

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

In attendance: Mrs J Wheeler – Town Clerk
Mrs N Taylor – Minute Taker
Ms C Adams – Planning Manager
District Councillor Mrs J Bland
16 Members of the Public
1 Member of the Press

121. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S Evans.

122. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

123. MINUTES

Minute 106 Mike Freeland should be changed to read Mike Phelan.

Councillor D Nimmo Smith was not present at the last meeting and had sent his apologies.

Following the amendments the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 27 March 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

124. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Pam Phillips – St Marks Road queried the financial support to the Eyot Boat Club; the growing numbers of cigarette ends in the alley outside Sainsbury and who would care for the Centenary flower beds.

Gill Dodds – Greys Road wished to be advised if there were to be a by-election following the resignation of Helen Chandler-Wilde.

Ian Clark – Cromwell Road raised a number of queries regarding the route of the new bus service; hours of operation and the parking fines for hospital visitors.

David Dickie – St Katherine's Road Gave an up-date on the No Idling Campaign and then discussed the issues facing the availability of environmentally-friendly Hybrid vehicles.

Lynne Carter – Turville Heath Advised the meeting that although Sue Ryder have stated that they have carried out a survey and 75% of people would prefer to be at home for end of life, she has carried out her own survey and over 90% would prefer to end their days at a Hospice

such as Sue Ryder Nettlebed. She felt that it is appalling for people to deal with the trauma of ending their days or dealing with a loved ones end of life at home, as at Sue Ryder the whole family is looked after and taken care of by the wonderful staff.

Mrs Carter suggested that a possible solution would be for Sue Ryder to not sell off all the land but to keep a parcel of land that could then have a custom built hospice on it, this would still provide funds for Sue Ryder but also the much needed hospice and somewhere for friends / relatives to come and remember their loved ones.

Councillor Reissmann informed the meeting that when the new Townlands Hospital was built the second floor had been expected to be used by Sue Ryder as a Hospice but they had pulled out as an agreement on cost could not be reached. Councillor Reissmann advised that he would speak to the Townlands Stakeholder Reference Group and ask them to once again approach Sue Ryder and encourage them to make use of the facility as it would seem that most people would prefer to end their days in a hospice and not at home.

It was agreed that Mrs Carter and Councillor Reissmann would meet up outside of this meeting to discuss further. **It was RESOLVED**

that an item be placed on the next Town & Community Committee agenda to discuss possible ways of keeping palliative care beds in the area, ideally in a building in the present grounds.

Cllr Lorraine Hillier also suggested a public meeting should be held.

Mike Phelan – Deanfield Road commented on the illegal parking in the Deanfield Road.

Councillor Arlett stated that he had met with the College and Sgt Anns and had been very disappointed that Sgt Anns had been unable to offer any support. He suggested inviting Sgt Anns back to talk again with the Town and Community Committee. Councillor Gawrysiak advised that there is a designated scheme around the roundabout, and he will talk to County Officers about a wider scheme.

It was noted that the best way to deal with this issue would be for South Oxfordshire to get on board with CPE, which the Police are fully in favour of and would allot Traffic Wardens to ticket illegally parked cars freeing the Police to deal with more serious matters.

125. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Members had before them reports from Councillor S Gawrysiak and District Councillor Joan bland.

Councillor Bland informed the Council that SODC now had a 5.4 year land supply which should give some protection to Neighbourhood Plans. She also requested that Planning Applications only be called in at District Council if there is a strong case for them to be considered - it costs £1,000 each time an application is called in.

Councillor Miss L M Hillier advised that SODC were currently holding a Sport and Recreational needs until 2033 survey and encouraged both the public and the Council to respond by the deadline of 7 May 2018.

Councillor Gawrysiak advised that Caroline Newton, the new Cabinet Member for the Environment, would meet with District Councillors to discuss items such as Transport Strategy and Air Quality. Air Quality has been better this month than last but is still poor.

Councillor Abey queried how much of the £100,00 that SODC had put into its Air Quality Budget was likely to come to Henley and was advised that out of the three areas that have been identified as having issues, Henley, Wallingford and Watlington, Henley was the only town that has put forward a plan.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Members had before them a report from County Councillor Gawrysiak. Several questions were asked concerning the ongoing repairs of Henley Bridge; the quality

of the road repairs in Hop Gardens; and the potential repairs to the riverbank by OCC.

126. FEEDBACK FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Glen Lambert informed members that the Henley Music School had now gained charitable status so the Henley Town Council grant money could be released.

All Members were reminded that they had been invited to attend the Henley Music School Gala Concert at 4pm on Sunday 3 June in the Findlay Suite & Ballroom, Phyllis Court Club.

127. MAYOR'S CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS

Members received and noted Civic Engagements from the Mayor 2017 - 2018 from 21 March 2018 – 01 May 2018 and the following observations were made:

Events Coming up to which all are invited to attend:

- Thursday 3 May 2018 Fete in aid of Sue Ryder at Mill Meadows.
- Monday 7 May 2018 – May Fayre on the Market Place with over 40 stalls and attractions including vintage games, singing, May Pole dancing and a Tug of War.
- Monday 14 May 2018 – Annual Meeting and Mayor Making.

