

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE
TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 15 MARCH 2018**

PRESENT: Mrs S CONBOY (Town Mayor)
Councillors: R TAPLIN (Deputy Mayor); G CAMPBELL; A HOOKER; D KING; P MALLEY; A McINNES; P MORGAN; Mrs M RADFORD; D UNDERWOOD; C VANE PERCY; G WILSON; Mrs S WILSON; Mrs S WORTHINGTON; J YOUNG

Town Clerk: Mrs M CRAMPTON
Mace Bearer: Not in attendance

1 member of the public was in attendance

18/036 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

ACTION

CLLR SPOWART: work commitment; CLLR MACLEOD; unwell

18/037 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

CLLR MALLEY: planning applications for 12 Pinfold Lane, 13 Fox Grove and 7 Peate Close as applicants known to him.

18/038 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 18 January 2018 were duly APPROVED and signed as a complete and accurate record.

18/039 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Mr Thackray addressed the Council on behalf of GMCiB. He was pleased GMCiB had been involved in the recent planting of Bluebells and Snowdrops on the Recreation Ground which he was sure would give great pleasure in the years ahead. Mr Thackray also confirmed that some of the recent Town Council grant to GMCiB would be spent on creating a new copse area by the sluice together with further planting of bulbs in the town. Mr Thackray also confirmed his support for the proposals to be put forward in the report by CLLRS CAMPBELL and G WILSON on the Ouse Valley and proposed river crossing.

The 800 club draw took place.

18/040 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MAYOR reported she had represented the town on 6 occasions since the last meeting. THE MAYOR thanked the DEPUTY MAYOR for raising the flag for the Commonwealth on 12 March.

THE MAYOR was sad to advise that Miss Vera Arnold, our oldest Godmanchester resident had passed away today (15 March) aged nearly 102.

THE MAYOR also reported that Fred Cooper, Godmanchester's well known barber had sadly passed away on 14 March. Both would be missed by the town.

THE MAYOR reminded everyone that the Mayor's Charity Ball would take place on 21 April and everyone was encouraged to sell more tickets.

All Cllrs

18/041 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

The contents of the outstanding actions report was noted.

CLLR S WILSON confirmed the Welcome Letter had gone to print and would be delivered to the new homes on Roman's Edge, but if Cllrs were aware of other people moving into the

town, further copies would be available from the Town Office.

All Cllrs

CLLR S WILSON advised that the design and location of the new entrance to Judith's Field had been agreed with DWH although further discussions would take place regarding the surface. The Town Clerk would ask DWH for a copy of the legal agreement (PPA) once it had been drawn up by DHW.

Town Clerk

CLLR S WILSON confirmed the safety barriers at the bottom of the slope from the new school had been installed. They would be monitored to ensure effectiveness.

CLLR S WILSON reported that the Planning group had looked at re-writing the Transport Vision but had concluded that it had been superseded by the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan. In wider terms, transport issues would be affected by the re-routing of the A14 and it was proposed that the Transport Vision be archived and not re-written at this time. This proposal was AGREED.

18/042 CORRESPONDENCE

The list of correspondence received was noted.

The Town Clerk confirmed HDC had been asked again to provide details of the marketing of the health service provision which was required as part of the S106 Agreement for Roman's Edge.

The Town Clerk would ask the Public Rights of Way Officer to clarify who was responsible for maintenance of the footpath around Monks Pitt and footpath 13 adjacent to the Allotments. Following receipt of the information, the Environment Group would consider the next steps.

Town Clerk

18/043 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

The applications and correspondence set out in Appendix 18/043 were considered. The Town Clerk would advise HDC of the Council's recommendations.

Town Clerk

CLLR S WILSON reported that Countryside Properties had asked to attend a Planning Working party meeting to present their proposals to build 240 houses on land adjacent to the London Road Cemetery. CLLR S WILSON confirmed they would be given the opportunity to attend but no discussion or indication of the Town Council's views would be provided.

