



Petworth Town Council

Melanie Kite
Clerk to Town Council
clerk@petworth-tc.gov.uk

The Old Bakery, Golden Square,
Petworth, West Sussex,
GU28 0AP
T: 01798 344883

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

A MEETING OF THE PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL TOOK PLACE ON THURSDAY
22nd November AT 7.30PM IN THE PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE, THE OLD
BAKERY, GOLDEN SQUARE, PETWORTH

MINUTES

Present: Cllr R. Hanauer (Acting Chairman)
Cllr Simon Atkins
Cllr David Burden
Cllr Alan Copus
Cllr R. Evans
Cllr Neville Fox
Cllr Juliet Fynes
Cllr M. Peet
Cllr Tony Rogers
Cllr Jim Scallon
Cllr E. Singleton
Cllr Carry Smith
Cllr J. Thorpe
Melanie Kite, Clerk

County Councillor J. Duncton and District Councillor E. Lintill and 2 members
of the public were in attendance.

- 137/18 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
The Chairman requested that mobile phones should be turned off, and advised that the meeting would be recorded for the purposes of the minutes. He pointed out the fire escape route.
- 138/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Cllr C. Kemp, Cllr R. Pawsey
- 139/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
The clerk declared an interest in having submitted an expense claim form.
- 140/18 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**
The Minutes of the meeting held on 25th October were approved as a correct record.

Cllr N. Fox mentioned that he had not received a copy of the Agenda or Minutes. The Clerk extended her apologies and said that she had been away on holiday so the documents were sent out by the chairman.

Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Scallon, twelve councillors agreed.
Cllr Fox abstained having not received a copy.

The Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 7th November were approved as an accurate record.

Proposed Cllr Hanauer, seconded Cllr Copus, twelve councillors in favour. Cllr Fox abstained having not received a copy.

141/18

MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Hanauer thanked all those involved in the Remembrance Day celebrations and WW1 party in the evening for their efforts in making it a such a success.

He reiterated the Council's utter disappointment over the SDNP planning committee's decision to approve the Rotherlea housing development application. Steps have now been taken to Call In the application with the Secretary of State.

The Leconfield Estate have raised no objection to the Petworth Community Gardens being allowed to sell its produce.

There is a litter pick on Saturday 22nd December at 2pm. Volunteers please.

The date for the next Council meeting was discussed to enable council to approve the final draft Budget 2019/20. With no December meeting planned it was agreed to bring the January Council meeting forward to the January 3rd 2019.

142/18

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Adjournment of the meeting for public questions.

Dr. Jane Page offered an observation from friends. They had mentioned that, despite having been coming to Petworth for many years, they were unaware that there was a traffic route around the town. Cllr Scallon replied that better and clearer signage is being discussed in conjunction with a traffic consultant.

Mr. D. Simpson raised his concerns on road safety issues on Grove Street, from Haslingbourne Lane to the British Legion Club. He emphasised that the traffic problems are getting steadily worse, not helped by the narrowness of the road, cars parking on the side of the road and the amount of through traffic.

Cllr Scallon replied that this area of Petworth had not been discussed within the traffic working plan but that it will be put on for future discussion.

The over grown hedges will be looked into next week as part of the work to be carried out by the signage company.

Mrs Janet Duncton asked if the council would consider giving annual financial assistance to the Sylvia Beaufoy Youth Centre and the Petworth Community Gardens, through the Precept. Adding that she thought these were extremely worthwhile organisations and integral in supporting and helping the Petworth community. She mentioned that that other parishes support various community organisations through their annual budget.

Cllr Hanauer responded that in his opinion he felt that this would set a precedent and that any organisation or charity could apply for a grant.

Cllr Fynes informed the Members that in past years the Town Council had given the Sylvia Beaufoy Youth Centre £1,000 per year from the grant. Furthermore, it had recently applied for a grant but had been turned down due to it being for general running costs and not a capital project. She felt that there was a good case for giving regular financial assistance to both organisations.

It was agreed to consider the request in the next Finance meeting.

Meeting reconvened

143/18

REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

District Councillor E. Lintill

CDC are changing annual car parking discs to digital ones. This will enable people to renew online and that the disc will be registered to the person and not the car.

CDC has put in an order for electrical charging points and is discussing where these will be installed. She hoped, and expected that Petworth would be first on the list to have one.

'Let's Talk' panel is now available. People will be encouraged to sign up which will allow them to voice their opinion on such matters that concern them and also on issues that the district council is seeking opinions on.

