



Petworth Town Council

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TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

A MEETING OF THE PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL TOOK PLACE ON THURSDAY
20th SEPTEMBER AT 7.30PM IN THE PETWORTH LIBRARY, HIGH STREET,
PETWORTH

MINUTES

Present: Cllr Chris Kemp (Chairman)
Cllr Simon Atkins
Cllr David Burden
Cllr Alan Copus
Cllr Neville Fox
Cllr Juliet Fynes
Cllr Roger Hanauer
Cllr Michael Peet
Cllr Jim Scallon
Cllr Liz Singleton
Cllr Carry Smith
Cllr Jennifer. Thorpe
Louise Steele – Locum Clerk

Nine members of the public, County Councillor J. Duncton, District Councillor E. Lintill, Nicola Jones, Samantha Moore & John Riddell (Petworth Vision) and Jenny Moulard (press) were in attendance.

103/18 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman –

- Welcomed everyone to Petworth Library.
- Reported that on Friday 14th September he had attended the South & South East 'In Bloom' reception and that the Community Gardens had won an award which he accepted on its behalf. Petworth Town had been awarded a Silver Gilt award. The Chairman wished to convey his grateful thanks to everyone involved.
- (This last announcement was made at the end of the meeting) the Chairman distributed a flyer detailing the events for Remembrance in November 2018.

104/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R. Evans, Cllr Rosa Pawsey, Cllr T. Rogers

105/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Fynes on item 6, the presentation from the Vision group.

106/18 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2018 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Hanauer, unanimously approved.

107/18 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

108/18 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Adjournment of the meeting for public questions.

There were no general questions from the public and the meeting moved on to receive a presentation from the Vision Group.

John Riddell and Nicola Jones spoke to a number of slides, copies of which are attached to the record minutes. The Chairman then invited questions from Councillors. The questions focused on the funding of Petworth Vision, its scope and how it might work with the Town Council. In response Nicola Jones clarified that Chichester District Council had funded some surveys but had not directly funded the Vision Group; that the vision is for a wider area than the town centre and that it will create a vibrant economy by improving skill sets particularly in young people.

The Chairman thanked Petworth Vision for its presentation and asked that the Vision should bring forward projects for the Town Council to support. Cllr Peet indicated that there were two such projects currently. Limits on HGVs and related signage and a crossing from the Sylvia Beaufoy car park to the sports ground.

The meeting re-convened with four members of the public remaining plus the District and County Councillors and the press.

109/18 REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

District Councillor E. Lintill

D Cllr Lintill referred to the social prescribing project that she had described previously, explaining that the staff had been recruited and were already working effectively – she gave examples of two successful interventions.

The fly tipping campaign has been so successful that it has been nominated for two Chartered Institute of Public Relations awards.

CDC is developing a paper looking at what will happen if the Government does not reach a deal on Brexit.

Universal Credit was rolled out to new claimants from July and is causing some problems.

D Cllr Lintill added that CDC is looking at the Old Bakery as one of its assets that requires some work and she has been asked to head up a task and finish group and it is likely that she will look to the Town Council for a representative to sit on that group.

Cllr Hanauer asked at what point the Cabinet at CDC had made a decision about Velo South and D Cllr Lintill responded that this was not a CDC responsibility.

The Chairman stated his view that the litter initiative was falling short in Petworth and that the backlines were still not cleared. D Cllr Lintill explained that there was a whole District to cover and Cllr Hanauer observed that CDC had been very co-operative in helping clean the town for “In Bloom” judging.

County Councillor J. Duncton

Schools – Cty Cllr Duncton referred to August’s exam results across the County and reported that these have improved and continue the upwards trend.

There will be changes for larger vehicles at recycling centres – anyone planning to take a vehicle larger than a car was advised to visit the WSCC website to check the new charges. It is budget time – WSCC has saved £155m over the last three to four years and now needs to find £166m over the next few years. As an example of a potential saving Cty Cllr Duncton referred to a proposal at Worthing where it suggested that the Registrar, the Police and the Family Centre should all come under the same roof as the Library.

Fire & Rescue is going well but also needs to save money and may perhaps look at buying smaller tenders.

Cty Cllr Duncton advised people to check out the West Sussex Crowd website as a crowd funding platform for projects in West Sussex.

Finally, Cty Cllr Duncton talked about the County's very active Youth Council and that she had attended a recent debate about whether the voting age should be lowered to 16.

