

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 I Reissmann
Councillor Jane Smewing

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

41. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Councillors Ms H Chandler-Wilde, David Nimmo Smith and Simon Smith.

42. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Julian Brookes declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 11 – Meeting with the River and Rowing Museum as he is a member of a club which raises funds for the museum.

It was noted that both the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor declared a personal interest as trustees appointed by Henley Town Council.

43. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the *25 July 2017* were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

44. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Stuart Marks (Hospice Director) Sue Ryder

Mr Marks thanked the Council for considering the Sue Ryder bid for a major grant. He would investigate other ways to raise funds and stated that out of 300 patients last year – over 100 came from Henley.

Councillor Sara Abey entered the meeting at 7.34pm.

Brenda Right – 48 Valley Road

Mrs Right raised her concerns on the shortage of affordable / social houses for young people, nurses and teachers in the town. She wanted to see the required 40% affordable housing on new developments. She was also concerned at the number of care homes in the area.

Valerie Alacia – Makins Road

Mrs Alacia spoke in support of Mrs Right's comments and questioned what was happening with the old Youth Centre site as she felt the area should be developed as affordable housing for the young.

Pam Phillips – St Marks Road

Mrs Phillips queried when the town entrance signs would be installed and was advised that all but two were now in place.

Mrs Phillips then questioned why banners were on the railings opposite the Red Lion Hotel. Mrs Phillips was advised that talks had taken place with Hobbs (owners of the railings) and that Hobbs were now in the process of updating their policy for the use of the railings.

Donna Crook – Abrahams Road

Ms Crook stated that digging had begun on Luker Avenue and queried if a wildlife study had been carried out? Ms Crook was advised that it was an archaeological dig prior to a possible planning application.

45. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

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

Councillors Gawrysiak and Hillier both reiterated that they still have grant money available should any local organisation like to make a request for funding.

Other topics discussed included the awaited electric charging points in the car park; the new parking machines not accepting the old £1 coins and a self build project in Bicester where homes can be built for just £200,000.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Members had before them a report from County Councillor Gawrysiak (report attached).

Topics discussed included:

- The speed of the traffic on the corner of Bell Street and New Street – pedestrians found it difficult to cross
- The Flowing Springs signage was discouraging foot fall.
- The reduction in funding at Gillotts in real terms.
- Drainage around the town.
- Dragon patching – which was unsuitable for roads with an angled camber. Spray tar and chippings was cheaper and more adaptable.
- The status of the repairs to Henley Bridge and the double yellow lines.
- The 3rd bridge where neither Cllr Gawrysiak or Cllr Bartholomew had been invited to attend.

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

As well as the recent visit to Bled by Henley Symphony Orchestra, it was noted that a large task force had recently visited for the World Masters Rowing.

HBUG would welcome new members and can be contacted either by e-mail henleybranchusersgroup@gmail.com or on Twitter

It was noted that the main lines have now been electrified and a new timetable will be in place from January.

Members considered a request from the Henley Music School to add them to the list of Outside Bodies. **It was RESOLVED**

That, subject to the Henley Music School becoming a charity, the School be added to the list of Outside Bodies and that Councillor G Lambert be the appointed Councillor for 2017-2018.

47. MAYOR'S CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS

Members received the Civic Engagements list *20 July – 4 October 2017*. It was **RESOLVED**

that the list of Mayoral Civic Engagements for the period 20 July – 4 October 2017 be received and noted.

Congratulations were given to Councillor Miss K Hinton for her nomination as Young Councillor of the Year.

48. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The Minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 1 August, 22 August, 5 September and 26 September 2017 were before the Council. It was **RESOLVED**

that the Minutes of the Planning Committees held on 1 August, 22 August, 5 September and 26 September 2017 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Town and Community Committee held on 5 September 2017 were before the Council. It was **RESOLVED**

that the Minutes of the Town and Community Committee held on 5 September 2017 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 12 September 2017 were before the Council.

Minute 36

- Members to sign up to the training day if they wish to attend.

Minute 39

- Concern was raised that distinction needs to be made between which repairs are essential safety repairs and which repairs are cosmetic.
- Quotations to break down costs to show which repairs are just the surface, which are essential repairs and which are purely cosmetic.

Minute 43

- Minute number 43 should read 42.
- It was felt that the purchase of a boat would be a waste of Council Tax money and one should be borrowed / leased if and when required.

It was RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 12 September 2017 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Strategy and Management Committee held on 19 September 2017 were before the Council.

Minute 42(ii)

- A meeting with Sue Ryder and Councillors Sara Abey, Will Hamilton, Lorraine Hillier and Jane Smewing take place (as with the River & Rowing Museum and Headway) so that further discussion on their grant application can take place.

It was RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Finance Strategy and Management Committee held on 19 September 2017 and the recommendations therein be received, approved and adopted.

49. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members received a copy of the Terms of Reference of the Transport Strategy Group and considered amending them from 6 members of the public to 7 members of the public. **It was RESOLVED**

that the Terms of Reference for the Transport Strategy Group be amended to read 7 members of the public.

50. THE SANTA FUN RUN 2017

Members considered a request to suspend the Parking Places Order at Mill Meadows Car Park for the duration of the Santa Fun Run on Sunday 10 December 2017. **It was RESOLVED**

that the Parking Place Order at Mill Meadows Car Park be suspended for the duration of the Santa Fun Run on Sunday 10 December 2017.

Councillors Sara Abey and Julian Brooks left the meeting for the following item.

51. MEETING WITH RIVER AND ROWING MUSEUM

Members consider a recommendation to award an annual grant of £7,500 for three years and to waive the car park rent @ £6,300 for a three year term.

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

that rather than a grant of £7,500 and waiving the car park rent of £6,300 for a three year term, a grant for the sum of £13,800 be granted for a period of three years.

52. MEETING WITH HENLEY MUSIC SCHOOL

Members considered a recommendation that an annual award between £1,000 and £3,000 for a period of three years be granted towards funding music tuition in Henley.

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

that subject to the Henley Music School no longer being a Ltd company and becoming a charity a grant for the sum of £3,000 be granted for a three year period.

53. MEETING WITH HEADWAY

Members considered a recommendation that an annual grant of £5,000 be awarded for a period of three years towards music therapy.

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

that subject to Headway raising similar match funding from other organisations, and discussions taking place on how the building can be utilised during times not used by Headway an annual grant of £5,000 be awarded for a period of three years.

54. 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.

55. ITEM CONCERNING A HTC PROPERTY

The meeting closed at 9.11pm