

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the **Full Council Meeting** held on Monday 2nd November 2015 at 7.00pm in the Corn Exchange Complex, Hungerford.

Present: Cllrs Crane, Brookman, Farrell, Colloff, Winsor, Chicken and Small

Also present: Zoe Gibson (PCSO), Geoff Adams (Adviser), Roger Thompson (Y&CC), Lindy Elliott, Tony Lavers, Tony Bartlett

Police Report: The missing person from Redwood House was found in Marlborough. There have been 4 Burglaries (1 in daylight). A Boots burglar has been apprehended. Zoe also reported 1 assault, 3 thefts, 1 poacher caught at Lower Denford and 5 egg throwing incidents at elderly people's houses.

- 1. Apologies for absence.** Cllrs Benneyworth, Wilson, Hudson, Bumbieris, Whiting and District Cllrs Hewer and Podger.
- 2. Declarations of interest and dispensations.** Cllr Farrell has interests in Croft Field and Triangle Field.
- 3. Approval of Minutes of the meetings of the Full Council on 5th October 2015.** Cllr Brookman proposed minutes as true record, seconded by Cllr Farrell, all in favour.
- 4. Mayor's report and presentation to Mr Lavers.** Mayor's report was circulated. It was a busy month. Notably his visit to Wellington was awe inspiring! Cllr Small entered.

Presentation to Mr Lavers:- The Mayor thanked him for his service to the town for the past 10 years and he was presented with a leaving gift.

- 5. District Councillor's Reports.** The District Cllrs were unavailable to attend the meeting but had sent an email which was read out. Cllr Podger is in favour of development to the north of the town, Cllr Hewer to the South. Both pleased only 100 houses. A speed survey at Upper Eddington took place a while ago and a site visit will take place. WBC don't have the funds to resurface Sanden Close. DCs are waiting for Richard Benyon MP to give date to present plaque for Holtby bench. They welcome the new LED street lighting investment which will bring long-term benefits environmentally and in cost savings and looks great!
- 6. Haha' report - not discussed**
- 7. Committee reports (no more than 3 minutes per report).**

R&A. Considered: Croft Field renaming, a new sign, and padlocking gate. Hirer's agreement needs to be reviewed. Agreed 5mph speed signs for Triangle Field car park would be acceptable. Car park resurfacing is complete and looks fantastic. St Saviour's regs to be reviewed (to be discussed under item 14). Relocating the plaque at the Tradey Garden is being considered. Clerk is obtaining quotes for maintenance of benches. The wall in Bulpit park is being checked.

F&GP. S106 is not shown on the Income/Expenditure report. RFO to advise.

E&P – Cllr Farrell. Stop Notice has been issued to developers at Eddington. No news on Marina Development.

H&T – Cllr Rob Brookman. 10-15 Hungerford Newtown residents attended meeting complaining about A338 speeding through Newtown. Results of previous survey give no support to lower speed limit. Crossroads are dangerous to pull out from Radley Bottom or from farm. Cllr Brookman has requested speed reinforcement and police will do speed check. Cllr Hewer will arrange site meeting with Glyn to discuss crossroads. Cllr Brookman asked for roundals to be painted on road at Common – Glyn will put in budget for next year. WBC have been asked to carry out a speed survey. Glyn admits A4 entry to town has speed problem. Cllr Brookman requested a 40mph before the 30mph limit (Newbury side).

T&E – Cllr Crane. All copy has been submitted for a new town guide and draft is awaited. The REME presentation organised has been cancelled despite invites to all major employers there has been low take up. HTC wish to establish links with the employers.

8. Finance.

a) Propose authorisation of cheque run payments (circulated). Deferred

b) Propose year to date accounts. Deferred

c) Propose further grant to support the Victorian Extravaganza (£500 already agreed – further £500 requested). Both grants will be match funded by GCT. Funding has improved since going applying on FMAG website. Now on track £8½-9k raised so far. Cllr Colloff proposed £750. Cllr Small declared an interest, Cllr Brookman wished to support such a major event. Cllr Crane proposed £1,000 in total, seconded by Cllr Brookman, all in favour.

d) Propose budget contribution for A4 Tourist Route (Cllr Crane). A4 tourist route – 30 + delegates attended the meeting Aim is to make Hungerford to Calne a tourist route and extend from Hammersmith to Bristol eventually. Visit Wiltshire are driving the project. Town & Manor and the Chamber are involved. Cllr Crane has committed to £295 so far. **Action:** Consider budgets and level 2 £2,500 funding (next financial year).

e) Set Extraordinary F&GP meeting to discuss Budget - Proposed date Tuesday 1st Dec. This date was agreed.

