

HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

The Mayor
Cllr Keith Knight
3 Wessex Close
Hungerford
Berkshire
RG17 0NT
Tel: 01488 644671
cllrkknight@gmail.com



The Town Clerk
Mrs Claire Barnes
The Library
Church Street
Hungerford
Berkshire RG17 0JG
Tel: 01488 686195
townclerk@hungerford-tc.gov.uk
www.hungerford-tc.gov.uk

MINUTES of the **Extra-ordinary Full Council Meeting** held on Monday 17th August 2017 at 7.00pm in the Corn Exchange Complex, Hungerford.

Present: Cllrs Knight, Crane, Colloff, Brookman, Winsor, Finlay, Chicken, Simpson, Bumbieris and Farrell

Also: Press - John Garvey (Newbury News) and approx. 8 members of public

Member of Public – Concern was voiced over the sharp increase in parking charges. Cllr Knight advised he met with the Chairman of WBC recently and chased up their response to his counter proposal which was presented to them some months ago. HTC aren't happy with the increase. **Action:** Cllr Knight will report back once a response is received from WBC.

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs Benneyworth, Small, Hudson and District Councillor James Podger
2. **Declaration of Interests:** Cllr Bumbieris – St Lawrence Church, Cllr Farrell – The Croft Field
3. **Agree minutes of Full Council held on Monday 3rd July 2017** – Cllr Brookman proposed minutes as a true record, seconded by Cllr Bumbieris, 3 abstentions (Cllrs Colloff, Crane and Winsor), rest in favour.
4. **Finance – Cllr Bumbieris**
 - a) **Propose authorisation of cheque run payments (circulated) for last month** – Cllr Bumbieris proposed acceptance of the Cheque Run of £17,195.99 inclusive of VAT, seconded by Cllr Brookman, all in favour.
 - b) **Propose Year to date accounts – refer to circulated Income/Expenditure Report** – F&GP is £2k under for the month due to salary phasing. R&A income is up from the Croft Field and St Saviours. R&A expenditure is also up as the Triangle Field cheque wasn't budgeted for this month. Crowd-Funding money has not gone in yet. Cllr Bumbieris proposed agreement of the year to date accounts, seconded by Cllr Crane, all in favour.
 - c) **Consider tenders for cleaning/maintenance of Church St Public Toilets and propose acceptance of selected contractor** - The Clerk read out the quotations received from the Tender Invitation. The quotes are per annum but the agreement is for 3 years with a 1 year review. AJ Sly (existing contractor) £12k, Healthmatic £9K, Knight Cleaning £15,628 and Evergreen £25K. The existing contractor is very good and local. Healthmatic have 3 staff and look after Newbury, Pangbourne and Marlborough TCs. After much consideration Cllr Colloff proposed proceeding with Healthmatic at £9k a year subject to clarification on provision of consumables, seconded by Cllr Brookman, 2 abstentions (Cllr Finlay and Cllr Crane?) rest in favour.
 - d) **Ratify total payments of grants donated by Hungerford Town Council (spreadsheet attached)** – Cllr Bumbieris proposed ratification of the total amount of grants donated by HTC of £15,803.20, seconded by Cllr Chicken, all in favour.
 - e) **Agree process for further late grant applications received** – Applications are requested by April each year however it was agreed it is fair to review late applications when they come in on a first come first served basis. Two applications have recently been received. The Clerk advised S.8(1)(i) of the LGA 1894 act provides that a parish council has no powers in relation to property relating to the affairs of the

church or held for an ecclesiastical charity. Having checked with NALC they have confirmed that the General power of competence cannot be used to override the restriction contained in s.8 of the 1894 Act. They have confirmed HTC is not permitted to make a grant to the church for structural work. **Action:** Clerk to advise St Lawrence Church.

The second grant application is from Hungerford Town Juniors who are looking to purchase 4 sets of goals at £600 a goal. Cllr Knight proposed a £600 grant with a strong recommendation that they apply via the Good Exchange to obtain matched funding, seconded by Cllr Chicken, all in favour. **Action:** Office to advise HTJ and arrange payment.

f) Consider quotations for wet pour at Bulpit Play Park – The Clerk confirmed the 3 quotations obtained of which Playground Services are the cheapest and are local. Cllr Crane proposed accepting Playground Services' quote of £1520 and also instructing them to carry out other edge repairs whilst on site as they suggest for a further £639, using funds earmarked for general maintenance equipment seconded by Cllr Brookman, all in favour. **Action:** Office to instruct Contractors.

g) Ratify proposal to instruct contractor to proceed with works to Croft Field as agreed at F&GP.

Consider payment terms and agree start and finish dates of project – Cllr Farrell agreed payment terms can be flexible. Cllr Bumbieris advised £12,200 is coming from reserves and a grant application has been made to Tesco which will be successful for £ 1 K, £2K or £4K. The start date will be in Sept 2017 and the finish date will be 3 weeks later. Cllr Crane proposed ratification of instruction of contractor as detailed at F&GP, the project cost being £23,400, seconded by Cllr Simpson, 1 abstention (Cllr Farrell) rest in favour.

5. Salisbury Road Site 16/03061/OUTMAJ and DPD: Legal Challenge Update and clarification of fees and funding to date.

Due to the members of public present this item was taken after item 3. Cllr Knight advised we are still awaiting a decision from the High Court Judge on whether we can proceed with the JR. It is a complicated process and the judges are taking their time which may be partly due to holiday season.

There is nothing we can do to stop the other parties becoming involved. The Dept. of State has cited reasons and last week 2 developers Cala Homes and Wates have joined so including WBC there are 4 parties against HTC.

Cllr Colloff queried whether the 100 houses are to be on 5.1 Hectares or 7.1 hectares. WBC has said the extra land is for recreational reasons. Cllr Farrell advised we have not yet seen the criteria for 7.1 hectares. Cllr Colloff advised the applicant has paid the fee for 7.1 hectares. Cold Ash PC met with HTC and mentioned they had similar problems with increases in hectares for planning applications in their area. They were told it was down to human error in all three cases. WBC would like HTC to pay £2700 in costs. HTC do have a protected cost order in place. **Action:** Cllr Farrell will call another meeting once we hear the outcome from the judge.

Cllr Finlay advised we are close to £7k in fundraising but we do not wish to generate advertising costs. Cllr Colloff pledged £500. It was agreed documents regarding the JR should be published on our website. **Action:** Office. The public and press left.

Meeting closed at 8.00pm