Cllr Hanauer repeated his question asking at what point the Cabinet at WSCC had made a decision about Velo South and Cty Cllr Duncton indicated that she was not aware that the Cabinet had made any decision about the matter. Further that as the community's representative she would be asking questions about the decision-making process – though she observed that there were as many supporters for the event as there were detractors.

110/18

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meetings held on 17th July and 21st August 2018 (as amended by the meeting held on 18th September 2018) were adopted.

Proposed Cllr Copus, seconded Cllr Peet, unanimously approved.

The F&GP Committee had considered four grant applications and had one recommendation to make to Full Council that £250 be granted to purchase a rope as part of the St Marys Church Bell rope appeal. Two applications, from Victim Support and 4Sight had been declined because they were for support towards running costs and three Councillors had visited the Sylvia Beaufoy Youth Centre and had explained that the Town Council would not contribute towards running costs but discussed items that the TC might fund.

Upon the proposal of Cllr Fox, seconded by Cllr Hanauer a grant of £250 to St Mary's Church was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Copus reported that the Finance Committee had decided to spend £1,013 on traffic signage and that expenditure against budget overall was on track as at the end of August 2018.

111/18

TO RECEIVE THE REPORT FROM THE INTERNAL AUDITOR

Cllr Copus presented the report from the Internal Auditor for the financial year ending 31 March 2018. This had been reviewed and accepted by F&GP committee at the August meeting. It contained 17 recommendation and the F&GP Committee had considered each of them, some had already been actioned and F&GP Committee was continuing to monitor the situation. Cllr Fynes commented that she did not agree with the statements supporting recommendations 14 to 16. The Clerk was asked to note this.

The report was received.

112/18

HIGHWAYS, TRAFFIC AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meetings held on 12th July and 15th August 2018 were adopted.

Proposed Cllr Scallon, seconded Cllr Copus all in favour.

At the meeting held on 12th September there had been insufficient time to consider the application SDNP/15/01862/FUL (Erect 34 dwellings, access and parking. Land at Rotherlea Dawtrey Road Petworth West Sussex GU28 0EA) properly and so the application was deferred to a working group meeting held on Monday 17th September 2018. The recommendation of that working group had been circulated to all Councillors and is attached to these minutes. The Chairman thanked Cllr Atkins for his work in pulling the recommendation together.

Upon the proposal of Cllr Hanauer, seconded by Cllr Peet it was unanimously agreed to object to the planning application on the grounds that the proposals, in their current form, are in conflict with the intentions of the Petworth Neighbourhood Plan (the detail is set out in the working group's recommendation).

The Chairman indicated that he would forward the objection to Chichester District Council on 21st September 2018.

113/18 OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th August 2018 were adopted.
Proposed Cllr Hanauer, seconded Cllr Peet all in favour.

Cllr Hanauer reported on the working party held to clear the allotments.

Upon the proposal of Cllr Kemp, seconded by Cllr Scallon, a recommendation to support "Petworth In Bloom" for 2019/20 was unanimously approved. The Chairman noted that the continued recruitment and support of volunteers is necessary to make it sustainable.

114/18 TO RECEIVE UP DATES FROM WORKING PARTIES AND GROUPS

(a) Petworth Business Association

Cllr Kemp reported that the AGM will be held on 18 October 2018; that the Christmas town maps have gone for printing and will be ready for distribution in October – it also contains lists of seasonal events. At the AGM a proposal to extent the boundaries of the Business Association will be discussed.

(b) Traffic, bus and highways

Cllr Scallon reported that 4 of the traffic calming initiatives are in progress:

- Car park signs are ready for the Highways authority to approve.
- HGV signage are with a signage contractor for design
- Proposed crossing from the Sylvia Beaufoy car park to the sports ground is with Highways to assess whether it meets their criteria.
- North Street – which is the difficult one. Having received six representation from residents of North Street they will look at that street in September and Angel Street in October and consider the traffic calming options for both streets together. A consultation with the residents of North Street is proposed with a meeting on Thursday 27th September 2018.

115/18 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON EXTERNAL MEETINGS FROM COUNCILLORS

Cllr Peet reported that he had attended two meetings as the Council's Sports Club representative and plans for the enhancement of the site and facilities - an appointment of a consultant to develop a master plan is planned subject to raising the funds to pay the fee.

Meeting Closed 9:07pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____