

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the **Full Council Meeting** held on Monday 5th October 2015 at 7.00pm in the Corn Exchange Complex, Hungerford.

Present: Cllrs Crane, Brookman, Winsor, Whiting, Bumbieris, Small, Chicken, Farrell and Benneyworth

Also present: Zoe Gibson (PCSO), Geoff Adams (Adviser) and Ted Angell (HAHA)

Police Report: Two burglaries and two thefts from vehicles occurred on the same night. Incidents include: a purse taken from the Town Hall, a shoplifter at Co-op, and a dangerous dog. No further complaints received regards the Priors Road parking near the Church, but parking has occurred on pedestrian crossing zig zags in High Street and there has been cycling on pavements. Zoe had no details of the Bank Scam to report. (Cllr Benneyworth entered). Two Police response officers from Newbury have been seriously injured at Coombe. Details couldn't be disclosed.

- 1. Apologies for absence.** Cllrs Leach, Colloff, Wilson, District Cllr Paul Hewer and Geoff Greenland (HAHA).
- 2. Declarations of interest and dispensations.** Cllr Crane has an allotment, Cllr Farrell on Triangle Field Management Committee (TFMC) (item 11) and Croft Field (item 10). Cllr Small is on TFMC (item 11)
- 3. Approval of Minutes of the meetings of the Full Council on 7th September 2015.** Cllr Small proposed the minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Bumbieris, 2 abstentions, rest in favour.
- 4. Mayor's report.** Was circulated. Victorian Extravaganza is struggling for funds.
- 5. District Councillor's Reports.** District Councillors not present.
- 6. HAHA' report.** Fairfields allotments are leased from Sovereign. Marsh Lane has interest of a developer and hence lease expires 30/4/2016. HAHA has had several meetings with landowner's developer to try and extend the lease. The draft DPD due out last January and postponed to September, has been delayed again to 5/11/15. HAHA outlined their concerns if the timetable is further delayed. If delayed past christmas we would need to consider giving plottolders notice. Agreement is 3 months notice (so would need to be issued by January 31st). Plottolders are suffering insecurity because of this. At a meeting last week M Norgate wants to wait to November 5th to see outcome of WBC meeting. If no announcement by 5th November he would agree a 1 year extension. HAHA would prefer a 2 year extension. How do they invest in the interim for wear and tear?
- 7. Committee reports (no more than 3 minutes per report)**

R&A – Cllr Bumbieris. Discussed allotments and Croft Field. Agreed for a new sign for Croft Field and for alarm to be moved. Rugby Club rent review – RFO looking at, Rugby rent agreed unchanged. RFC porch licence legal agreement is done. Skate Park visit took place to consider broken fence. Benches need ongoing maintenance. Tragedy Garden improvements are going ahead. **Action:** Put plaque on R&A agenda to discuss. Cllr Benneyworth previously contact families about moving plaque and no complaints.

F&GP – Cllr Bumbieris. Victorian Extravaganza £500 donation was agreed. HFC lease was discussed. Croft Field Management Committee are to meet to appoint Chair. Croft Field decorating cost will go to Full Council (see agenda item 10). Other quotes to relocate the alarms were to be

obtained. Town Guide is being updated and the Code of Conduct was reviewed and committee agreed no changes.

E&P – Cllr Farrell. 14-19 Eddington – Cllr Farrell spoke to Derek Carnegie, WBC who advised stop notices are still not issued. WBC can't make mistake with issuing this. The levels were never agreed. Now the houses are almost finished, but could still be demolished as they are overbearing. The Marina Development will go to WBC in November for a decision. Application for 36 Church Street has been withdrawn.

H&T – Cllr Rob Brookman has received no support from WBC to reduce speed limit on Common as the speeds recorded are within the national standards. District Cllrs won't support either. There has been no progress with the bus stop and pedestrian crossing. WBC streetlighting project is well underway. Two tenders have been received for the Christmas lights. Testing of lights started last Friday. Rod, Roger Ballard and Cllr Brookman have tested 100 strings of lights so far. Charlie Austin has agreed to switch on the Xmas lights on Sunday 29th November 2015.

T&E – Cllr Crane. A meeting is scheduled for next Monday. Town Team Hungerford, Chamber of Commerce and Town & Manor will be invited to discuss the A4 Tourist Route. On 27th October a presentation by REME has been organised and it is hoped main employers will come. It is part of the civilian engagement policy. REME will explain what they do, their skills and talk about future employment. This will take place 6 – 6.45pm start to 8.30pm in Corn Exchange.

