

Minutes of the Harworth & Bircotes Town Council meeting held on Monday 2nd July 2018, at 7.00pm in the Town Hall, Scooby Road, Bircotes

Public Session

A member of the Harworth & Bircotes First Association asked for information on the events area; the information will be gathered to reply in due course.

A resident asked about the lack of hoarding in front of the old cinema; the Chair reported that the owner has been waiting for permission from Highways before he can put the hording up; but she wasn't sure what other issues are holding the work up but she would speak with him during the week.

A resident asked about the County Council announcement that the Town Council has been awarded funding for a multi-use games area (MUGA) on Snipe Park. The Officer reported that the County Council has given out the incorrect information and it wasn't for a MUGA; Karen Tarburton was not present to give further information on what the funding was for.

It was asked if there was any update on the school fire. The Chair reported that she had not heard any update on the investigation on the cause of the fire. Behind the scenes there has been surveyors, planners and conservation officers working together to look at a feasibility study to bring the school back into use as well as a costing exercise. Due to the second fire; a lot of the work already done will now have to be redone and we are now waiting to hear on the updated report. We will than have a better idea of where we stand of bringing it back for community use. We also need to look at where the funds are coming from and what government funding is available; it is going to be a long term project.

A resident asked who secures the building and who are they. The owners are Delta (also own Serlby Park) and they are responsible for securing the building. The Chair commented that Delta is pushing for the building to be demolished. However, the structural engineer and officers reported that the walls are structurally sound. The Chair said it would be wonderful if we could get funding.

Cllr Flynn also commented that the building is a Community Asset that the Town Council intends to keep as one, that is our wish – she has heard rumours that the Town Council is implicated in the fire which is not the case.

A question was asked about a rumour that John Mann has mentioned creating another village because Harworth & Bircotes was getting too big or was he referring to somewhere else? The Chair was not aware of anything in this area. There was a paper out a while ago regarding the possibility of a fresh settlement; but that would not be in this area.

County Councillor Report – none submitted

Police report – none submitted

Present: Cllr Evans (Chair), Cllr Dean, Cllr Durdy, Cllr Flynn, Cllr Jones, Cllr Ashworth, Cllr Smith and Cllr Wratten

Others: Mrs Davies (Officer)

- 16618 To receive any apologies for absence**
Apologies received and approved for Cllr Barns, Cllr Robinson and Cllr Morgan-Kingston.
- 16619 To receive any declaration of interests in any item on the agenda**
No declarations of interests received.
- 16620 Co-option of Councillor and receive Declaration of Acceptance of Office**
The Chair introduced Mrs Sandra James as a candidate for co-option onto the Town Council. Mrs James has been a councillor before and known to residents in that role; she would like to apply for the co-option and work proactively for the community once again. The Chair proposed to co-opt Mrs James; this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council.
- Mrs James signed her declaration of Acceptance of Office which was witnessed and signed by the Officer; Cllr James then joined in the meeting.
- 16621 To receive update on the Harworth & Bircotes Intervention Scheme**
K Tarburton was not present at the meeting to give an update; therefore this item was deferred to the next meeting.
- 16622 To approve the minutes of the Town Council meeting held 21st May 2018**
Cllr Flynn proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting held 21st May 2018 as a true record; this was seconded by Cllr Dean and resolved by the Council.
- 16623 To approve the minutes of the Cemetery committee meeting held 20th June 2018**
Cllr Flynn proposed to accept the minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting held 20th June 2018 as a true record; this was seconded by the Chair and resolved by the Council.
- 16624 To receive District Councillor Reports**
- The Chair gave her District Councillor reports as follows:
- A meeting took place between Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council on the 22nd June 2018; the summary is:
- Cllr Evans opened the meeting by explaining how the current, planned and potential growth; both housing and commerce; was impacting on the current inadequate infrastructure; this was especially so on the roads, particularly on the shopping area. This had highlighted the need for improvements/changes to this area.
- Bassetlaw District Council gave details of the predicted housing growth in the next 5 to 10 years and highlighted the ongoing commercial/industrial growth.
- Cllr Evans explained that Bassetlaw District Council had previously commissioned both an analysis of the potential development of land, retail opportunities AND traffic problems in this area and had also identified poor pedestrian access, and that we now had a Step-Change Programme of Road Improvement for the Town Centre, thanks to Ann Leigh-Brown from Highways. She had worked with Nexus, and this had proved to be very effective.

Nottinghamshire County Council Lead Officer said he was looking for confirmation of partnership working; Cllr Evans and Bassetlaw District Council were able to provide this and gave examples of successful working with the County Council.

Bassetlaw District Council commented that in the case of Harworth

- The District Council negotiates hard for community infrastructure level and S106 monies for Harworth
- The Colliery is a key site; it is integral to the road improvement plan for Scrooby Road because of link roads between the two
- We know from work already done that Retailers are interested in Harworth
- It was recognised there was a need for development for land/shops/buildings, new approach e.g. share use of facilities

Nottingham County Council confirmed that it would want any of their facilities incorporated into the overall plan.

The provision of Health Services. Bassetlaw District Council confirmed she meets regularly with the Commissioning Group and the P.C.G and is working with them; they are all kept aware of all developments. Bassetlaw District Council is working to assist them with any plans for expansion.

Nottinghamshire County Council Lead Officer confessed he doesn't know Harworth & Bircotes and he was invited to visit by Cllr Evans.

Comments from Cllr Evans. The Officers from Nottinghamshire County Council certainly got the bigger picture, seemed to be in agreement with the future development of the Town Centre and especially the proposed step-change programme for road improvements.

I am hopeful they will be supportive of any funding applications e.g. to D2N2 or Sheffield City Region.

16625 To receive cemetery reports

Cllr Barns was not present at the meeting to give his report; however it was noted from other Councillors that both cemeteries were looking a lot better.

16626 To approve payments and receive financial report

Copies of the finances to date and bank statements were available for the Councillors to view. Cllr Flynn proposed to approve the list of payments previously circulated; this was seconded by Cllr James and resolved by the Council.

16627 To consider any planning applications and note any decision notices, appeals and planning correspondence

Application: 18/00750/FUL

Location: Hawthorns Bungalow, Bawtry Road

Proposal: Demolition of existing bungalow and erection of new one and a half storey dwelling

Application: 18/00772/HSE

Location: 38 Rutland Drive, Harworth

Proposal: Proposed detached single storey pitched roof garage to rear

Following consideration of the above applications; Cllr Dean proposed not to make any objections and this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council.

The Chair reported that notification of demolition of the St Patricks Church had been Issued to the District Council.

16628

To receive Councillor reports

- Overgrown hedge on Styrrup Road from the new cemetery towards the bridge – report to Highways
- Overgrown tree branches at the bottom of the trees on the junction of Blyth Road and Main Street, Harworth
- Grassed area at the bottom of Scrooby road – Cllr Ashworth asked if it was a village green as someone has planted conifers around the hedge and may be claiming ownership of the verge. The land belongs to NCC but not the road; it is not a public right of way when NCC was questioned before about the ownership.

Cllr Ashworth then said he was going to raise his gripe about the events area again and the time taken by the contractor. The Officer replied there were lots of reasons over the time taken and would explain later; if he knew all the background information he would have a better understanding. Cllr Ashworth then commented that it was a load of rubbish and continued to make derogatory comments about the contractor; at this point the Officer asked Cllr Ashworth to refrain from making slanderous assumptions in a public meeting; this advice was ignored and he continued to make further comments. The Officer and Chair again asked Cllr Ashworth to refrain from making slanderous comments as this would open him up to be sued. The Officer said that she has already answered a question in the public session for information on the events area and if Cllr Ashworth wants any information he needs to come up to the Town Hall to speak with her.

The Chair gave the following report:

North Notts Border School, Shrewsbury Road

20th June Bassetlaw District Council agreed to the Article 4 placed on the school, which means Delta (the owners of the site) cannot proceed with the demolition. In the background, work by surveyors, architects, conservation officers and development officers from the District Council had begun; this would ultimately lead to the feasibility of bringing the school back to life for community purposes and identify 'at what cost?' Investigations into which organisations could be targeted for funding bids have already begun.

Then came the two fires at the school. The result is that all the work done so far will have to begin again.

On the day of the last fire, Karen Tarburton and Natalie Cockrell met with fire officers, a conservation officer and a structural engineer; we currently await their report. Delta remain committed to demolition.

- 16629** **To receive items of correspondence for information and future agenda items**
No items put forward for the next agenda.
- 16630** **To exclude members of public under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 to enable discussion on consideration of tenders/update regarding gifting of land and staff appraisals**
The staff appraisals report was deferred to the next meeting.
The Officer gave an update on the tender work and gifting of land.
- 16631** **Time and date of the next Town Council meeting**
The next Town Council meeting is scheduled to be held on the 3rd September 2018 at 7pm in the Town Hall, Scrooby Road, Bircotes.

Signed: *J Evans*

Date: *17th September 2019*

