

Gerrards Cross Town Council

South Lodge, East Common, Gerrards Cross SL9 7AD 01753 888018

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www.gerrardscross.gov.uk



Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 22nd January 2018 at Gerrards Cross Memorial Centre.

Present: Cllr N Holmes (Chairman), Cllr I Bayliss, Cllr Berntson, Cllr J Chhokar, Cllr J O'Keeffe, Cllr H Orme, Cllr P Roberts, Cllr T Scott and Cllr J Woolveridge.

In Attendance: Bucks and SBDC Cllr B Gibbs, SBDC Cllr D Smith, SBDC Cllr S Chhokar, Dr J Chambers and Sue Moffat (Town Clerk).

On behalf of Gerrards Cross Town Council, Cllr Holmes congratulated Cllr Teresa Scott on being awarded an OBE for her lifelong services to Entrepreneurship & Employability.

Would Councillors please give any declaration of interests at the beginning of the item on the Agenda

199/17 In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council, a Chairman to preside at the meeting was required. At the proposition of Cllr Woolveridge, seconded by Cllr J Chhokar and agreed by Council, Cllr Holmes was duly elected as Chairman for this meeting.

200/17 To accept apologies of absence – Apologies were received from Cllr C Brown, Cllr M Baker and Cllr M Lawson.

201/17 To confirm the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11th December 2017.

At the proposition of Cllr Woolveridge, seconded by Cllr Holmes, these Minutes were agreed by Council and signed after amending Minute 196/17 to add:- *'Cllr Scott manned the GXTC and BOOST stand at the Christmas Festival'*.

202/17 Public speaking from residents on matters relevant to the meeting's agenda. No members of the public wished to speak.

203/17 To confirm the minutes of the following meetings:-

1. Commons Committee held on 8th January 2018

Minutes were proposed by Cllr Orme, seconded by Cllr Woolveridge and agreed by Council and signed. Cllr Orme gave a brief summary of the contents of the Minutes and added that the Tree Survey will commence by the end of the month. Cllr Orme also reported that a tree had fallen down along the boundary of East Common, leaning across the fence of a rear garden of a property in Fulmer Way. A quote of £290 (inc VAT) has been sought to remove the tree and it was agreed at this meeting to proceed with this work.

2. Highways Committee held on 8th January 2018

Cllr Roberts gave a brief summary of the Minutes. Cllr Orme raised concern regards the proposal to use an alternative contractor to carry out spraying of weeds as Minuted under Item 10. She raised concerns as

to:- (i) Why was this additional cost of just over £5000 not raised at F&GP meeting when deciding the budget for 2018-19? (ii) Does the contractor being proposed have experience of working for councils? (iii) If the method of applying the weedkiller is via a knapsack sprayer rather than controlled droplet spray as is the current method, will it be more harmful to the environment? (iv) How do we justify the additional costs to members of the public and what guarantee do we have that there will be better results?

Cllrs Scott, Berntson, Bayliss, Chhokar and Woolveridge agreed with these concerns. Cllr O’Keeffe responded that more information was required for both contractors regards methods, costs and performance levels in order to make a considered decision on this matter. Cllr Gibbs raised the issue that the contractor should have an understanding of the COSHH regulations to ensure there is good practice in place to control the use of hazardous substances.

At the proposition of Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Bayliss, the Minutes of the Highways meeting were agreed by Council and signed provided further information is considered about the use of an alternative contractor to spray weeds on Highways before a final decision is made as discussed at this meeting.

3. Planning Committee Meeting on 15th January 2018.

Cllr J Chhokar confirmed the planning minutes and gave a brief summary of the contents highlighting those planning applications where objections were raised. He also suggested in future years it would be preferable to have an additional Planning meeting in December to ensure all the planning applications are considered over the Christmas period which is usually a busy time.

