

## PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2014 IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr K Lintill (Chairman) Cllr D Burden, Cllr R Chandler,  
Cllr A Copus, Cllr N Fox, Cllr J Fynes, Cllr C Goldthorp,  
Cllr C Kemp, Cllr J Robbins, Cllr A Simmons, Cllr A Sneller  
and Cllr B Walsh.

Cllr J Duncton (County and District Councillor).

CLERK: Mrs J Huggett.

1. Apologies were received from Cllr J Shepherd, Cllr R Pawsey, Cllr E Hodgkins and Cllr E Lintill (District Councillor).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Website: Cllr Pawsey had sent him an e-mail regarding a Privacy Policy which she wanted discussed at to-night's meeting. However, neither he, the Clerk, nor the Assistant Clerk could open it so there is no further update on the website.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday 16th January, having been circulated, it was proposed by Cllr Chandler, seconded by Cllr Robbins, that they be passed and signed.

5. POLICE/PCSO REPORTS

In PCSO Luxford's absence there was no report.

6. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Website: Covered under Item 3.

(b) Horsham Road Chapel: Cllr Sneller said meetings are ongoing, they are looking into the history of the chapel and contacting various people.

(c) War Memorial: Cllr Walsh said he has now received three quotes, all working from identical instructions. They are Cathedral Works, £2,063; Mr Guy Goodens £3,923; Mr Alan Sargent £4,600, all plus VAT. He will now be applying for a grant. Cllr Kemp asked if this included the wall, the Clerk said no as this is owned by the District Council. Cllr Kemp suggested that there might be some mileage in obtaining a quote for the wall and including it in the grant request. Cllr Walsh stated that Mr Sargent had suggested that repairing the wall was a major undertaking and would cost in the region of £30,000. Cllr Fox said he didn't agree in taking money fraudulently.

It was agreed that Cllr Walsh go ahead with the quote from Cathedral Works. The Clerk will arrange a meeting with Mr Riley from CDC to discuss the wall.

## 7. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

### (a) **District Council**

In Cllr E Lintill's absence the Chairman read her report.

Gypsy and Traveller Site: The Home and Community Association has given a grant to the proposed Gypsy and Traveller Transit site which will reduce the cost to the authorities. The project is at planning stage and has been submitted to planners for consideration.

Local Plan: The SDNPA held a liaison meeting with CDC to discuss its work on their local plan. Their Management Plan has now been published and will form the basis for the local plan. There will be an options document on its website which all parishes should be aware of and I would encourage councillors to comment on it. The SDNP has an electronic newsletter on its website which gives full details of where it is with the local plan and describes the way the community can become involved. Councillors can subscribe to the newsletter which will then be automatically sent to their e-mail address.

The Grange: The (new) Grange will open its doors on 3rd March. The formal opening will be later in the year when the remaining bits are completed. The library will open on 31st March.

Petworth Vision Group: The Petworth Vision group will be holding two public meetings next week in the Leconfield Hall on Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th March to convey the findings of the surveys that were carried out. Groups will be formed to move the priorities forward.

### (b) **County Council**

Cllr Duncton reported on the following.

Gypsy and Traveller Site: Referring to Cllr E Lintill's report she said £650,000 has been given towards the transit site by the Home and Community Association and other local councils.

Budget: There will be no increase in the Council Tax.

Gatwick Airport: There will meeting on Monday to look at a vision for the future of Gatwick Airport.

Oil Exploration: This is still ongoing and is taking up a great deal of her time.

Broadband: This moving forward.

Operation Watershed: The second tranche of money is now available.

## 8. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

There were no members of the public present.

## 9. NAT WEST BANK INTERNET BANKING

The Chairman said as neither the Clerk nor Assistant Clerk are signatories Nat West will not allow them to access Internet banking. The Clerk has contacted SALC who have said that they can be set up as signatories, but as Account Managers as far as the council is concerned. This has to be an agenda item and minuted. It was proposed by Cllr Walsh, seconded by Cllr Goldthorp, that the Clerk and Assistant Clerk be added as signatories to the account, but as Account Managers only. On a vote this was carried unanimously.

## 10. REPORTS

### (a) **Traffic and Planning Committee**

Cllr Fox said a meeting had been held on 29th January, the minutes have been circulated, and he updated councillors.