Training workshops will continue next year across the region.

The Gatwick consultation Master Plan on its sustainable growth for the future, is now in its first week of a 12 week consultation period. She encouraged everyone to read it.

County Councillor J. Dunton

HM Inspectorate is doing an inspection on the Fire and Rescue Service across the district at present. The report will be available at a later date.

Discussions on the Budget 2019/20 is in progress.

County Cllr Dunton reported that she had been to a number of towns and villages to see what community work is being done. 'Death Cafes' are popping up as a place where people can go and chat about issues around death.

Crowd Funding has been very successful and a lot of money has been raised for specific projects. This will be reviewed next financial year.

County Cllr Dunton and District Cllr Lintill leave the meeting at 8:11pm.

144/18.

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE.

Cllr Copus asked for the Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd October 2018 to be accepted. Proposed Cllr Copus, seconded Cllr Scallon, all agreed.

The accounts are in good order and all on track for the period to end November. Cllr Copus asked for 2 further invoices to be approved which had been presented since the Finance meeting. One for the Clerk at for TENs licences for the Christmas Event, total cost £126.00 and one for Steeples for road closure signs at £48.00. Proposed Cllr Copus, seconded Cllr Hanauer, all agreed.

The 3rd draft Budget will be discussed at a separate meeting next week. The final Budget will be brought to the January Council meeting for approval.

145/18

HIGHWAYS, TRAFFIC AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

There was nothing contentious to report from the meeting.

Cllr Rogers asked for the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2018 to be accepted. Proposed Cllr Rogers, seconded Cllr

146/18

OPEN SPACES

Report from Cllr Hanauer who updated the Members on such issues as the youth shelter which is to be erected at Hampers Common. Costs range from £10,000 - £11,000; this will be budgeted for in next year's budget and it is likely to be funded by way of a loan. Cllr Fox wondered if this would satisfy the residents and stop the problem. Cllr Hanauer replied that the OS committee had discussed various options and that is hoped that it might help.

Cllr Hanauer asked for the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2018 to be approved. Proposed Cllr Hanauer, seconded Cllr Copus, all agreed.

147/18. TO RECEIVE UPDATES FROM WORKING PARTIES AND GROUPS

a) Petworth Business Association

In the absence of Cllr Kemp, Cllr Singleton was asked for any comment. She had not attended the last meeting but understood that it had been well attended. Most of the retailers are getting their shop windows ready for the Christmas Event.

b) Traffic, Bus and Highways

Cllr Scallon reported that discussions on the new signage was going well with a final meeting with the contractor on Tuesday 27th. One area requires further consideration, the junction at the Well diggers. There are constraints on the type of signs which can be used here as there is no 7½ton weight limit restriction on Angel Street.

Chichester District Council have agreed to finance the new signs for the car park.

The pedestrian crossing over the A272 to the sports ground had been approved. The next stage is for it to go to design and consultation which would be next year.

Having consulted with the residents of North Street and Angel Street the options available for traffic calming will be put back to them for review. Following this the viable options will be put forward to council.

c) Leconfield Hall

Cllr Fynes thanked and complimented Cllr Peet on all the work he has done for the hall.

The waste bins are now back inside the hall.

A grant application had been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund for phase 1 which had been rejected on the basis that it lacked a robust enough business plan. They wanted to see stronger evidence of how future maintenance and the upkeep of the hall would be sustained. Discussions will resume with the consultants and it is likely that the plan application will be more modest and achievable before re-submitting it.

The Petworth Business Association generously granted the Hall £400 again this year.

General decorating and maintenance will be required in the meantime.

d) Petworth Sports

Cllr Thorpe reported that the extension on the Lease was ready and would be signed in January 2019. This will help in long term funding.

An architect has been engaged to work with the sports club on future developments in how to maximise the area for all sports.

Cllr Peet said that it was highly commendable how the football and cricket clubs have been revived and how successful they have been. The sports club is now a very good asset for the town.

During the meeting Cllr Kemp sent a message to say that Petworth Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan had been awarded the South East Award for Planning Excellence.

Parking for the Christmas Light Switch On was brought up by Cllr Fynes. She asked if there may be a possibility of allowing visitors to use the hard standing at Herbert Shiner. Also, how some of the car parking wardens are extremely aggressive when the event is on. It was noted that in other districts when events are on, the attendants are more charitable. It was decided that as there are no town stewards available to direct cars to the school and then up to the town it would not be possible for this year's event.

Meeting Closed 9:20pm.

Signed: _____
Chairman

Dated: _____