

Present: Councillor D Nimmo Smith (Chair)
Councillor S Abey (Substitute for Councillor Miss L M Hillier)
Councillor H Chandler-Wilde
Councillor D Eggleton
Councillor I Reissmann
Councillor Sarah Miller
Councillor Julian Brookes (Mayor)
Councillor Will Hamilton (Mayor Elect)

In Attendance: Mrs J Wheeler – Town Clerk
Ms H Barnett – Town Manager
Mrs N Taylor – Committee Administrator
Mrs C Adams – HTC Officer
4 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

250. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Evans and Miss L M Hillier (Councillor S Abey substituted for Councillor Miss L M Hillier).

251. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

252. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Mrs Donna Crook – Abrahams Road – Item 11 Litter Bins.

Mrs Crook stated that the problem with the litter bins is still happening and residents are still using them to dispose of their household rubbish. She also stated that the bins on Crisp Road are not emptied regularly enough and that end of town is neglected by not only the litter collectors but also the road sweepers.

Mrs Crook also questioned how long it would be before the buses stop at Townlands Hospital?

Councillor H Chandler-Wilde entered the meeting at 7.33pm.

The Chairman advised Mrs Crook that at the next meeting of the Bus Service Group buses stopping at Townlands would be discussed.

Mr David Dickie – St Katherine’s Road – Item 13 Close The Door.

Mr Dickie advised that Henley in Transition had developed stickers to be placed on shop doors / windows to encourage businesses / shops to close their doors to keep air pollution out of the buildings and protect employees / users, and was seeking the support of the Town Council.

The Chairman advised Mr Dickie that he was happy to support the initiative.

Mr Ian Clarke – Cromwell Road – Litter

Mr Clarke stated that after the refuse collections take place on a Wednesday there is often food left on the pavements and roads which encourages rats and foxes.

Mr David Dickie – St Katherine’s Road – Litter

Mr Dickie supported Mr Clarkes comment and added that the refuse collectors are very careless and leave rubbish lying around.

It was agreed that the following action should take place:

Biffa to be contacted and advised that more care and attention should be taken when collecting the refuse around the town.

Mr Mohammad Seylani-Zadeh – Tilebarn Close – Item 14 – Kebab Van

Mr Seylani-Sadeh informed the meeting that he had been trading in the Greys Road car park for 15 months but would ideally like to relocate and trade from the Market Place.

253. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Town and Community Committee held on 21 February 2017 were received, approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

254. VARIATION TO THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

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

that the order of business on the agenda be altered so that Agenda Item 14 – Kebab Van be discussed ahead of item 5 Budget.

255. KEBAB VAN

Members considered a request from Mr Seylani-Zadeh to relocate his mobile kebab van from the Greys Road car park to the Market Place, and although sympathetic to his request agreed that the Market Place was not a suitable location for a Kebab Van.

Councillor Nimmo Smith suggested a 6 month trial, but Members were in favour of looking at other locations.

256. BUDGET

Members received and considered the Management Accounts to 28 February 2017. It was **RESOLVED**

that the Management Accounts be noted.

257. CORPORATE PLAN

Members agreed that the progress report on the Corporate Plan should be considered at the next meeting.

258. WORKING GROUPS

Members received and considered notes from the following Working Groups:

- i. Traffic Advisory on Wednesday 15 March 2017.
- ii. Bus Working Group on Friday 17 March 2017.
- iii. Transport Strategy on Monday 20 March 2017.

It was noted that on item i) Traffic Advisory – number 38, was an informal consultation, and not a formal consultation.

Item iii) Transport Strategy – 52, Councillor S Gawrysiak should be reminded to send the proforma to all Committee Members.

It was **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the notes of the Working Groups be noted, and

that Councillor S Gawrysiak be reminded to send the proforma (Transport Strategy minute 52) to all Committee Members.

259. MAY FAYRE

Councillor S Miller informed the Committee that the May Fayre has received £3,100 in sponsorship from local businesses and the Town Council and £315 in income to-date.

There are approximately 30 stalls including lots of local charities and businesses. Amongst others there will be a merry-go-round, an ice cream van, children's games, maypole dancing, dancers, and a tug of war.

Children are being asked to come along in fancy dress to take part in the May King / Queen competition.

260. HENLEY STREET ANGELS

Councillors D Eggleton advised that an advert had been placed in the paper and although several people had requested an application form none have been received back to-date. The Street Angels are being promoted through Facebook, the Henley Standard and the Henley Herald.

An initial group of 11/12 people are required to allow for groups of 3 people to patrol together, when applications are received they will be CRB checked, 1st aid trained and then trained to be a Street Angel, once all of this is completed they will then be issued with a uniform. The Street Angels will launch as soon as the required number of volunteers are recruited. It is hoped that numbers can then be built up for future years.

Initially, it is thought that the Street Angels will cover Friday and Saturday nights and large events.

Premises are still required to house the Street Angels and the room at the back of the Police Station was suggested.

It was noted that the Community Grant is open and it was suggested that Councillor Eggleton submit an application for £4,000 before 1 June 2017.

It was **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that Councillor Eggleton / Hillier contact the Henley Police to see if it would be possible for the Street Angels to be based out of their back room, and

that Councillor Eggleton / Hillier apply to the Community Grant fund for £4,000 before 1 June 2017.

Councillor D Eggleton left the meeting.