Planning Applications: The committee had objected to the development next to Rotherlea, this has now been withdrawn. The Coop's application for Richard Gardner Antiques had also been discussed. It was agreed further information was required concerning the deliveries before a decision could be reached and a meeting was arranged for 6th February. He had subsequently spoken to Mr Mews, the Case Officer, and the Assistant Clerk had approached the Agent to see if a representative from the Coop could attend the meeting. Unfortunately no one was in attendance from the Coop but the Agent, Mr Funnell, had come, answered questions and said he would take back all the concerns raised at the meeting. An objection had been lodged.

Cllr Goldthorp proposed and Cllr Simmons seconded that the minutes of the 29th January be passed. This was carried unanimously. Cllr Fox said there is an amendment to the minutes of 6th February so he will not be putting them forward for agreement.

### (b) **Petworth Pages**

Cllr Fynes said the deadline for the April magazine is at the end of this month. There are new advertisements coming in, but no full or half page ones this time, however this should cover the cost of the printing.

### (c) **Petworth Business Association**

Cllr Kemp reported on the following.

New aims were circulated at the Networking evening and will be discussed at the next Networking evening with the new marketing plan and the first glimpse of the Discover Petworth website, then an EGM will be held to alter the constitution.

Farmers' Markets: Now that the markets are to become monthly, from April, the Business Association has put forward a suggestion that the market should run up High Street from Hennings, leaving Damers Bridge and Golden Square free for collections and deliveries, and on the eastern side of Market Square, leaving traffic to run through the Square. Not all Councillors thought this to be a good idea, with traffic going through the square, and backing out of any parking bays left it was considered dangerous to pedestrians. There would also be a large number crossing New Street between the markets which would need monitoring and possible stewarding. A long discussion took place on the pros and cons of keeping the market where it is and extending into Damers Bridge, also the alternative of siting some stalls in the car park which was not thought to be a good scheme. Finally the Chairman suggested that the market should continue in High Street, Golden Square and Damers Bridge, until such time as the market outgrows this area when the Council will re-visit the situation, this was agreed by the Council. The Clerk was asked to write to Alison Stevens, Environmental Manager, CDC, along these lines.

### (d) **Neighbourhood Planning**

In Cllr Hodgkins absence the Chairman asked if there was a report. Cllr Walsh said the group is meeting on the 17th to look at a possible consultant. £6,300 has been received from Locality, 90% on account and a further 10% to come at the end of the year. The SDNPA has indicated there will be £7,000 available. The money from this and from the council this will total £17,000, but he estimated the finance needed could be in the region of £25,000/30,000.

### (e) **Clerk**

The Clerk had nothing to report.

11. TO CONSIDER OTHER ITEMS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

Bus Shelter: Cllr Kemp asked for an update on the damaged bus shelter replacement. The Clerk said the Assistant Clerk now has three estimates and these have been sent to the insurance company.

WW1: Cllr Kemp asked if there is any further information on commemorating WW1. Cllr Fynes said it is proposed to hold a Civic Service in St Mary's on Sunday 3rd August. There will also be an exhibition there of WW1 memorabilia, photos, etc.

Skateboard Ramp: Cllr Goldthorp asked if there is any development on a site for the skateboard ramp. The Chairman said that BT have turned down a request for it to be sited by the Telephone Exchange. This will go back to Open Spaces.

Finance: Cllr Walsh circulated copies of the accounts up to today's date.

Town Council Paintings: Cllr Simmons said she has concerns about the condition of the four Jeanne Courtauld paintings which are now being stored by the Leconfield Estate and thought that the council should look into having them moved to the office. When looked at previously three of them could be displayed here but although the fourth one was too large there was the possibility of having it shortened. This will be looked into.

HSBC Bank Garden: Cllr Robbins asked the Clerk if she had heard anything from the HSBC Bank about him continuing to maintain the garden. The Clerk said as requested she had written to the Manager at the Chichester branch in October asking him to forward the letter to the correct department but, despite having sent a second copy last month, had heard nothing. The Chairman said he will follow this up.

Trees in Rosemary Gardens: Cllr Robbins said he now has three estimates to get the trees cut down and will be putting these before the Open Spaces committee.

Highways: The Clerk was asked to report the following to Highways.

The light in Mant Road at the top of the path to Rosemary Gardens is not working.

Pot holes at the entrance to the car park.

Blocked gully and broken rail in North Street.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.