

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

The Mayor
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MINUTES of the **Full Council Meeting** held on Monday 6th February 2017 at 7.00pm in the Corn Exchange Complex, Hungerford.

Present: Cllrs Crane, Brookman, Farrell, Bumbieris, Winsler, Chicken, Knight, Simpson, Wood and Whiting

Also present: District Cllr Paul Hewer (PH), (JP) John Garvey (Newbury Weekly News), Brian Williams (Adviser), Peter Harries (Friends of Hungerford Library (FOHL)) and Edward Clintworth (West Berks Council regarding free public health checks)

Edward Clintworth (Public health) advised he was attending the meeting to offer free NHS health checks. The appointments will be 20 minutes with a nurse to see what risk is of the patient developing cardio vascular disease in the next 10 years and how they can reduce that risk. It can be run in GP practises, community centres, and places of worship... They have been delivering this program for 6 years and wish to run a clinic in Hungerford. Following the check-up, results will go to your GP within a few days. Eligibility criteria includes, being between the age of 40 to 74, not having had a health check in the last 5 years, to be registered with a GP practise in Berkshire and not having treatment at present. The check-up will include cholesterol, blood pressure, height and weight checks etc. Public Health give a grant which is ring fenced which allows the health check to be free. They are looking to hold the clinic in 2 to 3 months' time. Please advertise in your newsletter. They will hold a Saturday clinic initially and then review any further need. Booking is required. The Mayor suggested info could be circulated with the council tax mailing.

- 1. Apologies for absence.** Cllrs Benneyworth, Colloff, Hudson, Small and Wilson, also James Podger
- 2. Declarations of interest -** Cllrs Simpson and Knight – library (item 8)
- 3. Approval of Minutes of the meeting of the Full Council of 9th January 2017 and outcome of actions –** Cllr Brookman proposed the minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Simpson, all in favour.
- 4. Mayor's Report – Circulated.** The Mayor visited Newbury College and was impressed by the new engineering equipment. He also met with Jed Ramsay the new CEO of Town & Manor and wishes to improve the link between T&M and the Town Council.
- 5. District Councillor's reports –** Cllr Simpson told PH, FOHL were shocked that West Berks Council's proposal for the libraries was received by twitter and they were not contacted directly. However this has been followed by a positive meeting with Paul James. PH advised that R Benyon MP has assured him that Hungerford will retain its Post Office. PH advised HTC of a contact for the Post Office Ltd. Cllr Simpson advised it would help the library if the Post Office was to relocate to the Library.
PH also advised the contacts for business rates at WBC, being Jane Knight and Claire Stewart.
The boundary commission website gives info but PH says his knowledge of the subject is confidential.
Each 3000 constituents justify a District Councillor. Hungerford is slightly under the number of electoral members recommended for 2 district councillors.
Jo Naylor (WBC) has been in contact with the Clerk about a possible Parish Grant and £1500 of member's bid money. PH has been in touch with Hungerford Football Club who are looking for money. They may apply for the 2017/8 members bid money.

PH spoke to Highways about the proposed coach stop. Church St is not suitable as there are no turning facilities. It would be better to drop off and pick up in the High St. Outside no.5? **Action:** PH to follow up The Inspector's report on the Salisbury Road planning application will be received at the end of March. The WBC application decision may be dragged out until the inspector's report has been received, as it is not scheduled for Western Area Planning in February. PH works for Sovereign which is a pecuniary interest. However as it is outline planning only, PH will be able to vote on it.

PH will get an opportunity to speak at the WBC meeting tomorrow about the library. Hungerford is mentioned in point 7.3.

Cllr Whiting advised his wife used to be Deputy Post Manager and is looking to take on a franchise and is interested in the library as a location for the Post Office. Cllr Whiting has spoken to the Area Managers. Cllr Farrell asked how the changes to the enforcement laws will affect HTC. PH advised prioritisation will take place. He said where do you draw the line on breach of planning? HTC wish to raise a concern over this. **Action:** The Mayor said that HTC will seek advice from BALC.

6. Finance – Cllr Bumbieris

a) Propose authorisation of cheque run payments (circulated) for the last month – This month HTC has paid for new windows at the Pool House and for Xmas expenditure. Cllr Brookman confirmed that total expenditure for the lights was £25,253, donations now exceed £12k and the project was within budget. Cllr Bumbieris proposed the cheque run payments, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour.

b) Propose Year to date accounts – refer to circulated Income/Expenditure Report – Other variances include extra income from burial fees. Cllr Bumbieris proposed the year to date accounts, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour.

c) Agree Privacy Impact Assessment and £10 discretionary fee for access of footage – Cllr Bumbieris proposed the PIA and discretionary fee, seconded by Cllr Knight, all in favour.

