

Hedon Town Council
Minutes of the Proceedings of a Meeting of
Finance & General Purposes Committee
held at the Town Hall, St Augustine's Gate, Hedon
23 September 2021

Present: In the Chair – Cllrs S Gallant
Cllrs: C Billany, J Brindley, J Dennis, B Hanson, Miss S Rommell,
Miss D Storr and D Thompson
Town Clerk: J Macklin

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs: N Black, Mrs B Goldspink and B Stockdale

Resolved: that the apologies were accepted

2. Confirmation of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 22 July 2021 were agreed as being a correct record of the proceedings thereat.

Resolved: That the minutes were confirmed as a true record

3. Updates on the Minutes

None

4. Declaration of Interests

4.1 To record declarations of interest by any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared

4.2 To note dispensations given to any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed below.

5. To note Accounts Payable Schedule – August

The Schedule previously circulated to Members, will form part of the Minutes.

Resolved: that the schedule of payments for August 2021, signed by two Councillors, in the sum of £14,119.70 was approved

6. To approve Accounts Payable Schedule - September

The Schedule previously circulated to Members, will form part of the Minutes.

Resolved: that the schedule of payments for September 2021, signed by two Councillors, in the sum of £10,298.09 was approved

7. To receive an update on the financial position of the Council as at 31 Aug 2021

The Chairman referred to the documents attached to these Minutes which had been circulated to all Councillors; the documents indicated the financial position of the Council as at 31 July 2021; information for August would be provided to the next meeting.

Resolved: that the schedules showing receipts/payments made during the month of July, and the budget monitoring report were approved

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8. To approve Risk Assessment Report for 'Management Systems', 'Markets' and 'Meetings of the Council'

Members reviewed the risks associated with 'Management Systems', 'Markets' and 'Meetings of the Council'.

Resolved: that the Risk Assessment Reports for 'Management Systems', 'Markets' and 'Meetings of the Council' were approved as tabled

9. To receive a report from the Events Working Group and to approve actions taken
Cllr Storr updated Members on the meeting held on 19 August, notes of which had been circulated to all Councillors. Hedon calendars were due to be printed within the next two weeks. The date of the launch of the Love Explore app for Hedon was expected to be soon and Stuart Oliver (ERYC) had said he would inform the Council when it was up and running. An Events WG meeting was planned for Thursday 30 September.

Cllr Brindley updated Members on the technical issues with the Hedfest video and it was agreed that a Hedfest Working Group meeting should be arranged soon (if possible on the same day as the Events WG) to move this project forward and agree the running order.

Resolved: that plans would be made to hold a physical 'Dog Show' on Saturday 23 April

10. Update on 'Re-opening High Streets Safely' and the Hedon Recovery Plan follow up meeting on 4 August

The Chairman updated Members on the follow up meeting that had taken place on 4 August although notes of that meeting from Mr Russell, including which authority would take ownership of the projects identified in the workshops, were still awaited. These would be circulated to Members as soon as they were received. The Town Clerk would write to find out what was happening.

11. Update on suggestion to bid through 'Love your High Street' Fund for a Town Centre Manager

The Chairman noted that this suggestion depended on how many of the projects from the workshops were to be overseen by the Town Council (see Min 10 above) which was unknown. This would form part of the ongoing discussions with ERYC rather than have a separate agenda item in future.

12. Update on pilot Service 84 bus scheme (Wednesday Service)

The Chairman referred to the information on service use which had been circulated to Members. ERYC had indicated that Council funded period of the pilot scheme could be extended to the end of March 2022. Although usage was fairly low it could well increase in the autumn/winter when the weather turns. It was hoped that when the Pop-in returns to Alexandra Hall it might improve the usage although timings might not gel and this should be discussed with HART and the Pop-In organisers. The extension to the service would be publicised through the Council newsletter and social media.

Resolved: that ERYC's offer to extend the pilot scheme to March 2022 was accepted; and that discussions should be held with HART and the Pop-in regarding bus times

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13. Holderness Health Forum

13.1 To note the latest update from the Yorkshire CCG

Resolved: Noted

13.2 To discuss correspondence re 'out of hours' service' – Members discussed the reply that had been received from the CCG earlier in 2021 which did not answer the question raised about the future use of the Rosedale Community Unit. Members felt strongly that there was not adequate provision for Hedon with regard to out of hours services; especially for those that had difficulty travelling. The Town Clerk was asked to write again asking for a specific answer to the question of the future of the Centre.

Resolved: that the Town Council campaign for the re-opening of the Rosedale Community Centre, using social media and a petition to bring pressure to bear on the CCG

There was a lengthy discussion on Holderness Health and Members raised numerous concerns about the group not meeting patients' expectations or requirements. The Town Clerk was asked to find out when the next forum meeting would be held and Members were asked to put their questions in writing to be forwarded to Holderness Health for discussion at the forum.

14. To receive notes of the 'Grants Policy Working Group' meeting (29.7.21) and to approve 'Grants Policy' documentation

The Chairman referred to the notes of the working group meeting and the draft documentation attached. The Council would put this project into place from April 2022 and publicise it using the website and social media; a budget for grants would be set during the annual budget discussions.

Resolved: that the notes were received and the documentation approved;

15. Update re the possible uses for the unoccupied building in Station Car Park ERYC had confirmed that they had no planned use for the building at present but were willing to meeting Members to discuss ideas/thoughts about its future use. The Town Clerk was asked to obtain plans and valuation reports for the building and arrange a site meeting.

Resolved: that a site meeting would be arranged with ERYC; Cllrs Billany, Brindley, Rommell, Storr and Thompson would attend

16. To consider supporting request from 'Public Participation' session that the Town Council writes in support of ERYC's involvement with 'Fix My Street' App After discussion Members agreed that the Council would write in support of the request.

Resolved: that the Council would write to ERYC asking them to look at using the 'Fix My Street' App

17. Update on discussions with ERYC re solar footway lighting

Members had been circulated with the notes of a meeting with ERYC Lighting Engineer regarding solar footway lights.

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Three sites had been visited and it was generally agreed that any further investigation should be located at the pathway on Adeliza Garth (grass area owned by the Town Council) and the snicket from St Nicholas Gate to Inmans School (owned by ERYC). ERYC had indicated an interest in any trials that took place.

Resolved: that Prolectric be invited to give a presentation of the equipment and that Mr Jacobson (ERYC Lighting Engineer) be invited to attend

Cllr Gallant reported that the Council had heard from the ERYC Cabinet Member for Climate Change who had agreed to meet with the Working Group (details to be confirmed by e-mail).

18. To consider a review of the Market Lease (terminates 31.12.21)

The Chairman noted that the initial one year term of the lease would terminate on 31 Dec 2021. Members agreed that Mr Ward had done a very good job of getting the market up and running and he should be asked if he wished to continue for a further three year term.

Resolved: that the Chairman discuss with Mr Ward if he wished to continue managing the market for a three year continuation of the lease; if so then the Council approved the further term of three years

19. To consider request from Hedon Museum for funding towards the window refurbishment work

The Chairman noted that a decision on completing the lease had been taken at the Property Committee meeting and that this was in hand; also, it had been agreed with ERYC Conservation Officer that the Museum did not have to apply for planning permission before applying for funding from ERYC. It had been suggested that the Museum might prefer to install UPVC windows but Members agreed that any replacement windows should be timber and not UPVC. After discussion Members felt that a decision should be deferred until it is known whether funding had been granted by ERYC.

Resolved: that the decision was deferred; this item would be on the agenda once a funding decision was known

20. Update on investigations into possible ANPR/ticketing options for Iveson car park
It was noted that the Town Clerk had written and chased both ERYC and Marston Breweries following the meeting in July but had not received any replies at all.

Resolved: that the Town Clerk continues to chase replies

21. To consider holding the Xmas Light Switch-on Event on Friday 26 Nov 2021

Members discussed in some detail the problems and issues surrounding holding the Xmas Lights Switch on Event which normally takes place on the last Friday of November. Initial planning had highlighted serious problems that needed resolving and a decision needed to be made as soon as possible.

It was proposed and seconded that the event was cancelled for 2021 and, on a show of hands vote with 2 for and 5 against, the proposal was defeated.

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After a very lengthy debate Members then agreed that much more discussion was required before a decision could be made and it was agreed that Councillors should meet informally to thrash out the issues which would be followed by an Extraordinary F&GP Committee meeting on Thursday 30 September to make decisions.

Resolved: that Councillors meet as a working group to discuss a Xmas Lights Switch On Event in detail (following the Hedfest & Events meetings) and that an Extraordinary F&GP Committee Meeting would be held at 7.15pm on Thursday 30 September to make a decision on this item

22. To approve arrangements for provision of xmas trees

After discussion Members agreed that the Council would provide xmas trees at no charge (as it did in 2020). Trees would be provided to those premises with brackets and electricity.

Resolved: that xmas trees would be provided to premises with brackets and electricity

23. To review Public Spaces Protection Orders for Hedon

The Chairman referred to the review information that had been previously circulated to all Members. After discussion Members agreed to apply for an amendment to the 'No Drinking Zone' on the Market Place in line with the area included in the lease for Luxe.

Resolved: that an amendment to the 'No Drinking Zone' for the Market Place was applied for in line with the Licence to Occupy map for Luxe

24. To consider request that ERYC be asked to clear the triangular piece of land on Inmans Road near the school

The area of land had been identified as a possible location for a community growing area, if the proposal gathered enough volunteers and support; however, it was very overgrown and would require clearing before any serious consideration could be given. Even if the project did not go ahead the area was very untidy and unsightly.

Resolved: that the Council write to ERYC asking for the area to be cleared

25. Update re hire of SIDS (Speed Indicator Signs)

A reply had been received from ERYC with a form to be completed for hiring one or two SIDS. Members felt that Souttergate would be a suitable site.

Resolved: that the Town Clerk complete an application form for Souttergate

27. Correspondence

27.1 Letter re request to reduce fees for exhumation in cemetery – after discussion Members agreed that in this instance, and as a one-off, the charge should be waived.

Resolved: that the exhumation charge would be waived in this instance

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28. Members' points of information and items for the agenda
 - 28.1 Members were reminded that a Climate change meeting with the ERYC Cabinet Member would be arranged.

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Chairman of Finance & General Purposes Committee

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