

Minutes of the Harworth & Bircotes Town Council meeting held on Monday 25th October 2021 at 6pm at the Town Hall, Scrooby Road, Bircotes, DN11 8JP.

Present: Cllr Evans (Chair), Cllr Barns, Cllr Jones, Cllr James, Cllr Flynn, Cllr Fear and Cllr Schuller

Others: Mrs Davies (Officer) and a member of the public

17120 To receive and approve any apologies and reasons for absence

Cllr James proposed to approve apologies and reasons from Cllr Smith and Cllr Dean, this was seconded by Cllr Barns and resolved by the Council.

Cllr Wratten will join the meeting after work.

17121 To receive Declaration of Interests on any item on the agenda

Declaration of interest was received from Cllr Schuller for agenda item 17131 – related to Person with a planning application

17122 To suspend the meeting to hold a public session and receive Police reports, County and District Councillor reports

District Cllr Schuller reported that she had contacted Notts County Council regarding the removal of trees on the Harworth Colliery's number 2 spoil heap on Blyth Road.

District Cllr Evans report was given as part of the Chair's report but minuted here.

Ecology and Wildlife

I was fortunate to recently be involved in a meeting with the Idle Valley branch of the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust. The meeting was in part concerned with the development at Idle Valley and the planned introduction of beavers, but also discussed was the need not only to preserve ecological areas but make natural connections between them, where possible.

This immediately made me think of Droversdale Wood, the 'green area' planned for the east part of Simpson Park, and the land adjoining Spoil Heap No. 2. – all are owned by Harworth Group who, I understand, have a good working relationship with the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust. I have asked about future 'green' planning, and understand a masterplan is being developed – I think we would like to learn more about this, when available.

17123 To approve the minutes of the meeting held 13th September 2021 and the Health & Safety Committee meeting held 20th September 2021

Cllr Jones proposed to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting held 13th September 2021; this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council.

Cllr Jones proposed to accept the minutes as a true record of the H & S Committee meeting held 20th September 2021; this was seconded by Cllr James and resolved by the Council.

17124 To receive the Chair's report

The Chair gave the following report:

Further Development of Simpson Park

This month, some of you were able to attend what proved to be an interesting and informative meeting with Harworth Group and representatives of Miller Homes and Harron Homes; also present were officers from B.D.C., including planners. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the next stage of development – Phase 2 - on Simpson Park; this is a summary of the main discussion points.

The two developers gave an update on what they were planning to build. What I found particularly interesting was information from one man who was also an urban designer – he pointed out that houses built on a corner should have a window instead of just a plain gable wall, and an occasional house that was rendered breaks up the monotony of bricks and is therefore more pleasing on the eye.

We learned that:

- Miller Homes want planning consent by Christmas so that building can start in Jan. – the plan is they will have the show home ready in May.
- Harron Homes will include some 5-bedroomed homes, a bus route will go into their site, and E.V. charging points will be included.
- The sites will be maintained by a management company; initially this will be via Harworth Group, though eventually control could pass to residents.
- There are a number of self-set trees on the site near the southeast boundary which will be removed, however, two oak trees that have crossed the boundary will remain

Harworth Group was able to give information on the whole site:

- Work has been ongoing on cleaning up the site, particularly near the old coking works
- Earth has been moved from the east of the site and is currently stockpiled
- They have been dealing with contaminated water – a new pond has been constructed near the southern part of the site.
- There will be some disruption on Blyth Road next year due to Severn Trent putting in interventions to deal with water/drainage
- It is planned to fill and cap both shafts, possibly in the next 3 – 5 years
- The Green Wheel will be delivered in phases, and it is intended to enhance woodland on the southwest area of the site, which includes Droversdale Wood
- Phase 3 will be the central part of the site, and this will require drainage.
- I was especially pleased to hear provision has been made on the central part of the site for the construction of bungalows in the future.

