

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

**In Attendance:**        **Mrs J Wheeler – Town Clerk**  
                                  **Ms H Barnett – Town & Community Manager**  
                                  **Mrs N Taylor – Committee Administrator**  
                                  **Inspector Neil Anns**  
                                  **Councillor Julian Brookes**  
                                  **1 Member of the Press**  
                                  **4 Members of the Public**

**25.    APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Sarah Miller (Councillor Ian Reissmann Substitute)

**26.    DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

**27.    PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

Ian Clarke – Cromwell Road questioned what was happening about the parking at Townlands Hospital and if anything was being done about patients who had been fined getting their money back.

Councillor I Reissmann advised Mr Clarke that at the next Stakeholders meeting on 6 August parking would be discussed. It is likely that compensation would also be discussed at the meeting for those with incorrect fines.

**28.    MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Town and Community Committee held on 12 June 2018 were received, approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**29.    POLICE**

The Chairman welcomed Police Sergeant Neil Anns to the table and thanked him for arranging the recent Local Area Forum Meeting which she had attended on behalf of the Town Council.

### Local Area Forum

This is designed to forge amongst other things closer working relationships between local authorities and the emergency services.

### Response times

Inspector Anns clarified a 12 minute response time to the recent incident in Greys Road, which is still an ongoing case.

The Reading Road incident was reported at 13.06, a PCSO was on site 13.12 and a Police Officer on site at 13.18.

Response times have slightly improved this year from 78.6% to 79.1%.

### Regatta

Last year there were 30 arrests and 40 reported crimes, this year there were only 9 arrests and 16 reported crimes, seven of which were in the town with one being a serious assault of GBH which is ongoing.

All Licenced premises abided by the rules and as requested security personnel wore body cameras.

Street Pastors from Reading were once again present plus 27 Special Constables and 150 regular Police as well as mounted and armed police (some visible and some concealed).

The armed police were present as the country is still on a 'Severe' terrorism risk level and the Regatta is felt to be an iconic British event and therefore a high risk target and unless anything changes to this risk the levels of policing will remain the same for next year's event.

SODC Licencing had a very effective team in town last year who controlled and monitored the Taxis, unfortunately they were not so effective this year so Special Constables were used to enforce.

There are plans in progress for next year for better control of Taxi ranking.

There was a change in style of policing at this year's event with more local policing and early engagement with licenced premises.

Members agreed that the Policing at this year's event had been extremely good and the whole atmosphere of the event felt a lot calmer than in previous years.

### ANPR Camera

There is no record of a request for budget for an ANPR camera on the bridge so this project will be started fresh and a request for budget made to the Police and Crime Commissioners Fund.

### Parking

Oxfordshire County Council installed no parking signage during the Regatta at Deanfield Avenue and at the end of Hart Street; this should all be removed by Friday.

Devolution of Parking needs to be implemented as parking offences should not be a criminal matter.

### Taxi

There has been an issue with taxis that are not SODC licenced collecting fares in the town; this is a breach of licence which leaves customers vulnerable as they are not insured should an accident occur. Taxis from out of area are only allowed to collect a fare in the town if it is pre-booked.

### Mill / Marsh Meadows

Regular checks are taking place at the meadows by both the Police and the Fire Brigade who are happy to extinguish any BBQ they come across.

BBQ enforcement is a Civil matter not a police matter but if there is any Public Order offences or threatening behaviour the police can arrest / caution under Section 5 of the Public Order Act.

### Public Defecation

Public Defecation is an offence under Section 5 of the Public Order Act and will be prosecuted.

The man who recently defecated on a street in the town centre has been identified and is being dealt with.

### Crime

Burglaries had up until recently been an issue in the town, but an offender who had moved from London to Reading was recently arrested for carrying out 10 burglaries.

There were recently eight break-ins at dwellings and businesses in the Town Centre which took place over ninety days, this also coincided with similar incidents in Twyford and Wargrave where a total of twenty crimes were committed. A suspect has been charged and there have been no further incidents reported.

Motor Vehicle theft continues to be an issue.

Violent crime in licenced premises is starting to fall, as is antisocial behaviour.

### General

The Local team are working with d:2 on low level drug usage providing education and dispersing users from areas with children and families.

Inspector Anns stated that he had been rebuilding the public's perception of the police with proactive action on information provided by the public and providing more of a presence in the town.

Thanks were given to Inspector Anns for the hard work of the Local Team, especially for the regular checks at the Meadows and also to Thames Valley Police for their support at the Regatta.

It was noted that the next Local Area Forum will take place on 13 August and that PCSO's will be on the Market Place on 12 August 2018.

