Minutes of the Haslemere Town Council Meeting held at 7pm on

Thursday 12th July2018

Council Chamber, Town Hall, High Street, Haslemere

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Mayor** | \*Cllr D Round |
| **Deputy Mayor** | \*Cllr P Blades |
| **Councillors** | \*Abeysundara \*Arrick, \*Barton, \*Blades, \*Bradley, \*Dear, Dover \*Edwards, Ford, Hall, \*Hewett, \*King, \*Odell Peel, \*Piper, Rodgers |

\* present

The meeting was clerked by the Town Clerk, Lisa O’Sullivan and minuted by Jo Cork. Also present were Press and 30 members of the public.

Before the meeting prayers were said by Reverend David Holbard.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**RESOLVED**: The following apologies are accepted by Council: Cllr Ford (work commitment), Cllr Hall (work commitment), Cllr Dover (unwell), Cllr Peel (unwell), Cllr Rodgers (work commitment).

1. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Relevant minute number shown in brackets.

**Non – Pecuniary Interests:**

Cllr Edwards – Item 10 (68/18), Item 12 – WBC Councillor (71/18)

Cllr Piper – Item 10 – WBC Councillor (68/18)

**Pecuniary Interest:**

Cllr Odell – Item 16 (75/18). Item 9 (Part) (69/18)- Haslemere Museum Chairman/Client owns property on key site

Cllr Round – As Cllr Odell - Spouse

Cllr Barton – Item 9 (69/18)– Owns Land adjacent to the proposed site

1. **DISPENSATIONS**

None.

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**RESOLVED**: That the minutes of the meeting held 17th May 2018 and any recommendations be adopted. The minutes were signed as a true record.

1. **QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC**
2. **Fairground Car Park**

Aine Hall addressed the Council in respect of items 9 &10 on the agenda and commented on the following 3 points:

Petition

Aine Hall (with advice from a Lawyer on the wording such that the Planning Inspectorate will consider it) has set up a petition stating that de-registration is unnecessary and not in the interest of the Neighbourhood, has now been signed by over 1000 residents in the last 3 weeks.

Deregistration of the Fairground Car park

In the Full Council Meeting (after the Annual Town meeting in March and the WBC Executive meeting in February), and in the June Planning committee Cllr. Barton stated that de-registration is not necessary in order to charge for parking. Aine Hall also mentioned this in the Annual Town meeting in March.

The Secretary of State, has previously stated (in 1994 letter) that he ‘has no locus whatsoever in regard to the Council’s proposal to introduce charging’.

It was stated in the last planning meeting that a WBC officer claimed that the land had to be de-registered in order to charge for parking however the officer in question now states that he did not say this or know if this was the case.

Unsuitable Land Swap

At the Waverley Executive meeting on the 8th February, where authority to apply to de-register the land was given, the officer claimed he did not know the exact dimensions of the Land but said it was of an equivalent size.

Aine Hall is dubious the replacement land is bigger as previously stated. Research shows that in the Section 38 application ‘Works on Common Land’ Waverley cited the size of the car park is 5500 square metres. In the Local Plan Consultation it states that the land is 5000 square metres. In its own application submitted by the Planning Inspector the maps given both showed different sized areas. The land put forward for a land-swap at Sun Brow is unsuitable due to its steep gradient therefore there is no public benefit in having the replacement land.

In Conclusion

Item 9: The Fairground site fails WBC’s achievability test (one of 3 key tests) as it is Common Land. The current application does not mention 50 dwellings and de-registration is not necessary to improve the car park.

Item 10: Aine Hall urges Council Members to agree to object to the section 16 application to de-register the common land.

At the conclusion of Aine Hall’s presentation the Mayor mentioned that indeed HTC had consistently opposed de-registration, and invited questions from Councillors.

Cllr Barton queried as to why the Council had not acted earlier on this proposal and proposed to set up a working party to investigate further. Cllr Round reminder Cllr Barton that the Council has discussed this proposal at the earliest opportunity and that he had personally objected to this proposal at the Waverley Council meeting in February. Cllr Round considered the proposal to set up a Working Party was out of order.

