

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD 7 DECEMBER 2021

Councillors Present: Cllr Maggie Allingham, Cllr Ian Corben, Cllr Keith House, Cllr Jim Mitchell, Cllr Cliff Morris, Cllr Derek Pretty (Chair), Cllr Jane Welsh

P1068 Apologies: Cllr Sheila Baynes, Cllr Pat Jenkins

P1069 To consider the Minutes of the meeting held 2 November 2021.

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2021 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising

None not already on the agenda.

P0170 Correspondence

Cllrs had received the previously circulated Citizens Advice Report.

RESOLVED: To note the report.

P1071 Route to Hedge End Station

Cllrs received the proposal for the upgrade to the footpath between Bubb Lane and Hedge End Train Station. As some of this is within HETC ownership the Operations Manager provided more detail of the site. The Clerk took the committee through the constraints in the title deeds regarding the rights of the Southern Gas Board. The Town Council would like to see the pathway straightened between the two access points on Terrier Close and at the Nelson Gardens Play area. The Town Council would also like to see the path surface connect to the existing highways pavements at the access points. Straightening the line of the path will allow for the northern perimeter to be laid to trees and woodland and the southern perimeter to be laid to grass. **RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed in principle to the proposal subject to EBC overcoming the constraints in the title deed. Cllrs would like the Clerk to work with the project manager of One Horton Heath to accommodate the changes.**

P1072 Woodhouse Lane South

Following a site meeting between the Clerk and HCC, it was confirmed that HETC is not needed for the cycle path but could be utilised for one to provide a more aesthetic approach to the park and the highway. The proposed path could go inside the tree line, have lighting, dog bins and be a more accessible route. HCC would like to discuss with EBC the land it owns adjacent to the proposed route with the proposal to extend the path up to the bungalows near the Maypole roundabout. Cllrs had a lengthy discussion about the advantages for the pathway, noting that it must ensure that it is easy for cyclists to use and to try and remove any of the obstacles. Cllrs would like to see the proposed design in relation to the path beyond

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Snowdrop Place so they can see how it fits. **RESOLVED: That in principle the Cllrs would like to see the design principles having had the conversation with EBC.**

P1073 Hedge End Market

Eastleigh Borough Council funding for the market ends in March 2022. The market is having a planned break from January and the option would be to hold a Market indoors during January to March. The council also considered the options for the market post March. Cllrs were keen to see the market be sustainable in the future. Cllrs had a conversation about the amount of trade that could be expected in an indoor market. If traders are not wanting to trade during Jan – Mar outdoors will they want to trade indoors. **RESOLVED: Cllrs were keen to see the market continue post March and for the Clerk to work with EBC on the practicalities. Clerk to ask EBC what the number of traders are likely if it was to move indoors. The Clerk to also ask EBC for the restart date of the outdoor market.**

P1074 Fees & Charges

Cllrs received the previously circulated report on Fees & Charges. Cllr Mitchel noted that the current fees and charges are not breaking even and being subsidised by the taxpayer. Cllr House was keen that the taxpayer should not be subsidising fees and charges and that all fees should be moved to comparable with other areas. Cllr Pretty suggested that if we did move to a single fee that groups could apply for a S137 Grant. Cllr House also agreed that EBC has a grants process that groups can apply for. Cllrs were clear that some groups do warrant a subsidy and there are mechanisms in place to allow this to happen. Cllr Corben asked if Hound could charge more as they have less halls and therefore demand is higher. It was felt this might be the case, whereas Hedge End has multiple halls available to hire. Cllrs were in agreement that it is currently not breaking even so it needs to be done sooner rather than later. Cllr Welsh asked how grants would be allocated as we don't have a bottomless pot of S137. Cllr Welsh asked for clarity on the figures with the VAT as groups that don't claim VAT will only see the figure they pay. Cllr Mitchell suggested that we should step the increase for the local non-profit group. Cllr House asked about the cemetery fees and if this was comparable with other areas. **RESOLVED: That anyone on the local non-profit group should be increased in line with the Local Group costs over a period of 2 years. 50% to applied in April 2022. All other fees and charges to be increased in line with the precept increases. The clerk to seek comparable figures for cemetery fees.**

P1075 Budget 2022/23 & Precept

Cllr Pretty introduced the revised draft budget that was circulated prior to the

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meeting and asked for comments. Cllrs discussed the cash options available under each percentage increase. The proposal was for a 4.95% increase.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to revise the figures based on a 4.95% increase.

P1076 Clerks Update

The Clerk updated the meeting on the quotes for the roof at Rodaway. Cllrs felt that we should go with Vision in this instance and be clear of the requirements. The quote for the drainage channels at the Bowling Club was reported and Cllrs felt that the Ops Manager should seek further advice on this from other providers. The Clerk updated the meeting on the options for Turnpike Pavilion and the inclusion of this in the feasibility study for the CCG as a site.

The Clerk also provided an update on the unauthorised tree felling at Woodhouse Lane. Cllrs discussed the mitigation measures and agreed that the favourable outcome would be for the Town Council to have the monetary equivalent to decide where to plant the trees.

The Clerk asked the committee if they had any information about the Parish Council owning bus shelters. Cllr Corben felt that the ones on Maunsell Way was being repaired by someone. Cllr Pretty did have a list of EBC owned ones in the area that can be used for a comparison. Cllrs wanted HCC to provide a list of the ones that they think HETC own.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 20.21 hours.