9. HTC – immediate response to WBC Housing Allocation Document. LDF working party had meeting. Despite request by town to have housing placed north of town, WBC are proposing 100 houses to the south stating reasons against north site as ‘non deliverability.’ (vets/garden centre on site). WBC meeting will be held next Thursday. HTC will not be present. Report is 3000 pages long. Our DPD response needs finalising and will be issued as a response to the consultation. It was agreed a public meeting specifically for this should be held on Wednesday 18th November at 7.30pm (invite WBC planning and district councillors). **Action:** Promote meeting

10. Christmas Lights – Working Party meeting report – Cllr Brookman. Testing of lights is complete. 348 strings (44,000 LEDs). Adam Winslet will be compere for Switch on. Entertainment will run from 4.30pm until the switch on at 6pm by Charlie Austin. Cllrs help is needed during the day and evening. Contractors have requested to stay in Croft Field Centre whilst working in Hungerford. Clerk awaiting response from insurers. In Roger Ballard’s absence an alternate electrician may be needed.

11. Implications of Youth & Community Centre EGM – Roger Thompson. The paper written by Eoin and Sue De Costa was summarised by Roger Thompson. Both the Youth Club and Committee are volunteer run. Funds are in place up to September 2016 but fundraising needs to start again in New Year. What is the level of support from HTC? GCT are not prepared to automatically fund what a local authority should. Running costs are £17.5k. Sue and Verity are stepping down from September 2016. Councillor involvement is needed. HTC have been requested to help with admin as Eoin is too busy. A strong youth club is need to draw in funding. Only £3k comes in from other users. 45 members rely on the centre. Charlie Barr runs Ladybugs and is happy to take Youth Club over – but has 2 yr old so 5pm turnout may be difficult. YMCA – James (youth worker for Bewbury YMCA) has just moved into Hungerford. He expressed his interest in helping with the youth club. Charlie Barr would like to be part of the committee if meeting times were a bit later. Cllr Chicken volunteered to join the committee. **Action:** Mayor suggested they discuss further and bring update to next Full Council.

12. Croft Field - Update on building works. Plastering done and lights are back up. Decoration to start tomorrow? Floor to be levelled.

13. Triangle Field - Car park improvements – Progress report. Car park done. Banks will be planted. Theatre Company wish containers to be moved back slightly. Plans and agreement specify position. Decision on this was delegated to TFMC. Electric cable can not be run under new surface. It

was previously agreed a generator should not be used. **Action:** Discuss at management committee. Theatre company need date to move in.

- **Circus- Consider proposal.** TFMC don't object. One circus offered use of big top and sound system for a day so we could have an opening event. Cllr Crane proposed agreement in principle that circus could use Triangle Field, 1 abstention, rest in favour. **Action:** Add to R&A agenda to agree details.

14. **St Saviour's - Actions taken to enforce/review regulations** –Cllr Crane has drafted a Public Notice which it was agreed to use. No grave decoration will be allowed in the new burial area. Do we restrict grave decoration in the rest of the graveyard? The public notice gives a period of consultation inviting comments by 31st December. **Action:** Send to churches and publicise through press and social media.
15. **Neighbourhood Plan – decision on whether it is cost effective or necessary for Hungerford.** This was discussed at E&P. A Neighbourhood Plan would cost £40k. With a NP in place we would qualify for 25% of CIL payments rather than 15% . Development is only likely to see 100 new houses built. E&P recommend against preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. A Community Plan has already been adopted. Cllr Crane proposed the HTC do not pursue a Neighbourhood Plan, all in favour.
16. **Town & Manor Lease - Report Update.** Nothing to report back from the solicitor.
17. **Any other Reports (3 minutes each) not to include any proposals- all councillors.**
Cof C meets this Thursday 6.30pm at The Bear Hotel to discuss the future of the Chamber. Cllr Crane to attend. The A4 tourist route and meeting with major employers if of interest to the Chamber's meeting. Cllr Small is still waiting to hear back from Land Registry regards the Triangle Field due to their long backlog.
The mayor received a letter on 1st June from the French Ambassador. **Action:** Send another reminder to chase Legion d'honneur award for 4 Hungerford residents.

Meeting closed at 8.20pm

PART 2

Confidential

The public and press may be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity might be prejudicial to the public interest as per the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

Maintenance man – Employment & contract terms

It was agreed to offer the role of maintenance man on a trial/temporary period.
It was agreed sick pay will be paid only as detailed in the cleaning contract.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm