

I hereby give you notice of a Meeting of the Harworth and Bircotes Town Council to be held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.15pm at the Town Hall, Scrooby Road, Bircotes, DN11 8JP.

**Present:** Cllr Evans (Chair), Cllr Flynn, Cllr Sidwells, Cllr A Harrison, Cllr Barns, Cllr Schuller, Cllr Whitehead, Cllr S Harrison, Cllr Jones and Cllr Horrocks

**Others:** Officer (Wendy Davies), Karen Tarburton (Community Development and Funding Manager) and County Cllrs Sheila Place

**17547 To receive and consider any apologies and reasons for absence**

Cllr Whitehead proposed at accept apologies and reasons for absence from Cllr James, Cllr Wrattton, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Smith and Cllr McLaughlin; this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council.

**17548 To receive Declaration of Interest on any item on the agenda**

No declaration of interests received.

**17549 To suspend the meeting to hold a public session**

The Chair suspended the meeting. No members of the public present

- County Councillor Sheila Place gave her County Report; it was noted that she has met with the Highways Manager and discussed areas where work was required. If you have a mobile phone, there is the option to report highways issues and services on Notts County Council's *My Notts app*.
- No District Council reports were submitted.
- PC Martin sent his apologies, and his report was circulated around the Council.

The Chair reconvened the meeting.

**17550 To consider Levelling Up Partnership funding**

Natalie Cockrell, Growth & Enterprise Manager for Bassetlaw District Council; attended the meeting to inform the Town Councillors of the £2million allocated for the demolition of the North Border School, plus £1million for town centre 'Street Scaping'.

Natalie explained that, although the final decision on usage of the funds lies with the District Council, she was interest in the thoughts of the Councillors.

The criteria to be met was discussed. Councillors noted there was very little needed in the town centre, though one suggestion was CCTV monitoring. It was felt the street scaping money would be better used if used for the school project.

After discussion and consideration, Cllr Horrocks proposed to ask Bassetlaw District Council to consider using the majority of funds for the North Border School to help move the project forward and allocate an amount to contribute to additional CCTV under the Safer Community category to deter crime in the town centre. This was seconded by Cllr Barns and resolved by the Council.

**17551 To receive the Chair's report**

The Chair previously circulated her Chair's report.

**17552 To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January & 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

Cllr S Harrison proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024 as a true record; Cllr A Harrison seconded, and it was resolved by the Council. The Chair duly signed the minutes.

**17553 To receive the cemetery Health & Safety reports and consider resurfacing of the old cemetery entrance road**

Cllr Barns has no health & Safety actions to report. The homeless lads sleeping in the old cemetery was mentioned and Karen Tarburton gave an update on the anti-social behaviour team that is dealing with this matter.

The Officer discussed the condition of the old cemetery lane leading up to the cemetery gates; and asked Via if they would give us a quote for the resurface of this area.

Cllr Jones proposed to obtain quotations for the resurfacing of the lane; this was seconded by Cllr S Harrison and resolved by the Council.

The Officer then reported that following the independent inspection of the memorial stones; hundreds of owners of the old cemetery memorial stones have not come forward regarding having work carried out to secure them. For the older memorial stones, next of kin's contact details are not always available from the old paperwork; this would be very time consuming to go through the archives. Help is required to carry this work and informed the Councillors of the situation.

**17554 To consider planning applications as listed and any planning correspondence****Application: 24/00034/COU**

Proposal: Change of use of ground floor from shop to residential flat

Location: 25 Scrooby Road, Bircotes

Consideration: No objections

**Application: 24/00182/TDCMIN**

Proposal: Application for technical details consent for residential development of four dwellings pursuant to the permission in principle 22/00805/PIP allowed on appeal under APP/A3010/W/22/3304294

Location: Land rear of 73 to 81 Scrooby Road, Bircotes

Consideration: The Council still has concerns over access for the above application; therefore, the Town Council raises an objection as per the previous application

Cllr Flynn proposed to approve the above considerations; this was seconded by Cllr Whitehead and resolved by the Council.

**17555 To receive any updates on the neighbourhood plan review and consider the draft terms of reference**

Cllr Scott Harrison (Chair of the NP Review Group) reported that a Neighbourhood Plan Review Group has been established and the first official meeting took place on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The group has gone through the existing Neighbourhood Plan and is now looking at design codes, housing needs assessment, green spaces etc and eight objectives. Cllr Sidwells is also working on cycle plans which comes under different funding.

The Officer reported that the group was successful in obtaining funding to cover the consultant's fees.

The Officer circulated draft copies of the terms of reference for the Neighbourhood Plan Review Group and Town Council.

After consideration, Cllr Flynn proposed to accept the terms of reference with no alterations; this was seconded by Cllr Barns and resolved by the Council.

The Officer will now pass it on to the NP Review Group for them to also consider.