Inspector Anns left the meeting at 8.05pm.

## **30. BUDGET**

Members had before them the Management Accounts to 31 May 2018. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

**that the Management Accounts be noted.**

**31. TOWNLANDS UPDATE**

Members received an update from Councillor Ian Reissmann.

It was noted that there will be a private meeting in September with Sue Ryder re end of life care in the area.

Members felt very strongly that a public meeting should take place to allow the public to raise their concerns, and that it is not only Henley people who will be affected and should be invited to attend the meeting but also residents of South Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire who rely on Sue Ryder for end of life care.

Notification of any meeting should be given to all surrounding Councils.

There will be a meeting with NHS Property Services where it is hoped they will make significant changes to the carpark control.

**IT WAS RESOLVED**

**that a Public Meeting be arranged at a location to be determined by capacity (as the large hall only holds 200) and notification be sent to all surrounding Parishes.**

**that the largest venue possible be found for a meeting to be held in the middle of August 2018.**

**that the Townlands Administrator be asked to send the letters to the local community members to see if they wish to continue on the Advisory Committee or add additional members as requested at the meeting on 12 June 2018, and in addition to this letter also advise that a public meeting will be taking place at a date and venue to be advised.**

**that the letters to Oxfordshire County Council and South Oxfordshire District Council to see who they would like to represent them on the Advisory Committee also be sent urgently.**

**32. HENLEY INFORMATION CENTRE**

Members received and considered a report from the Town & Community Manager on the Information Centre. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

**that the report be noted.**

**33. TOWN AND COMMUNITY MANAGER**

Members received and considered a report on the extra responsibilities of the Town & Community Manager. **IT WAS RESOLVED**

**that the list of projects contained in the report be approved.**

**34. BIN**

Members received and considered a request from a resident for a bin to be installed on the alleyway next to the old Youth Centre that leads up to the Skate Park.

Members were unsure who owned the alleyway but a name was suggested.

Members noted that a check would have to be made with Biffa to have an additional bin added to their list for collection. **IT WAS RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

**that this Committee supports the installation of a new bin, and that Delegated Powers be given to the Town Clerk to progress.**

### 35. **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 lighting system now received and a report being taken to FSM on the sound system. Costs being sought for the lighting. It was agreed that although a Management Plan would be good to have the project should not be held up whilst one is being written.

#### Georgian Paving in Bell Street

Several attempts have been made to ascertain if OCC could help with this project. Costings need to be provided by a Conservationist to ensure the area is restored to its former glory. As no response has been received to date the help of District Councillors is to be sought. It may be possible to get grant funding to help with the costs.

#### BT Phone Boxes

£100 budget for internal refurbishment approved. Check to be made with the family who requested HTC purchase the St Andrews Road box to see if they still want to be involved.

#### Town Centre Signage

There is a housekeeping walkabout taking place on Friday 20 July where all issues around the town will be looked at including signage (All Councillors welcome).

*Post Meeting Note: The walkabout took place with Councillors Hiller & Miller and the Town & Community Manager and Administrator. A report will be brought to the next meeting of this Committee.*

#### Street Cleaning and Chewing Gum Removal

Demonstration of ride on cleaning machine taking place on Wednesday 25 July 2018 in the Market Place.

Checks being made to see if the quotation provided by a contractor to clean the streets is still valid

#### Wootton Manor Car Park

Councillor I Reissmann to check the width of the fence that has been erected.

#### REFILL

Awaiting reports from Huw Thomas who has been on holiday. Councillor Sarah Miller to be asked to speak on this item at the next meeting on behalf of Julia Carey who is not available to attend meetings on a Tuesday evening.

Duck Pond Markets

Very positive meeting with the organisers was held last week and it has been agreed that future markets can contain food items as long as they are local. Some concern was raised with regards to their social media and the tone in which they post and it was agreed that they should be contacted and asked to be a bit more respectful.

Battles Over

Next meeting taking place in August.

Henley Bridge

OCC to be contacted to find out what is happening in regards to the removal of the current lights.

Update on bridge repairs to next meeting.

Mermaid Statue

Doodle Poll to be carried out to find a suitable date for a Working Group Meeting.

Henley Magazine

Town Clerk is producing a survey to go into the next copy of the magazine to find out what residents of Henley think about the magazine and if it should continue and in what format.

**36. 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.**

**37. ITEM RELATING TO A HTC PROPERTY**

**38. ITEM RELATING TO A HTC POLICY**

**39. ITEM RELATING TO CCTV**

The meeting closed at 9.25pm