CLLR S WILSON reported that Wood Green had announced they would be demolishing the Arena but had no plans to rebuild. CLLR CONBOY AND CLLR UNDERWOOD would try to obtain further information through their positions as District Cllrs.

Cllr Conboy/
Cllr Underwood

18/043.1 CLLR S WILSON confirmed she had met with a Matthew Wooll, Commercial Manager from Whippet to discuss recent issues on Whippet Services. Mr Wooll had agreed to provide data on how the service was performing over coming weeks.

18/044 PROPERTY REPORT

CLLR CAMPBELL presented a report, the contents of which were noted. CLLR CAMPBELL confirmed a flooring contractor had been appointed and Hutchinson's had a few items to finish off, but a finish date of 28 March was anticipated. The blinds for both small and large hall would be fitted after this date. Existing hirers had been invited to look around the newly refurbished building on 29 March. Cllrs would also be able to look around the building on that day and the building would be available for use from 3 April 2018.

All Cllrs

CLLR CAMPBELL confirmed that Dr Simon Thurley CBE had been invited to officially re-open the hall, with a date to be confirmed.

CLLR CAMPBELL reported that the most recent cost report from the Quantity Surveyor indicated a final cost of £348k for the project. There would be money to come out of the

2018/19 budget. As it had been anticipated the project would have been completed in full during the current financial year, there was insufficient budget allocation in 2018/19 to meet the costs and adjustments would be needed to the budget to allow for this expenditure.

CLLR CAMPBELL reported that pre-tender documents for the Judith's Field redevelopment project had been received. As CLLR CAMPBELL had a pecuniary interest in the firm of Architects leading on this project he asked for a working group to be formed to take this project forward. CLLRS MALLEY; S WILSON, HOOKER and the DEPUTY MAYOR all offered to meet to look at the plans in the following week. CLLR CAMPBELL would provide advice on technical matters if required.

No progress had been made on the outstanding matters of the trees on The Avenue or on the condition of the Mill Steps and the Town clerk would chase HDC on both matters.

Town Clerk

18/045 FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTS

18/045.1 The list of payments to be made in Appendix 18/045.1 was APPROVED.

18/045.2 Councillors received a copy of the salary payments, Petty Cash Reconciliation for the period to 15 March, a copy of the budget report on the year to date, a copy of the monthly bank reconciliation approved by the DEPUTY MAYOR.

18/046 CIL

CLLR UNDERWOOD presented a report, the contents of which were noted.

Following discussion it was AGREED that the grid showing projects that had already been agreed would be used as the starting point and used in conjunction with the Town Council's business plan, however it was noted that should a particular project come up not previously identified as a CIL project, consideration could be given to amend the agreed programme subject to full Town Council approval. It was AGREED that the CIL programme would be reviewed at least annually in line with the budget and Business Plan.

Town Clerk

18/047 GODMANCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL TIME BANK

CLLR UNDERWOOD reported that thanks to the Deputy Clerk's hard work we had been successful in a grant application through Cambridgeshire Community Foundation for 70% of the first year's costs for setting up a Timebank. The Town Council would receive £5426 as a grant and the Town Council would be required to provide £2325.44 for the first year. The condition of receipt of this grant was that the Town Council would commit to meeting 50% of the costs of the Timebank for the second and third year at a cost of approx. £3047.50 per annum. The remaining costs would be met by further grant applications or fund raising.

It was AGREED that the Town Council would support this initiative and commit to 50% expenditure for the second and third year it was also AGREED to set in motion the process for the recruitment of a Timebanking coordinator. CLLR UNDERWOOD and the Deputy Clerk would co-ordinate this project and CLLRS RADFORD, TAPLIN and WORTHINGTON offered to join the steering group. It was AGREED a formal information day would be arranged to take place in April prior to the actual launch of the Timebank.