7. Committee reports (no more than 3 minutes per report)

R&A – Cllr Whiting – Alfie Smith (JOG) wanted funds to establish a 5 a side football pitch. Cllrs Whiting and Wood will help them with this. Goals are being purchased by HTC. The skip at St Saviour's will be screened. HAHA gave an update with requested lease amendments for the 5 year lease which Cllr Small is drafting. Verification of HTC assets is to be done by the maintenance man. Triangle Field suffered a blocked pump. Signs have been put in place for prevention. The Rugby Football Club attended. They are extending the patio area outside the clubhouse. RFC are funding the materials. HTC agreed to fund the labour of £1100 providing RFC try and get grant through the Good Exchange. The pressure washer has been ordered. A report on the park was circulated by Cllr Whiting on fencing and other equipment repairs. A grant is being applied for by the Clerk.

H&T – Cllr Rob Brookman – A resident was involved in a near miss on the footpath that crosses the railway at Freeman's Marsh. GWR say the train driver blew the horn in warning but the resident disputes this. Cllr Brookman has written to Network Rail requesting automatic signalling be put in place (both audio and visual). GWR are carrying out improvements to the station. The railings are being painted and they have glazed the wrong shelter. The funding from CCIF is not happening this year however HTC can apply for it directly for 2018/19 and the request would be for a new passenger shelter on the north side of the platform. Newbury have had £6million invested in their station!

E&P – Cllr Farrell – We are waiting to hear on the Salisbury Road development at the end of March. People want to stay in Hungerford and are extending their properties.

T&E – Cllr Crane – A new edition of the Town Guide is being considered. Town & Manor and Chamber of Commerce will attend the next T&E meeting. The C of C needs more members.

F&GP – Cllr Bumbieris – Met on 17th Jan and discussed the audit and also looked at Bank account comparisons. A cheaper deal is available with TSB but the interest is lower. It was decided to remain with Barclays for now. A review of the assets in particular the Xmas Lights and play surfaces took place and figures have been adjusted. There is a requirement to value the war memorial and Mayor's chain. The rent for the Pool House may increase and advice is being taken from Marc Allen. Terms of reference for each committee are being reviewed. Trial of a monthly Penny Post Hungerford email was agreed along with continuation of the Here and Now with the Adviser under new ownership. The Clerk is obtaining some

information from BALC and SLCC on the legal requirements of a CIC and will brief the RFO on library plans.

- 8. Library – update following meeting with WBC and their proposals for 7th Feb** – A CIC may be set up for funding only and a SLA agreed between WBC and HTC. The FOHL/HTC model is much more sustainable than WBC's volunteer option. Peter Harries advised FOHL/HTC would have to fund the running of the building. The shortfall will be picked up by HTC. Peter Harries has written to the Post Office. FOHL want the Post office to be housed in the library to raise some income for the running of the library building. The Post Office's existing site is 6m square. The room available in the library is 9m square. Cllr Wood mentioned that Parkwood were interested.
- 9. Electoral Review of Warding Arrangements** – covered under item 5
- 10. Items required for agenda of Town Meeting, to be held March 23rd at 7pm in Corn Exchange** – Councillors suggested John O Gaunt, T&M, Post office, Football Club as possible speakers/subjects.
- 11. Update on possible relocation of post office** (covered under item 5 and 8) **and post box** – The Victorian post box was hit by a HGV and removed due to safety reasons. HTC has contacted the Post office and the latest relocation being considered is outside the Sovereign flats in Park St.
- 12. Propose involvement in Beacons of Light event next year** (in remembrance of the end of the World War I) – Councillors agreed they wish HTC to be involved in this event. The Mayor also advised that D-day survivors are coming to Hungerford specifically to visit the monument at Walbury Hill next month.
- 13. Any other Reports (3 minutes each) not to include any proposals - Fire Service Cuts (Cllr Wood)** – The RBF&RS consultation runs to 13th March. It is on a 5 year plan with proposed cuts. Hungerford have had a retained fire unit since 2013. If the retained support unit went it would affect Hungerford's service during the day slightly. Option 4 would be the beneficial option. It is a 24 hour station and Hungerford need to recruit. All councillors were encouraged to respond individually. **Action:** Cllr Whiting will work with the Clerk to draft a response on behalf of HTC and bring it to next Full Council.

Meeting closed at 8.33pm