

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the
Recreation and Amenities Committee
held on Monday 18th June 2018 at 6.30pm
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thattham

Present: Councillor Steve Ardagh-Walter (Chairman)
 Councillors Dominic Boeck, Dan Carter, Jason Collis, Julie Goode, Jeff Brooks, Sheila Ellison, Ellen Crumly (substituting for John Chelliah), Richard Crumly (substituting for Rob Denton-Powell)

In attendance: Naomi Mildenhall (Services Manager)
 Paul Hendry (Countryside Manager, West Berkshire Council)
 1 member of the press (Newbury Weekly News)

RA/2018/49 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rob Denton-Powell, John Chelliah and Lee Dillon (Councillors Ellen Crumly and Richard Crumly appointed as substitutes).

RA/2018/50 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Ardagh-Walter declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item number 13 (RA/2018/54) as Chairman of Henwick Worthy Joint Management Committee).

Councillor Ellison declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item number 5 (RA/2018/53) as a member of the Greenham & Crookham Common Commission and item number 13 (RA/2018/54) as a West Berkshire Council representative on Henwick Worthy Joint Management Committee.

Councillor Boeck declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item number 5 (RA/2018/53) as West Berkshire Council appointee to the Greenham and Crookham Common Commission.

Councillor Carter declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item number 11 (RA/2018/60) as the funding applicant.

RA/2018/51 MINUTES

RESOLVED

that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2018, having been previously circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

RA/2018/52 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

(a) There was no Clerk's Report.

(b) Councillor R Crumly requested that item RA/2018/40 Solar Panels be brought forward to the earliest possible meeting for further consideration.

RA/2018/53 GREENHAM & CROOKHAM COMMON COMMISSION

Committee considered a request from Greenham & Crookham Commons Commission for an annual contribution of £500 for a period of 3 years.

RESOLVED

to suspend Standing Orders to allow Mr Hendry to address the Committee.

Mr Hendry introduced the history of the Greenham and Crookham Commons Commission and the structure, including the admin support that West Berkshire Council currently gave and his role as West Berkshire Council representative and advisor to the Commission. Funding of the Commission was asked voluntarily of the 10 appointed bodies. Money raised would go towards admin support and wider projects.

RESOLVED

to reinstate Standing Orders.

RESOLVED

to grant Greenham and Crookham Common Commission £500 for the year 2018/19 and agree in principle to an annual grant of £500 for two further years, subject to annual review.

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RESOLVED to bring forward agenda item number 13 to allow Mr Hendry to address the Committee.

RA/2018/54 HENWICK WORTHY JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

a) Committee received the draft Minutes of the Henwick Worthy JMC meeting held on 12th June 2018

RESOLVED to note the draft Minutes.

b) Committee considered a report from the Town Clerk regarding concerns over the management arrangements relating to Henwick Worthy Sports Ground.

RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow Mr Hendry, West Berkshire Council Countryside Manager, to address the Committee.

Mr Hendry gave an overview of the current arrangement of the Henwick Joint Management Committee, this included details of the Grounds Maintenance arrangement and Caretakers Cottage and explained that the surrender of part of the lease had been requested due to the new Grounds Maintenance Contract.

RESOLVED to re instate Standing Orders

RESOLVED to set up a Working Party consisting of 4 Members (Councillors Collis, Crumly, Cole and Lister) to look at the current Joint Management arrangements and consider West Berkshire Council's request to relinquish part of the lease.

c) Committee considered a request from West Berkshire Council to surrender the Lease for the Caretakers premises at Henwick Worthy Sports Ground this item was deferred from the last meeting of this Committee (RA/2018/44).

RESOLVED to defer a decision to a future meeting of this Committee following review by the Working Party as set out above.