There were no further questions.

1. **LPP2 COMMENTS**

Howard Brown addressed the Council and gave a presentation, a copy of which is appended to the minute book) regarding his objective for the removal of DS18 (Redcourt and its grounds) from LPP2, in summary these were:

* DS18 was added to LPP2 at the request of a non UK domicile developer and it was added without any consultation
* It has contravened WBC guidelines & planning policy
* It is in opposition to HMG Policy & Conservative Party policy, guidelines & directives
* It contravenes legislation protecting habitats for protected and endangered species and woodlands. - Redcourt is an untouched habitat and mature woodland and is not a haven for endangered species and must be protected - Placing a housing estate on AGLV status land is a contravention.

Mr Brown stated that Haslemere Town Council has a duty to support the voice of its voters and the Haslemere residents it represents by the removal of DS18 from the LPP2:

Cllr Round thanked Mr Brown for his presentation which is noted, despite the fact that it is too late to submit to Waverley. He pointed out there will be a further opportunity to provide feedback to Waverley in the Autumn.

Cllr Barton left the meeting

1. **REPRESENTATIONS BY EXTERNAL BODIES**

None.

Cllr Barton returned

1. **MAYOR’S UPDATE**

The Mayor has attended 29 events over the last 6 weeks including Armed Forces Day. Cllr Edwards thanked the Mayor for attending Shottermill Infant School and for the grant given by the Haslemere Penny Ha’penny Trust to the school.

Wey Centre - Waverley want to repatriate the Wey Centre back from Surrey County Council, and existing tenancies will be honoured for Street Nation and A Place to Be. Stepping Stones wish to use it in the future and will respect the needs of existing tenants.

1. **CLERKS UPDATE**

Update on Working Parties later in Agenda.

There was a vote to bring item 10 (Fairground Car Park Response to Planning Inspector) forward on the agenda.

Cllr Edwards left the meeting.

1. **FAIRGROUND CAR PARK RESPONSE TO PLANNING INSPECTOR**

Cllr Round proposed that the Town Clerk be instructed to respond to the planning Inspectorate by the 16th July 2018 with the following:

1. No de-registering of Common Land at this time.
2. Leave car park in its current state – until future plans are clearer
3. Suggest to the Inspector that Waverley Borough Council did not publicly engage in adequate public consultation.
4. Proposed land swap site unsuitable, it is unusable.

Cllr Dear commented that in order for any development to take place the site will need to be de-registered. Why not allow the process of de-registration to take place in order to aid development? Cllr Round replied that although we appreciate this, we do not know when development will take place and we want to hold onto that site as common land for as long as possible.

Cllr Barton commented that once Waverley start making money from the car park it will be hard to take back.

Cllr King commented that we must support and protect the retailers and shoppers in Weyhill.

Cllr Carter commented that the land values are hugely different in value. How many cars will be displaced in the making of the car parking? Parking must be addressed in a holistic manner.

Cllr Barton recommends that we work with the Haslemere Vision going forward as opposed to WBC recommendations.

Cllr Round said he had already, some weeks ago, proposed that a working party be set up to make recommendations for the future of the Carpark. It would include representatives of Haslemere Vision, Haslemere Chamber of Commerce, and Haslemere Society who have all agreed to join. More councillors are invited to join.

**RESOLVED** That the Town Clerk is instructed to write to the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with Cllr Round’s proposal. A working party is set up as proposed by Cllf Round, all councillors to be invited to join.

Cllr Edwards returned.

1. **LPP2 COMMENTS**

Cllr Round advised that we have submitted our comments to WBC in line with the deadline given, however we did give notice that we may want to modify our comments until after the public meeting on the Fairground Carpark, therefore we would like to make the following amendments to our response to Waverley

1. De-registration of land not to take place at this time
2. Retailers and shoppers permits – no change
3. No formalising of the car park until after a public consultation on redevelopment of the site.

