

**Minutes of the Property and Amenities Committee Meeting held at
Corsham Town Hall on Wednesday 15 November 2017**

Present Councillor S Abbott (Chairman)
Councillors Ms L Bray, D Jones, N Pocock, R Taylor

In Attendance Councillor Mrs R Hopkinson (Council Chairman)
D Martin (Chief Executive)
S Scott (Head of Technical Services)

P&A 41/17 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Miss T Alberga, P Anstey, N Farmer, C Fuller and Mrs A White.

P&A 42/17 Public Question Time and Petitions

Two members of the public spoke in support of Item 6. They explained that there were problems with congestion on Park Lane caused by people parking to use both the office buildings at the east end of the road and the Roman Catholic Church Hall. The pinch point caused was starting to affect the speed of the traffic and driver behaviours making the road dangerous. It was also restricting access for emergency vehicles and causing parking issues in nearby side roads and that matters would only get worse as the new developments are occupied. They went on to say that parking restrictions would not be the answer but that providing off-road parking, widening the road, reducing the speed limit or limiting waiting times could be. They asked for Town Council support in addressing the concerns.

P&A 43/17 Declarations of Interest

To receive any Declaration(s) of Interest under Corsham Town Council's Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

There were none.

P&A 44/17 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Property and Amenities Committee meeting held on 6 September 2017

There were none.

P&A 45/17 Reports from representatives appointed to Outside Bodies.

There were no reports.

P&A 46/17 Community Area Transport Group Issue 5818 (*Minute P&A 8/17 and others*)

Following the comments from members of the public, the Head of Technical Services explained the position following the submission of Issue 5818 (Parking Restrictions Chestnut Grange, Park Lane and Purleigh Road) and the support it had gained by residents of Park Lane. He went on to provide feedback from the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) meeting on 10 November 2017 when the issue had been discussed. At that meeting the CATG agreed with residents that parking restrictions would not be a suitable solution. Furthermore, the CATG acknowledged that there was a problem and that any solution would need to be properly researched and engineered. This would be beyond the scope of CATG; therefore, provided that Corsham Town Council supported residents' views, the problem would be forwarded to the Highways Department for a full evaluation. The Town Council agreed to support the residents and CATG in pressing for a solution to the problem.

Resolved

- i) That the Head of Technical Services would inform the CATG that the Town Council supported the decision to press for a fully engineered solution to the traffic problems in Park Lane;
- ii) That the Head of Technical Services would contact those residents of Park Lane who had been in touch with him to inform them both of the decision of the CATG and that they had the support of the Town Council.

P&A 47/17 Public Realm Study (*Minute P&A 38/17 and others*)

The progress made with NEW Masterplanning in establishing the scope for each of the priority sites was noted. The priority sites were in and around Corsham High Street.

P&A 48/17 Car Parking Review

The contents of Wiltshire Council's Car Parking Review consultation questionnaire was noted and it was agreed that a response should be made on behalf of the Town Council, to include the following comments:

- i) That the Town Council did not object to the inflationary increases where necessary;
- ii) That the Town Council was against the introduction of Sunday and Bank Holiday charging;
- iii) That the Town Council did not have an opinion on free car parks;
- iv) That the Town Council did not object to free parking for events in November and December being withdrawn;

- v) That the proposed season ticket increases were excessive, counterproductive and that they should be inflationary increases only;
- vi) That the Town Council did not have an opinion about harmonising resident parking schemes as this does not affect Corsham;
- vii) That the Town Council did not object to the reduction of the period of grace to the legal minimum.

Resolved

That the views of the Town Council be represented to the relevant officer at Wiltshire Council.

P&A 49/17 Property and Amenities Draft Budget Proposals and Fees and Charges

The Committee considered a report by the Chief Executive on draft budget proposals and fees and charges for 2018/19. There were two additional recommendations:

- i) That the cost of Certified Copies of burial entries not be doubled for non-parishioners;
- ii) That a charge of £25 be introduced for the transfer of an Exclusive Right of Burial to anyone other than the next of kin.

The figures presented had been adjusted from current budgets and were based on Strategic Plan priorities.

Resolved

That the draft budget proposals, including the additions relating to the cemetery, be approved for consideration by the Finance and Administration Committee in December, in order that the precept can be set by Full Council in January 2018.

P&A 50/17 Strategic Plan Monitoring and Evaluation (*Minute P&A 39/17 and others*)

The updated Monitoring and Evaluation sheets were reviewed and noted.

P&A 51/17 Transport Monitoring (*Minute P&A 2740/17 and others*)

The Transport Monitoring Sheet for Corsham was reviewed and noted. Following the decision made at the previous meeting, the study of heavy vehicle traffic movement through the town centre would be extended to cover sites such as Potley Bridge, Elley Green and Gastard to develop a true picture of HGV movement in the parish. Volunteers were required to set up a small project group of Councillors to scope the study. Councillors S Abbott, N Pocock and R Taylor volunteered and it was agreed that all Councillors would be approached.

Resolved

That all Councillors be approached to form a project group to discuss the scope of the HGV study and to plan and implement the survey work.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and closed at 8.50pm. There were two members of the public present at the start of the meeting and none at the end.

CHAIRMAN

DATE