Cllr Woolveridge raised concern that there is a planning application for a lorry park at the M40 Motorway Service Station at Hedgerley. Also, the Proposed Expansion of Heathrow Airport consultation is now out until 28th March. The nearest public events for this is at Burnham on 3rd February and Slough on the 28th February. Cllr Roberts added that this consultation is about the construction of the airport not the airspace. There will be future public consultations on the change in airspace and when this happens one of the public events should be held in Gerrards Cross.

204/17 Communications Working Party Updates

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2018 were noted. Cllr Bayliss asked that to be involved in writing the article about West Common picnic benches. Cllr Woolveridge asked that the ‘History of the Camp’ leaflet to be reprinted and to be available in the Town Council Office for local residents.

205/17 Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) update

Cllr Holmes reported:- (i) He would encourage everyone to look at The Neighbourhood Plan web site <https://gxplan.co.uk> where Cllr Orme has now included a Timeline; (ii) There were 23 people at the last meeting of the Steering Group on 18th January. Sub Groups have been set up to consider the issues raised at the public consultation at the Guide Hut and the Christmas Festival. The NP Consultants are now validating all this information in to a skeleton NP for further consideration by the sub-groups. The outcome of this will again be presented to the community for further consultation before a referendum is eventually held.

Cllr Gibbs pointed out that a NP must be within the context of the Local Plan and Cllr Orme responded that this was already understood by the NPSG. The Clerk reported that an application for a grant of just over £3000 has been submitted to Locality towards the cost of formulating a NP which has been successful.

Lastly Cllr Orme reported that she was pleased to have the assistance of the NP Consultants at the last NPSG meeting. The Consultants advised on the policies to include in the skeleton NP. Cllr Orme was pleased that the NPSG will now be considering the policies which are needed to justify a NP and not just become preoccupied with aspirations which can be included in the appendices as a wish list.

Cllr Woolveridge thanked Cllrs Holmes and Orme for all their hard work.

206/17 To approve payments for January 201

Cllr Bayliss proposed the payment schedule and this was approved by Council which included the last payment for the Christmas lights which is the first year GXTC has been responsible for them and everyone agreed that the lights looked good and we can now make further improvements next year.

207/17 Report from County and District Councillors.

Bucks CC – Cllr Gibbs reported that the next Denham and Gerrards Cross LAF meeting is on 31st January and it would be good if GXTC has ready any ideas for funding requirements in 2018-19.

SBDC Report- Cllr D Smith reported:- (i) Councillors at SBDC have already received a presentation on the Heathrow Consultation. This consultation is on the construction stage and will not affect Gerrards Cross. However it is quite clear that in the future there will have to be a modernisation of the airlines no matter if Heathrow expansion takes place or not.

Cllr S Chhokar reported:- (i) HS2 will be going ahead despite the collapse of the major construction company, Carillion and; (ii) An announcement is expected soon by the Secretary of State on Unitary Authorities.

208/17 Report on Meetings – members update on where they have represented the Town Council since the last meeting.

Cllr Orme: – (i) Latchmore Pond site visit with the Clerk and the Garden Contractors before the rejuvenation work commenced; (iii) Neighbourhood Planning meeting on 18th January.

Cllr Roberts – Denham Aerodrome Consultative Committee meeting which is still trying get planning permission to convert the wooden building. Also the flying side at Northolt Airport is shutting down for a while but these planes will go to Farnborough Airport so this will not affect Denham.

Cllr Berntson:- A site visit at the Camp to inspect the cutting back of the conifer hedge along the bridleway and this is looking very good and; (ii) A GXTC preliminary meeting of Medical Centres in the area and carrying out research as to what is happening in the CCG and Bucks NHS Trust.

Cllr Woolvridge: - (i) GXCV – 8 volunteers turned up to work despite the rain and; (ii) A meeting of Age Concern. Age Concern has issued small grants to groups and individuals in need and also small parcels at Christmas.

Cllr Holmes:- Neighbourhood Planning meeting on 18th January.

209/17 To note information received in the correspondence at the Town Council Office.

- Brain Tumour Research is a national charity to fund a network of research centres to improve treatment and survival rates and ultimately a cure. Funding is reliant solely on the generosity of the general public and a ‘Wear A Hat’ fundraising event is being held on 29th March 2018.

<https://www.braintumourresearch.org/fundraise/wear-a-hat-day>

210/17 To confirm that the next meeting of Gerrards Cross Town Council will be held on Monday 19th February, 2018 at 7.30pm at the Memorial Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Payments 22nd January 2018						
Chq No/Bacs/DD	Payee	Net Exp.	VAT	Gross Exp		Transaction Details
	Commons					
BAC	Latchmore Garden Care	50.00		50.00	50.00	Strim Wildwood bench memorial gdn
BAC	Amersham TC	3750.00	750.00	4500.00	7463.47	Work at the Fosse
BAC	Amersham TC	660.00	132.00	792.00		Various work on commons i.e. remove den, erect signs selective weedkill bunds in autumn
7135						
	Highways					
BAC	Leigh Electrical	375.00	75.00	450.00	2658.00	Street lighting contract
BAC	Leigh Electrical	80.00	16.00	96.00		Make safe light 242 Daleside
DD	SSE Southern Electric	514.00	102.80	616.80	616.80	Unmetered Supply
BAC	Amersham TC	1809.56	361.91	2171.47		Devolved Highways Work
BAC	Leigh Electrical	1400.00	280.00	1680.00		Final invoice for installation christmas lights in GX High street, test all lights, store lights throughout the year and attend switch on night.
BAC	Leigh Electrical	360.00	72.00	432.00		Disconnect Christmas lights at hairdresser and rewire to lamp post
	General Admin					
BAC	GXCA	142.75	10.95	153.70	153.70	Room hire and refreshments
DD	Chess	113.98	22.80	136.78	136.78	telephone & broadband rental and charges
BAC	Cbe Solutions	200.09	40.02	240.11	240.11	Quarterly Photocopying
	Council Office					
BAC	British Gas	143.5	7.17	150.67	150.67	Quarterly gas charge
	Communications					
BAC	Nexus	100.00	20.00	120.00	480.00	Monthly Office 365 and Ipad Support
BAC	Nexus	150.00	30.00	180.00		Web support quarterly Sept
BAC	Nexus	150	30	180.00		Web support quarterly Dec
Card	Microsoft E1	58.50	11.70	70.20	106.20	Office 365
Card	Microsoft 365 E3	30.00	6.00	36.00		Office 365
BAC	Total salaries	3638.69		3638.69	3638.69	
	Bank Charges	12.60		12.60	12.60	
	Total	13738.67	1968.35	15707.02	15707.02	

Signed
Chairman F&GP

Date

Budget for 2017/2018

	Expenditure excluding vat			Council Meeting January 2018		
	Budget	From re-allocated Reserves	Grants	Budget Expenditure to 11th Dec-17 (exc VAT)	Expenditure - Earmarked Reserves	Grants Expenditure
Budget 2017/18						
COMMONS	£50,510.00	£15,241.00	£14,000	£16,105.01	£6,606.00	£ 12,100.00
LIGHTING	£21,901.00			£15,059.76		
HIGHWAYS	£44,200.00	£103,750.00		£26,088.74	£52,450.30	
GRANTS	£32,900.00	£785.00		£0.00	£785.00	
COMMUNICATION	£10,690.00	£11,000.00		£4,579.00		
BOOST/BKV	£4,000.00	£3,000.00		£1,376.35	£2,210.45	
GENERAL ADMIN	£14,440.00			£9,618.10		
COUNCIL OFFICE	£12,542.00			£7,651.54		
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN	£0.00	£10,000.00			£4,323.85	
SALARIES	£69,000.00			£39,633.68		
PRECEPT / TOTAL	£260,183.00	£143,776.00		£120,112.18	£66,375.60	£ 12,100.00