Cllrs
Underwood
Radford
Taplin
Worthington/
Deputy Clerk

18/048 BUSINESS REPORT – ADOPTION OF POLICIES

CLLR UNDERWOOD presented a report the content of which was noted. Following minor amendments, it was AGREED that the Policy on Public Speaking and the Policy on dealing with the Press and Media be adopted with immediate effect. Town Clerk to format and circulate to all Cllrs

Town Clerk

CLLR UNDERWOOD advised Cllrs that he and the Town Clerk had met with HDC who had asked the Town Council to reconsider cancellation of the CCTV partnership agreement. THE MAYOR asked THE DEPUTY MAYOR to take the Chair for this discussion as she had a non-pecuniary interest in HDC CCTV provision.

CLLR UNDERWOOD reported to Cllrs that the CCTV system was due to be upgraded, but review of the data provided to the Town Council indicated very limited benefits being derived from this particular camera. It was AGREED that the Town Council did not wish to renew or continue the agreement and it was noted the CCTV camera would be removed by HDC. The Town Clerk would confirm the Town Council's decision
THE DEPUTY MAYOR handed the Chair back to THE MAYOR.

Town Clerk

Cllr Vane Percy left at 21:12

18/049 ENVIRONMENT REPORT

CLLR HOOKER presented a report the contents of which were noted.
It was AGREED to plant a beech hedge along the ditch bank running at the rear of Roman way at a cost of £1100. It was AGREED to prune the bushes along the A1148 side of the Cemetery and to clear the ditch of rubbish at a cost of £1350. The Town Clerk would liaise with CCC regarding ongoing maintenance of the ditch and clarify legal ownership. It was AGREED to carry out repairs and maintenance to play equipment at a cost of £2168. The cost of all these items would be met from the current year's budget. Town Clerk would place orders and arrange payments.

Town Clerk

Town Clerk

18049.1 SUB REPORT ON BUTTERMEL PRIVATE ACCESS

CLLR HOOKER had provided photographs of the current position of gates leading onto Buttermel together with a report stating where the gates were. Following discussion it was AGREED to defer the item once again until all 3 draft letters had been provided to Cllrs for their consideration. This matter would be brought back to the next Town Council meeting.

Environment
Portfolio

18/050 HEALTH & SAFETY

CLLR TAPLIN presented a report which confirmed the Annual Risk Assessments had been carried out. The Town Clerk would update all records together with the Risk Register and ensure all actions required were carried out. The need for additional Risk Assessments in respect of certain Business Activities had been identified and it was AGREED these would be carried out.

Cllr Taplin/
Town Clerk

18/051 SKATEPARK

CLLR CAMPBELL advised that a tender document had been drawn up and sent to three companies for a response to be received by 17 April. These tenders would be scrutinised by the new Council and should a preferred contractor be selected, the process of applying for grants would begin.

18/052 OUSE VALLEY AND PROPOSED RIVER CROSSING

CLLR CAMPBELL and CLLR WILSON presented a report about the Ouse Valley landscape and proposed river crossing. CLLR CAMPBELL advised that a strong local campaign against a new river crossing in the vicinity of Cow Lane had arisen when the proposals had first been discussed three years ago and many groups and individuals including the Wildlife Trust, GMCiB, other neighbouring parishes, and County Cllrs had shown support for protecting the

local environment. The Town Council was invited to agree to support the aims of the Ouse Valley Landscape Coalition in protecting and enhancing the unique landscape of the Ouse Valley and to agree to work with neighbouring parishes to lobby the Mayor of Peterborough and Cambridgeshire to emphasise the consequences to the landscape of any new link road through Godmanchester Meadows. THE MAYOR reminded Council that the land in Godmanchester (including the Commons) is covered by the Neighbourhood Plan and referred to in the Planning Inspector's report. It was AGREED in principle that the Town Council would offer support to the group.

THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 19 APRIL 2018 IN THE TOWN HALL STARTING AT 7.30pm

The meeting ended at 21:56

Mayor