**17556 To receive the Fire Risk assessment for the Council buildings**

The Officer reported that fire risk assessments for the Town Hall and Information Centre took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The Town Hall had no actions to carry out. The Information Centre – the assessor noted that one of the police station doors was wedged open even though a Dorgard is fitted, plus and the Zone plan requires colouring. The Dorgard has had new batteries put it and works okay and the Zone Plan will be coloured soon.

Cllr Jones proposed to accept the fire risk assessments; this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council.

**17557 To consider the extension of the District Council's Public Spaces Protection (dog Control) Order 2021**

The Officer previously circulated copies of the consultation on the proposed renewal of an existing Public Spaces Protection Order which is aim at controlling ant-social behaviour related to dogs and dog ownership.

The Bassetlaw District Council – Public Spaces (Dog Control) Order 2021 states that:-

- Owners must pick up their dogs' faeces on any land to which the public have access
- Owners must keep their dogs on leads in specified burial grounds cemeteries and churchyards
- Dogs are banned from specified fenced children's play areas
- Owners must be able to demonstrate to an authorises officer that they are carrying suitable means, such as a suitable bag, to pick up and remove dog faeces from designated land

Public Spaces Protection Orders remain in force for a maximum period of three years, but the Council may renew the Order for further three-year periods if it is believed that an Order is still necessary.

**Schedule One – Keeping of dogs on lead.** This Order applies to all the land described for the following churchyards and cemeteries:

- All Saints Churchyard, Harworth
- Harworth Cemetery, Tickhill Road, Harworth
- Harworth New Cemetery, Styrrup Road, Harworth

**Schedule Two – Dog Exclusion Areas.** This Order applies to all the land described:

- Childrens playground within Snipe Park, Bircotes
- Children’s playground and multi-use games area within Tommy Simpsons Recreation Ground adjacent to Lindsey Road, Harworth
- Children’s playground, Thompson Avenue, Harworth.

After consideration, Cllr Flynn proposed to approve the renewal of the above order; this was seconded by Cllr Horrocks and resolved by the Council.

A copy of the Dog Control Order 2021 is attached to the minutes.

**17558 To consider payments as listed and the financial reports for 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

The Officer previously circulated copies of the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 financial statements, budget and variances, ear marked & general reserves and bank statements for the Councillors to consider.

Cllr Whitehead proposed to approve the payments and financial reports for the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024; this was seconded by Cllr Jones and resolved by the Council.

**17559 To consider moving money from the Natwest bank current account to Unity Trust accounts for online banking use**

The moving of money across to the new Unity Trush accounts has previously been approved previously, however, due to the amount of money that will be moved to and from the accounts; the Officer wanted to explain what she will be doing ready for the year end.

Cllr S Harrison proposed to approve the transferring of money between accounts; this was seconded by Cllr Barns and resolved by the Council.

**17560 To consider the purchase of a long reach hedge cutter as previous discussed.**

The Officer has obtained four prices for a long reach hedge cutter and went through them with the Councillors. After discussion, Cllr Flynn proposed to accept the Torne Valley price pf £607.50; this was seconded by Cllr S Harrison and resolved by the Council.

**17561 To receive the Interim Internal Audit report**

The Officer previously circulated copies of the interim internal audit report for the Councillors to view. Cllr Jones proposed to accept the audit report; this was seconded by Cllr S Harrison and resolved by the Council.

**17562 To receive items for information only**

- Volunteers have come forward to carry out the Community Speed Watch; training for the volunteers will take place on Sunday 10th March

**17563 Time and date of the next Town Council meeting**

The time and date of the next Town Council meeting will be at 7.15pm on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at the Town Hall, Scrooby Road, Bircotes, DN11 8JP.

**Finances as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**Meeting report 26.2.2024

Net Income for December		£006,652.19	
<b>Net Expenses for December</b>		<b>£050,437.62</b>	
<b>Opening bank balances 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023</b>	<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>
Current Account		£379,281.34	
Current Saver Account		£064,820.53	
Unity Trust Account		£091,879.43	
Unit Trust Savings		<u>£000,000.00</u>	<b>£535,981.30</b>
Plus income & VAT <u>to date</u>	31.12.23	£487,935.44	
<b>Less expenses &amp; VAT <u>to date</u></b>	<b>31.12.23</b>	<b>£387,098.21</b>	£100,837.23

**Closing cash book balances 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

Current Account	@ 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	£479,527.82	
Current Saver Account	@ 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	£065,457.20	
Unity Trust Savings	@ 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	£000,000.00	
Unity Trust Account	@ 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	<u>£091,833.51</u>	<b><u>£636,818.53</u></b>
<b>Made up of:</b>	Ear Marked Reserves		£259,689.46
	General Reserves		£377,129.07
			<b><u>£636,818.53</u></b>