Harworth group also mentioned Spoil Heap No. 2...you may recall water has been collecting on the tip, on the side facing the A1M; the concern was that over time the water could seep to the base of the tip and make it unstable. A specialist firm is undertaking restoration work – this is a 10-year project.

17125 To receive the cemetery health & safety inspections

Cllr Barns apologised that he had not been able to carry out this month's inspection.

17126 To approve payments and receive the financial reports as of 30th September 2021

The Officer previously circulated the financial reports, bank statements, budget and any new variances as of 30th September 2021 for the Councillors to view. Two Councillors initialled the bank statement balances which are in line with the reports.

The Officer previously emailed information of invoices for payment and request to replace the Town Council's bingo machine was made to enable the bingo afternoon club to continue later in the week; the replacement machine is £237.60.

Cllr James proposed to replace the bingo machine and the payments listed; this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council.

17127 To approve purchase of Remembrance wreath

Cllr Jones proposed to purchase a Remembrance wreath as a s137 payment; this was seconded by Cllr Banes and resolved by the Council.

17128 To review room hire, allotments and cemetery fees

This item was referred to the Finance Committee to discuss.

17129 To review the general and financial risk assessment

The Officer previously circulated copies of the general and financial risk assessment for the Councillors to review. No amendments requested.

Cllr Flynn proposed to approve the 2021 general and financial risk assessment with no amendments; this was seconded by Cllr Barns and resolved by the Council.

17130 To receive suggestions for the 2022/23 budget

The Officer asked Councillors to start thinking of any items to include on the 2022/23 budget. The Officer noted that additional funds are required toward the replacement van, updated CCTV equipment for the town hall and a budget fund for the defibrillator replacement batteries and pads etc.

17131 To consider any planning applications listed and note any appeals and planning correspondence**Application: 21/01324/HSE**

Proposal: Erect first floor rear extension
Location: 14 White House Road, Bircotes

Consideration: No objections

Application: 21/01350/HSE

Proposal: First floor extension with accommodation in loft space
Location: The Cottage, Main Street, Harworth

Consideration: No objections

Application: 21/01415/RES

Proposal: Reserved matters following outline application 18/01210/OUT approval sought for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the erection of 119 dwellings (phase2a) and compliance of conditions 1,2,3,4,6,9,13,16,18,19,20,21,22,24,25 and 26 on outline 18/01210/OUT

Location: Land south of Scrooby Road and north of Snape Lane, Harworth

Consideration: No objections

Application: 21/01506/HSE

Proposal: First floor rear extension over existing single storey

Location: 25 East Street, Harworth

Consideration: No objections

Cllr James proposed to approve the considerations as above, this was seconded by Cllr Fear and resolved by the Council.

Cllr Schuller did not take part in the above considerations.

17132 To approve the meeting dates for 2022

The Officer went through the proposed meeting dates for 2022 as follows:

17th January 2022

28th February 2022

11th April 2022

23rd May 2022 – Annual meeting of the Town Council

4th July 2022

(1st August 2022 – pencilled in only – to be advised nearer to the date)

12th September 2022

24th October 2022

5th December 2022

16th January 2023

Cllr Barns proposed to approve the meeting dates as above; this was seconded by Cllr Fear and resolved by the Council.

17133 To receive an update on the Town Council events and to consider holding a Platinum Jubilee event

Apologies from K Tarburton for not being able to attend the meeting – an update on the council events will be circulated around the Councillors.

At this point Cllr Wratton joined the meeting.

17134 To receive clarification of the Town Council litter bins

The Officer reported that she has met with the Head of Neighbourhoods and the Environment Service Manager from the District Council; to discuss some issues relating to the annual street cleaning grant, the emptying of and the replacement of litter bins.

17135 To receive items for information or for the next agenda

- Policies for reviewing from the Officer

No additional items for the next agenda were put forward by the Councillors.

17136 Time and date of the next Town Council meeting

The next Town Council meeting will be held on the 6th December 2021 at the Harworth & Bircotes Town Hall, Scrooby Road, Bircotes, DN11 8JP. Time to be advised nearer the meeting.