8. Finance – Cllr Bumbieris

a) Propose authorisation of cheque run payments (circulated). £5 rent cheque to WBC is not to be paid. Youth and Community Centre grant yet to be approved later in agenda. Cllr Bumbieris proposed authorisation of cheque run, subject to the above, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour.

b) Propose year to date accounts. There is a £18k variance (overspend) due to £4,700 being paid in a different month and some Croft Field expenditure has been made but first half of money (£8.5k via members bid) is not due to come until tomorrow. Rest of funds to follow. Cllr Bumbieris proposed year to date accounts, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour.

c) Propose grant of £4,500 to Hungerford Youth & Community Centre. Cllr Bumbieris proposed a £4,500 grant which has been budgeted for the Youth & Community Centre, seconded by Cllr Benneyworth, all in favour.

d) Propose decision on speed reactive sign. A Speed reactive sign will cost £2,600 to purchase and £50 in revenue costs per week (for moving signs and batteries). £2,000 of this is covered by a Parish Plan grant but the concern is the weekly cost. HTC will receive no revenue from this. 82% (from the Town Survey) were in favour of installing a speed reactive sign on the A4 and A338 approaches. A Traffic survey was carried out in Strongrove Hill but WBC will only take action if speeds are over the national standard. The company that we obtained this quote from is used by WBC. **Action:** Investigate neighbouring parishes such as Baydon and mention in next newsletter. Consider option of SID which is free but requires someone to operate it. Will we get data from a sign to use as evidence for speed limits.?

9. **Christmas Lights – Propose acceptance of tender.** Two tenders have been submitted from 4th D Landscapes and Broadmead. Tenders included sourcing trees. Broadmead quoted £22,572, and 4thD came down to £25,040 (£18,792 plus cost of trees). Broadmead are cheaper, local and have compound to store trees. R Ballard works for them. 4th D have experience from last year, are designers and we have built a good working relationship with them. They would use the Croft Field Centre. Both tenders include connecting but not wiring. HTC could save £2.5k by ordering trees directly but would recommend contractor supplies trees because of risks involved with this. Consider tenders for a 3 year contract next year for a discount. Both quotes include REME volunteers. Security at Croft Field needs considering. Cllr Benneyworth proposed acceptance of 4th D, seconded by Cllr Crane, 6 in favour, 3 against. Proposal carried.

10. **Croft Field - Consider additional quotes for decoration, making good floors, insulating canoe room ceiling and skimming main room ceiling.** Cllr Small proposed decorating quote of £4300 from PCF, seconded by Cllr Benneyworth, all in favour. Ceiling needs skimming, It was agreed to give Clerk and Mayor authority to proceed with the best quote for skimming ceiling and insulation of canoe room. It was decided a Fire door lock is not needed. Fire regulations state an alternate exit is needed for both rooms. A Croft Field Centre management is planned. **Action:** Send reminder of date

11. **Triangle Field - Update on Theatre Co. planning application conditions.** Licence has been signed **Action:** Clerk to send copy to David Clayton and Cllr Small
- Propose additional work to Car park. Cllr Small proposed instructing R Hibberd to start groundwork including french drain and wider area as quoted (in total £8150 plus VAT) seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour.

12. **St Saviour's - Consider changes to regulations.** It was agreed we should consult with all ministers. In the absence of a priest at St Lawrences, the Church secretary is the contact. She has expressed the need for graveowners to be left to grieve and graves should be left as they are. It was suggested the adornments on graves should be allowed but the new section should be kept as a Lawn Cemetery.
13. **Town & Manor Lease - Report Update.** Michaela at Macauleys has been instructed. **Action:** Clerk to write to Steve Skipworth stating position. Also speak to him about the wall in Bulpit Lane Park.
14. **Any other Reports (3 minutes each) not to include any proposals- all councillors.** Regret yet again District Councillors did not attend the Full Council meeting. **Action:** Mayor/Clerk to write to DCs. Bench placed on Wharf but no plaque yet. No Saturday morning briefings, Chamber of Commerce meeting took place. **Action:** Put Extravaganza on the T&E agenda. .

Meeting closed at 8.55pm