Councillor Ken Arlett led the thanks to Cllr Hinton for her year as the Mayor.

128. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The Minutes of the Planning Committees held on 3 and 24 April 2018 were before the Council.

IT WAS RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Planning Committees held on 3 and 24 April 2018 be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the Town and Community Committee held on 3 April 2018 were before the Council.

Councillor Arlett suggested that Sgt Anns should be invited back to the next meeting of Town and Community.

IT WAS RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Town and Community Committee held on 3 April 2018 be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 10 April 2018 were before the Council.

Minute 94

- Cllr Hinton requested that the trees at Makins remain on the progress report and a discussion to be held at the next meeting on the possibility of the debt for the cost of the trees being cleared.
- The Town Clerk confirmed that the expression of interest for a grant of £125,000 for turning the first chapel at the Fairmile Cemetery into a columbarium has been approved so a grant application can now be submitted. Thanks to Liz Jones for her work on this.
- There will be a Blossom Picnic in the Community Orchard from 11.30-2.30pm on 26 May 2018.

IT WAS RESOLVED

that an item be placed on the next Recreation and Amenities Committee to discuss the debt for the tree planting at the Skatepark;

that the Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on 10 April 2018 be received, approved and adopted.

The Minutes of the Finance Strategy and Management Committee held on 17 April 2018 were before the Council.

Minute 104

- Councillor Reissmann advised the meeting that the Eyot Centre have a loan outstanding of £76,000 and a grant of £25,000. The Town Council he stated have supported and will continue to support the Centre and they are very welcome to apply for future grants.

IT WAS RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the Finance Strategy and Management Committee held on 17 April 2018 be received, approved and adopted.

129. PREFERRED USE OF MEMBER'S NAMES IN MINUTES:

Members discussed the use of Councillors names in the Minutes of meetings.

IT WAS RESOLVED

that Members' names should be used if they propose or second a motion or if they make a worthy point. The Minutes of any meeting will be agreed by the Chair of that meeting and the Town Clerk with the Town Clerk having the final decision.

130. CIRCULATION OF AGENDAS AND PAPERS TO ALL MEMBERS

Members discussed the preferred circulation of papers to members.

IT WAS RESOLVED

that all papers from all Meetings should be circulated to all Members, for all Standing Committees. Sub Committees and Working Groups should have papers circulated to Members of the Committee / Group but all others Members should have them circulated electronically.

that any members wishing to have all papers submitted to them electronically should contact the office with this request.

131. RISK ASSESSMENTS INCLUDING ESTATE AND BUILDINGS INSPECTIONS

IT WAS RESOLVED

that an item be placed on the next Finance Strategy and Finance Committee to discuss strategic risk assessments, improving the general risk assessments throughout the Council and Estate Inspections.

132. CLEANING OF THE PUBLIC TOILETS AT THE PAVILION, MILL MEADOWS

Members received and considered quotations for the cleaning of the public toilets at the Pavilion, Mill Meadows. Three quotes were considered:

Company A - £5,642

Company B - £8,916

Company C - £13,250

IT WAS RESOLVED

that company B be appointed with monies vired - £3.5k from maintenance costs of public toilets and £4k from facilities operations staff budget – for a trial period of one year.

133. NEW HENLEY BUS SERVICE

Members received a verbal update from Councillor Gawrysiak on the proposed new Henley bus service and noted the following information.

- Following the tender process Reading Buses is the preferred supplier as they were as the most competitive and cost effective over a five year period. The bus supplied will be environmentally friendly as it will run on gas (Bio Methane) and will be a fully refurbished bus that will have disabled access, will be liveried in Henley colours and cleaned inside and out on a daily basis.
- The service will initially run from Monday – Friday 7am – 7pm but should there be the demand it is possible that this service can be extended over the weekend.
- Reading Buses are a big company who operate between two and three thousand buses, have been using gas run vehicles for a long time, are reliable, are marketing experts and employ friendly people who they will then train to be bus drivers.
- Section 106 funding will be used to cover the cost of the bus so there will be no initial cost to Henley Town Council.
- There are still two more items that need finalising and it is expected that the launch of the new service will be in early July.

Thanks were given to all those involved in the project. Cllr Nimmo Smith welcomed the service but warned that S106 funding is a finite sum of money and real time bus signage is costly to install and maintain.

134. 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.

135. ITEM RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF A PREFERRED PROVIDER FOR THE NEW HENLEY TOWN BUS SERVICE

136. ITEM RELATING TO AN UP-DATE ON THE REPORTS FOR THE FAIRMILE PROJECT

137. ITEM RELATING TO THE 353-357 READING ROAD PROJECT

138. ITEM RELATING TO EAST EYOT ISLAND “DUCK ISLAND”

139. ITEM RELATING TO A NEW TENANCY AT THE BARN

The meeting closed at 10.20pm.