch would be free this year.

62. MAYOR'S CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS

The Mayor stated that it was with the support of all the Councillors and staff that she had won the Young Councillor of the Year Award. She stated that she wanted to do her best for the town and was very sad about the resignation of Councillor Simon Smith who she stated worked very hard for the Council and didn't care about the politics just the town of Henley – he would she further stated be a great loss.

The Mayor went on to inform the Meeting that on Page 9 of the Council magazine information on the Living Advent could be found whilst on page 28 information was available on who was responsible for what i.e. Town, District and County Council.

There would not be refreshments in the parlour after this meeting, but everyone was invited into the Parlour after the Planning Meeting on Tuesday 19 December instead.

Members received the Civic Engagements from the Mayor 2017 - 2018, from **5 October – 14 November 2017. It was RESOLVED**

that the list of Mayoral Civic Engagements for the period 5 October – 14 November 2017 be received and noted.

63. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Planning Committees held on 10 October; 17 October and 7 November 2017 were before the Council

- The opening and closing times of the meeting held on 10 October to be checked and amended as the close time is after the start time of the meeting.

Minute 125

- Minute numbers to be amended 124 missed so 125 should be 124 etc.

It was RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Planning Committees held on 10 October, 17 October and 7 November 2017 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the Town and Community Committee held on 17 October 2017 were before the Council. **It was RESOLVED**

that the Minutes of the Town and Community Committee held on 17 October 2017 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 24 October 2017 were before the Council. **It was RESOLVED**

that the Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 17 October 2017 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the Finance Strategy and Management Committee held on 31 October 2017 were before the Council.

Minute 56

- Minute number 56 Resolution should be changed to read Raise the Band D equivalent by 7%.
- Draft to be added to the Recommendation - It was Resolved to Recommend that the Draft Budget as presented be approved subject to the following amendments.

Minute 57

- With the ability for HTC to enforce a break clause after 3 months to be removed from the ii) Recommendation. **It was RESOLVED**

that the Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 17 October 2017 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

64. PURCHASE OF A NEW PARKS VEHICLE

Members considered a report from the FSM on the feasibility of using electric-powered vehicles.

It was noted that this Council would like to lead by example and use electric vehicles but the present time a suitable electric vehicle is not available.

Members discussed the merits of purchasing or leasing a vehicle and **It was RESOLVED**

that investigation should be carried out into the feasibility of leasing a new vehicle rather than purchasing, and a report be brought back to the next meeting of this Committee.

65. URGENT REPAIRS TO THE ASTRO NETTING AT JUBILEE PARK

Members consider a quotation for repairs to the Astro Netting at Jubilee Park which need to be carried out as soon as possible to reduce the risk of an accident.

It was RESOLVED

that the quotation for £4335.20 be accepted and the repairs be carried out as soon as possible.

Councillor Miss S Evans abstained from voting on following item.

66. WASTE TRANSFER STATION

Members considered a report on the possible installation of a Waste Transfer Site in Henley.

After consideration and an in-depth discussion **it was RESOLVED**

that this Council fully supports the installation of a Waste Transfer site in Henley under the guidance of the EA and Grundon.

67. LOCAL PLAN RESPONSE

Members received a copy of the Councils response to SODC's Local Plan 2011-20133 and made the following comments / observations:

- Henley's housing allocation being reduced from 677 to 350.
- If Thames Farm goes ahead the number of houses will be taken the total.
- Under COMMUNITY FACILITIES of the Henley Town Council response add:

Policy CF1 – Policy should be amended to specify Asset of Community Value listing status (described in Page 183 Para. 11.6) as a Material Consideration for planning applications in accordance with the 2014-15 House of Commons Communities and Local Government Committee recommendation.

- Public can make a response until 30 November on the SODC website.

It was RESOLVED

that the response to SODC's Local Plan 2011-2033 be submitted, and

that Under COMMUNITY FACILITIES of the Henley Town Council response the following be added:

Policy CF1 – Policy should be amended to specify Asset of Community Value listing status (described in Page 183 Para. 11.6) as a Material Consideration for planning applications in accordance with the 2014-15 House of Commons Communities and Local Government Committee recommendation.

68. VARIATION TO 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 Confidential agenda item 14 – Proposal for Bus Tender be brought out of Confidential and into the public session.

69. PROPOSAL FOR BUS TENDER

Members considered the Invitation to Tender Document for the Henley Town local Bus Service and after due consideration.

Members gave their thanks to the Bus Working Group for all their hard work. **it was RESOLVED**

that the tendering process be started.

70. **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.

71. **ITEM CONCERNING A HTC PROPERTY**

The meeting closed at 9.52pm

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Chairman