

Minutes of the Harworth and Bircotes Town Council meeting held on Monday 21st October at 7.15pm at the Town Hall, Scrooby Road, Bircotes, DN11 8JP.

Present: Cllr Evans (Chair), Cllr Jones, Cllr Schuller, Cllr Whitehead, Cllr S Harrison, Cllr A Harrison, Cllr Hughes, Cllr James and Cllr Flynn

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

17656 To receive and consider any apologies and reasons for absence

Cllr Jones proposed to accept the apologies and reasons for absence from Cllr Horrocks, Cllr Sidwells and Cllr Smith; this was seconded by the Cllr James and resolved by the Council. Cllr Wratten to join the meeting later.

17657 To receive Declaration of Interest on any item on the agenda

No Declaration of Interests received.

17658 To suspend the meeting to hold a public session and receive reports from Police, District & County Councillors

- A member of the public raised concern about a newly installed kissing gate which blocked access/route into the Wimpy Estate for wheelchair users; this is on District Council land and the Town Council will pass on the concerns.
- County Councillor Sheila Place sent her apologies
- No police report
- Cllr Schuller gave a brief District Council report

17659 To receive the Chair's report

No report given.

17660 To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2024

Cllr S Harrison proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting held 9th September 2024 as a true record; this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council.

17661 To receive the cemetery Health & Safety reports

Cllr S Harrison reported that no health & safety issues raised in the old cemetery

Cllr Jones reported that no health & Safety issues raised in the new cemetery. However, a complaint was received from an upset resident stating that a man was using the burial area to throw balls for his dog.

The Officer previously mentioned that the fabricator was to be contacted with regard to work carried out on the gates; no response as yet.

17662 To consider planning applications as listed and any planning correspondence

Application: 24/O1100/FUL

Proposal: Erect two detached two storey dwellings and construct new access

Location: Land adjacent to 31 Alexandra Road, Harworth

Consideration: No objections – no relevant material considerations

Cllr Whitehead declared an interest on this item and did not take part in the consideration.

Application: 24/01106/FUL

Proposal: Erect two detached houses and garages

Location: Land south of 26 Styrrup Road, Harworth

Consideration: The Town Council requests that contractors should at all times show respect for the cemetery; there are no relevant material considerations to consider subject to condition that the right to light for No.26 is looked into and no vehicles/equipment during the build to be parked on the cemetery entrance road or in the car park. Stop music playing or construction noise when a funeral is in progress. No objections subject to the above.

A suggestion was made to ask Highways to extend the 30mph on Styrrup Road.

Application: 24/01154/HSE

Proposal: Single story rear and side extension

Location: 5 Moor Top Road, Harworth

Consideration: No objections - No relevant material considerations

Application: 24/01146/FUL

Proposal: 12m CCTV column

Location: Corner of White House Road and Droversdale Road, Bircotes

Consideration: Strongly support the application – no objections

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

17663 To consider the Biodiversity Policy and audit plan

The Officer discussed the draft Biodiversity Policy and the start of an audit plan. After consideration, Cllr Whitehead proposed to approve the Biodiversity Policy and will also assist with the audit plan; this was seconded by Cllr James and resolved by the Council.

The Officer will pass all the information she has to Cllr Whitehead to help with the audit plan.

At this point Cllr Wratten attended the meeting.

17664 To consider a Key Holder Security policy

The Officer discussed the draft Key Holder Security policy, after consideration Cllr Huges proposed to approve the Key Holder Policy; this was seconded by Cllr James and resolved by the Council.

17665 To consider purchase of water boiler and dishwasher

The Officer reported that the water boiler has been damaged and not repairable, plus the old dish washer is no longer working. Prices off the internet were considered, after consideration Cllr Huges approved to replace the water boiler and dishwasher; this was seconded by Cllr James and resolved by the Council.

17666 To consider contribution towards fireworks display

Cllr Whitehead proposed to approve the £1,000 contribution towards fireworks display; this was seconded by Cllr Jones and resolved by the Council.

17667 To approve purchase of a Remembrance Wreath

Cllr James proposed to purchase the Remembrance wreath; this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council. This item comes under the GPoC and therefore required to be in the minutes.

17668 To consider payments as listed and the financial reports for 31st August 2024

The Officer previously circulated the list of payments for approval, financial reports, budget, variances, general and earmarked reserves for the Council to view. Two councillors signed the documents after confirming the bank balances.

Cllr S Harrison proposed to approve the payments as listed and finances as above; this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council.

17669 To review the budget and ear marked reserves as of 30th September 2024, plus suggestions for 2025

The Officer went through the current ear marked reserves as of 30th September and added items to include for 2025-26.

320	Land/building fund	£21,129.51
321	Pond maintenance (for further work & equipment)	£03,520.00
322	Building up fund for new van fund (£2k to add in 2025-26)	£04,000.00
324	New cemetery funds (£1k to add in 2025-26) keep for phase 2	£42,151.00
326	Miners Memorial (Reduce down to £2,500 for landscaping)	£02,500.00
327	Memorial Inspection Fund (to cover next 5yrs)	£04,693.00
328	Old cemetery – funding for maintenance	£22,280.67
341	Building upgrades fund	£04,500.00

Suggestions for 2025-26 so far:

Biodiversity work starter fund	£0,500.00
Development fund for 2025-26 project	£5,000.00

After discussions, Cllr Flynn proposed the above ear marked reserves; this was seconded by Cllr Whitehead and resolved by the Council.

The Officer then went through the budget figures as of 30th September plus a draft three-year forecast. The budget is doing well with 50% of expenses used over the first 6 months with 50% still left for the next 6 months. For next year, the Community hub project to be a priority.

Cllr S Harrison proposed to note the review of current budget figures; Seconded by Cllr A Harrison and resolved by the Council.

17670 To receive items for information

Information received but nothing put forward for the next meeting.

17671 Time and date of the next Town Council meeting

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday 2nd December 2024 at 7.15pm, at the Town Hall, Scrooby Road, Bircotes, DN22 7UP.

Minutes of the meeting held 21st October 2024