**RESOLVED** The proposal was agreed.

1. **WAR MEMORIALS PROPOSAL**

Remedial work is proposed for the following War Memorials:

Shottermill – Worn and eroded tablets are being replaced with the full cost being met by the Shottermill War Memorial Trust.

Hindhead – Some lettering is being replaced and the tablet at the foot of the memorial is being replaced. Kemp & Stevens Contractors of Alton are kindly donating this part of the project.

High Street War Memorial – Work has yet to start due to ongoing issues with the contractors and the War Memorial Trust. One company is to replace the stone and the other is to re-paint the lettering. The costs are within budget.

**RESOLVED** That the remedial works should go ahead for the High Street War memorial as set out in Appendix 3 to the Agenda.

The Town Clerk was instructed to write a letter of thanks to the organisations who have provided financial assistance.

1. **WBC ECONOMIC STRATEGY**

It was proposed that a working party be set up to consider the document and make a recommendation back to September Council. The working party to consist of: Cllrs. Round, Odell, King, and Barton.

1. **PLANNING COMMITTEE – AMENDMENT TO TOR**

**RESOLVED** The recommendations by the Planning Committee were accepted with the following amendments beign made to the TOR document:

1. Replace WBC with Central Government (1st line)
2. Town Councils:14 days for PiP’s and TDC’s and 21 days for all others (3rd line)

Cllr Piper confirmed that the Planning Applications PiP’s/TDC’s will be highlighted and applications will be circulated electronically.

1. **UPDATE TO PLAY EQUIPMENT LION GREEN**

**RESOLVED** It was agreed that the Town Clerk instruct ‘Playsafe’ to undertake the remedial action on the zip wire, and to confirm timescales.

1. **S106 SPEND AND FURTHER PROPOSALS**

**RESOLVED** It was agreed that the following projects be funded:

1. The purchase of 2 heavy-duty gritters at a cost of £986 per item
2. The climbing wall be repaired on the toddlers area at Lion Green at a cost of £405
3. A bench in the above play are be replaced at a cost of £367.50

It was agreed that Council would not purchase the 5 uplighters for Lion Green at a cost of £11,393.89.

Cllr Abeysundara requested the purchase of extra bins for Weyhill. This would need to be put forward at the next Amenities Committee Meeting.

Cllr Piper advised that we should confirm spend available from Section 106 prior to funding the agreed projects.

Cllr Round and Cllr Odell left the meeting.

1. **CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE (Cllr Round & Odell left the meeting)**

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed that the December Christmas Carols be held at the Haslemere Museum at an estimated cost of £700.

Cllr Round and Cllr Odell returned.

1. **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**RESOLVED:** That the scheduled of payments as detailed in the cashbook printouts for months 2 & 3 and any variances in the Council’s accounts are approved.

1. **MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**
* Planning & Highways Committee 24th May, 21st June 2018
* Amenities Committee 14th June 2018
* Staffing 6th June 2018
* Grants Committee 5th July 2018

**RESOLVED**: That the minutes of those meetings and any recommendations therein, not already made under delegated authority be adopted.

1. **WORKING PARTY UPDATES**

Public Toilets – Haslemere Public Service Ltd was incorporated at the end of May. We have agreed the draft lease with Waverley and it is now with the Solicitors. This should be finalised within the next 2 weeks.

Outdoor Gym/Goal Posts: The Working Party agreed that outdoor gym equipment is not suitable for Lion Green however it could potentially be placed on High Lane where there is a lack of recreation equipment. Waverley Borough Council have shown interest in this project and would consult with residents as necessary.

Cllr Barton commented that we need to be more creative with our play equipment within the Town and asked to join the Outdoor Gym Equipment Working Party.

1. **REPORTS FROM REPS ON EXTERNAL BODIES**

None

Meeting finished 8.30pm

Signed……………………………………..

Chairman of Meeting

Date………………………………………..