

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD 6 OCTOBER 2020

Councillors Present: Cllr Maggie Allingham, Cllr Sheila Baynes, Cllr Ian Corben, Cllr Jim Mitchell, Cllr Cliff Morris, Cllr Derek Pretty (Chair), Cllr John Shepherd, Cllr Jane Welsh

P974 Apologies: Cllr Keith House

P975 To consider the Minutes of the meeting held 1 September 2020

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2020 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising

None arising not already on the agenda.

P976 Correspondence

A request has been received to join the Rural Market Towns Group to join for free in 2020 and £150 thereafter. **RESOLVED: To trial the membership for 6 months whilst it is free pending renewal.**

Cllr Morris left the meeting temporarily.

Little Drummers Nursery have requested to extend their hours on a Wednesday and Friday so they can offer the statutory 30 hours of free childcare. Councillors discussed the proposal and the potential displacement of the Good Companions group. Cllrs asked if the good companions could be relocated to another venue. **RESOLVED:** A vote was taken with 6 in support and 1 against. The group can be offered an alternative Town Council venue but may also want to consider St Lukes Church if it was about location.

Eastleigh Borough Council have requested the Town Councils support in the re-opening High Streets Safely Fund. **RESOLVED: Councillors agreed the Town Clerk has the discretion to sign this on behalf of the Council.**

A request has been received from Hampshire County Council to widen the footpath between Wildern Lane and Tamarisk Road. Councillors discussed the proposal alongside the officer report. Councillors discussed the proposal and were in favour of it and is much needed but would need consideration for the protection of the trees. **RESOLVED: In agreement subject to officer comments regarding the trees.**

P977 Disposal of Public Open Space to Private Individuals

Councillors received the draft policy for disposal of public open space to private individuals. The chair felt that officers and ward councillors should see any such requests before it came to committee. The criteria give officers the chance to liaise with requestors in a timely manner.

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Councillors discussed the draft policy and agreed that section 4.2 should stay in place as this would be the EBC stance so the Town Council should keep the conditions even though we would not be the enforcing authority.

RESOLVED: The draft to have the ward councillors included at the assessment stage.

P978 Requests for purchase of public open space

Two requests had been received from private individuals for the purchase of public open space. Further to the policy adoption and the supporting officer report these were declined for disposal based on them not meeting the criteria for disposal and were considered to be of community and biodiversity benefit. Cllr Welsh noted that the householder had asked to purchase this as he had been maintaining it himself. **RESOLVED:** To decline both applications based on them not meeting the criteria for transfer.

Cllr Morris re-joined the meeting.

P979 HETC Adoption of open space at Serenity, Heath House Lane

A map of the open space at Serenity, Heath House Lane was provided and the council are being asked to adopt this as part of the S106. Cllr Pretty had asked the EBC officer what the position was in terms of the commuted sums. Cllr Mitchell asked if we could wait until we have more information on what the commuted sums would be. Cllr Corben felt that the committee could not make the decision without knowing what the funding would be. **RESOLVED: Agreed to take in principle subject to funding being made available and agreed by Policy & Resources Committee.**

P980 Budget Implications

In response to the letter from the leader of Eastleigh Borough Council requesting details of the impact of Covid-19 on Town and Parish Councils. **RESOLVED: Councillors had previously agreed that a figure of £129,902 per annum should be used for each month's loss of income and sent to EBC for September and then reviewed at this meeting monthly.**

P981 Projected Outturns

Cllrs had previously received the report on projected outturns until March 2021. The Town Clerk outlined the current position and some of the expenditure that has been incurred as a result of the recent spate of anti-social behaviour and damage to buildings. Cllr Corben asked what was being done by the Police in terms of ASB.

**P982 All members of the public and press are requested to leave the meeting
Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960**

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P983 Exempt Business – Leases and Rents

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 19:57 hours.