261. BELL STREET TRIANGLE OF LAND AND LAND OUTSIDE NORTHFIELD HOUSE.

Members considered (*Finance Minute 106 - 07.03.2017*) *The transfer to HTC's ownership has not yet taken place but on completion, the issue of landscaping should be addressed. It was requested that any landscaping should also include the area outside Northfield House.* They noted that the Park Services currently mow both areas and look after the plants outside Northfield House, and agreed that these areas should be passed to the Bloom Committee to deal along with their other projects once the purchase is complete. It was **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the Bell Street triangle of land, the Georgian paving in Bell Street and the land outside Northfield House should be passed to the Bloom Committee to deal with along with their other projects once the purchase of the triangle of land on Bell Street is complete.

262. LITTER BINS

It was noted that at the Recreation and Amenities Committee on 28 February 2017 (Minute 78) Mrs Donna Crook, Abrahams Road informed members that residents were continuing to place household rubbish in street litter bins. Members at that Meeting acknowledged that residents may not realise this is not permitted and that the answer may lie in a publicity campaign to educate and suggested that this should be a future agenda item on the relevant Committee.

Members discussed the issues raised by Mrs Crook in public question time and agreed that the bins were not neglected, but were being abused by people putting domestic rubbish in them.

It was noted that additional stickers have been ordered from SODC that are to be placed on the public litter bins advising that domestic waste should not be placed in them, and agreed that once the stickers are in place that they should be monitored to see if the problem persists. It was suggested that the Henley Standard should run a campaign promoting the fact that public litter bins are for litter and not domestic waste.

It was noted that SODC are monitoring waste collections and are working on improving the emptying patterns in the town.

Following a request for litter bins to be placed at bus stops around the town, in particularly the bus stops next to Newtown Road and opposite the Allotment, Members agreed to allocate funds for the provision of litter bins at any or all of the bus stops around the town. It was **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that funds should be allocated for the provision of litter bins at Newtown Road and opposite the Allotment and if funds are available a bigger bin at the end of Mount View;

that a check be made with SODC as to the cost for emptying additional bins at Newtown Road and opposite the Allotment, and the costs be reported back to the next meeting of this Committee;

that any issues with the emptying of the towns litter bins should be reported to SODC.

263. TOWN BUS SERVICE

Members received a report and draft business plan for the future town bus service from July 2017 and considered the funding thereof.

It was agreed that it was important to keep the service running as once lost it would be difficult to get back.

It was **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that the Town Council funds the town bus service for a further 6 months, and

that as SODC have advised that CIL money could be used to fund a town bus service an agenda item be placed on a future FSM meeting to discuss if the financing of the buses should come from HTC or CIL.

264. CLOSE THE DOOR CAMPAIGN

Members received and considered information regarding the 'Close the Door' campaign which is a business friendly initiative aimed at making it common practice for shops and businesses to close the door during trading hours when heating / air conditioning is on, or air pollution levels are high outside. This is essential for providing healthy conditions for staff and customers and avoiding significant energy waste. The campaign works at local and head office levels. It was **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**

that Henley Town Council supports the campaign.

Councillor H Chandler-Wilde left the meeting.

265. PROGRESS

The progress report was received and considered. In particular:

Sound Vision and Lighting

Temporary speakers installed, Hugh Legh Henley Theatre Service looking at the Infrastructure of the Town Hall to provide a blue print of what can be done in the Queen Elizabeth II hall.

Bell Street Triangle of Land and Georgian Paving

The budget for the Georgian paving was removed as the pavements should be the responsibility of OCC. Item to be passed to Henley in Bloom for consideration.

Item passed to Henley in Bloom for consideration. Awaiting Solicitors response to resolve ownership and purchase of the triangle of land.

Councillor H Chandler-Wilde re-entered the meeting.

George Orwell

Linked in with Henley Information Centre, Town Clerk and Town Manager considering a few locations. Kings Arms Barn suggested as a suitable location. KVB lease ends in 2019 but break clauses are available every 6 months. The Barn was considered a very attractive location for the museum and possibly for the Information Centre as well. Disability restrictions if using the whole barn, so just the ground floor for the Museum was suggested, keeping the upstairs as a meeting room. Investigations to be carried out.

Town Centre Maintenance

The pavement surface along the river frontage from the Angel to Hobbs needs to be improved for walkers. R&A are looking at the area from the white gates to Marsh Lock, a condition survey is required from the Angel to Hobbs and from the white gate to Marsh Lock to see what improvements are required. This should be considered under the Corporate Plan and the item moved to Recreation and Amenities.

Town Entrance Signs

Top sections all installed, bottom sections back from the foundry, and Signs of the Times are painting. Hopefully all signs should be erected by the end of April. Parks Manager requested by the Mayor Elect to raise the posts on the sign by Tesco slightly so that the sign is not obscured by the planting.

Children's Centres

Update on the start of the new service required. New Manager and Sue Rogers to be invited to attend a future meeting to introduce themselves and provide an update.

BT Phone Box

As 3rd quotations still not received, the quotation for £350 to be accepted with a request that works be carried out as soon as possible.

Angel on the Bridge Bin Storage

Councillor W Hamilton to meet with Mark Dunlop and report back to next meeting.

Red Lion Lawn Embarking / Disembarking Licence

As no interest expressed for a shared embarking / disembarking licence contact to be made with any interested parties seeking bids for an exclusive licence.

The meeting closed at 9.13pm

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Chairman