Mr Hendry left the meeting

RA/2018/55 REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE

Committee received revised Terms of Reference for the Recreation and Amenities Committee, as approved at Full Council on 21st May 2018:

- To exercise all functions of the Council in respect of open spaces, recreation grounds, play areas, village greens, shelters, allotments, public rights of way, burial ground and the parish churchyard, public conveniences, footway lighting, street furniture, environmental services, town market and public property in the ownership or control of the Council.
- To oversee the management of properties owned by Thatcham Town Council and leased or licenced to external organisations.
- To purchase/lease and maintain such vehicles and equipment as may be required to carry out the Council's duties in connection with the facilities under the control of the Committee.
- To monitor all matters relating to leases and bye-laws in connection with the facilities under the control of the Committee.
- To have joint management functions in respect of Henwick Worthy Sports Ground and joint advisory functions in respect of Kennet Leisure Centre.
- To consider matters relating to the acquisition of land or buildings for recreational, burial or related purposes and make recommendations to Full Council.
- To engage with West Berkshire Council to ensure s106 Developers' Contributions and Community Infrastructure Levy funds for Thatcham are allocated to meet the needs of the town.

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RA/2018/55 REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE Continued.

- To consider matters relating to environmental protection and enhancement.
- To work with town centre businesses and other agencies to enhance and promote Thatcham town centre.

RESOLVED to note the revised Terms of Reference.

RA/2018/56 WORKING PARTY TERMS OF REFERENCE AND APPOINTMENTS 2018/19

Committee considered the Terms of Reference and appointment of Members to serve on Working Parties reporting to this Committee for the municipal year 2018/19.

RESOLVED to agree the Terms of Reference and appointment of Members to serve on the Working Parties as detailed in appendix i to these Minutes.

RA/2018/57 HERITAGE WORKING PARTY

a) Committee considered the Minutes of the Heritage Working Party meeting held on 13th June 2018.

RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes.

b) Committee considered adoption of the following draft documents from the Heritage Working Party regarding the commemorative plaque scheme:

1. Project Outline
2. Submission Pack
3. Maintenance Schedule

RESOLVED to adopt the documents as submitted by the Working Party.

RA/2018/58 SIEGECROSS PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

Committee considered a request for a Wayleaves agreement with Southern Electric Power Distribution to grant permission to install cables associated with the creation of a new cycleway through Seigecross public open space, part relocated from its current position due to the flood alleviation works.

RESOLVED to agree the Wayleaves agreement.

RA/2018/59 THE PRIORY – DAMAGED BOUNDARY WALL

Committee received a report from the Town Clerk regarding damage to The Priory boundary wall, adjacent to The Hub.

RESOLVED to defer a decision to a future meeting of this Committee, when in receipt of the Loss Adjuster's report, whilst concurrently obtaining additional quotes for consideration.

RA/2018/60 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING APPLICATION

Committee received an application from Councillor Dan Carter for funding from the Community Project Fund to purchase community litter picking equipment.

RESOLVED to grant £300 to Thatcham Youth to buy community litter picking equipment for use at monthly litter picking events in Thatcham.

RA/2018/61 INCIDENTS

Committee received a report on incidents of vandalism and anti-social behaviour logged by the Town Council during the month of May 2018.

RESOLVED to note the report and request that a policy detailing procedures in the event of an unauthorised encampment on Thatcham Town Council land be presented to a future meeting of this committee.

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RA/2018/62 BUDGET / EXPENDITURE COSTS

- a) Committee received details of payments due since 1st May 2018 amounting to £76,346.42 from the current account and £953.20 from the Clerks Account (appendix ii to these Minutes).

RESOLVED to approve the list of payments.

- b) Committee received details income and expenditure costs against this Committee's budget for the period to May 2018 (appendix iii to these Minutes).

RESOLVED to note the information.

RA/2018/63 REPORTS BY TOWN COUNCIL APPOINTEES

Members noted the following verbal reports from Town Council appointees:

- **Thattham Dementia Friendly Community Forum**
Councillor Ellison reported that the group had a stand at the Friday Market to help raise awareness and it had proved successful.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____