

# Gerrards Cross Town Council

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

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## Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at Gerrards Cross Memorial Centre.

**Present:** Cllr C Brown (Chairman), Cllr Bayliss, Cllr J Chhokar, Cllr N Holmes, Cllr J O’Keeffe, Cllr H Orme, Cllr J Palmiero, Cllr P Roberts, T Scott, Cllr Surkovic and Cllr J Woolveridge.

**In Attendance:** SBDC Cllr D Smith and Sue Moffat (Town Clerk).

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

**67/18 To accept apologies of absence** – Apologies were received from Cllr A Wood, SBDC Cllr S Chhokar, Bucks CC Cllr B Gibbs and I Gordon.

**68/18 To confirm the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2018.**  
At the proposition of Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Holmes, these Minutes were agreed by Council and signed.

**69/18 Public speaking from residents on matters relevant to the meeting’s agenda.**  
No members of the public were present.

**70/18 To confirm the minutes of the following meetings:-**

**1. Commons Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 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 adding that the Crassula has now been treated with the Foamstream system on both New Pond and Latchmore Pond and has been very successful in eradicating a high proportion of this invasive weed. There will be further discussion regards the work required on the veteran trees in The Camp and a small Field of Remembrance is in the process of being installed by the British Legion at the corner of West Common near to the turning circle.

**2. Highways Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018**

At the proposition of Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr O’Keeffe, the Minutes of the Highways meeting were agreed by Council and signed. Cllr Brown gave a brief summary of the contents of the Minutes. He highlighted Minute 4, the Pilot Pothole Repair scheme which is nearly ready to proceed. Quadrant leaders, with the assistance of a second councillor, will need to identify high visibility potholes. The Town Clerk has just received information from Bucks CC and will send out a list of roads, a training video and guidance notes. Once the agreement in place with the selected contractor we will then be ready to proceed. Regards Minute 8, the purchase order for the CCTV cameras to be installed has now been placed.

**3. Planning Committee Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September and 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018.**

Cllr J Chhokar confirmed the Planning Minutes and gave a brief summary of the contents highlighting those planning applications where objections were raised.

### **71/18 Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) update**

Cllr Holmes reported that there was a meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October and the NPSG is now ready to engage with the public again with their second questionnaire. A hard copy of the questionnaire will be distributed with the VOICE and will also be available on-line. The closing date is 7<sup>th</sup> December so it can also be publicised at the Christmas Festival evening on 5<sup>th</sup> December where the NPSG will have a stand. A return of 5% is classed as a good result. JO enquired about the safeguards of authenticity. HO responded that it was only optional to include either a postcode or name. IB enquired about the benefit of employing consultants. NH responded that Planet Evolving, the Consultants, are highly experienced in this work and have had good results in other parts of the Country. The NPSG proposed to have an £100 draw as an incentive to complete and return the questionnaire. GXTC agreed to have 3 x £100 draws under Section 137 of the LGA 1972, as a higher proportion of returned questionnaires will have a direct benefit to the inhabitants of GX by reflecting the views of the community. The Consultants will then analyse the results of the returned questionnaires.

### **72/18 Communications**

- (i) VOICE – Articles for the November edition are:- WW1 Commemoration, Pond Talk, Sgt Ellis Report, Fire Safety in the Home, flytipping, overgrown hedges, biography of new councillors, BKV Results, Walkie Talkie Litter Picking Group, Neighbourhood Plan and diary of events with some promotions
- (ii) Events – Christmas Festival evening will commence at 5.30pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2018. Station Rd and part of Packhorse Rd (Tesco to Oakend Way) will be closed for the event. Cllr Bayliss offered to set up the stand on the evening.
- (iii) Dates for the Diary –Councillors to report any local events that are taking place in GX.
- (iv) Cllr Surkovic has now joined GX Community Library Charity Trustees. The Library recently held a Quiz Night to raise funds and the evening was a success. Bucks CC are likely to cut funding by 10/15% next year. GX Library is a very active one particularly encouraging children to read and digital training for the older generation. In the past, GX Town (then Parish) Council have donated £20k to the library which is still largely unspent and an update on how this grant will be used would be welcomed. JW offered to publicise the digital training for the older people.
- (v) Cllr Palmiero has offered to help the Manager at Waitrose set up a Shop Watch Scheme for GX. Organised shoplifting in GX is on the increase and anyone caught stealing less than £200 will not be pursued by the police. However if anyone is caught shoplifting and banned from entering a shop under a Shopwatch scheme they can be prosecuted if caught reoffending. The introduction of a Shopwatch scheme may encourage traders to join forces and perhaps set up a Traders Association or Chamber of Commerce again.

**73/18 Resolved to agree the request from Moreland Drive School PTA for a donation towards ‘6 x Kiddie cut out road safety signs’ at £155 each = £930.**

### **74/18 Resolved to approve payments for October 2018**

Cllr Bayliss proposed the payment schedule and this was approved by Council. He reminded councillors of the next F&GP meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> October, which is an important meeting to attend as it is when the Council sets the precept for the following year, 2019/20. All councillors are a member of the F&GP Committee.

### **75/18 Report from County and District Councillor**

**SBDC Report-** Cllr D Smith reported:- (i) Progress for a multi-storey car park in Station Road has been delayed. The business case for the car park will be discussed at the next Cabinet meeting but any action may be delayed if there is a threat of a Judicial Review being made. Therefore unlikely that the building work for a new car park will commence before early Spring in 2020; (ii) Customers Services and Business Support department at SBDC have just won an award for the best Customers Services Team in England; (iii) He has no further updates on Lorry MSA at Beaconsfield Service Station.

### **76/18 Report on Meetings – members update on where they have represented the Town Council since the last meeting.**

**Cllr Brown :-** (i) Pothole meeting with Mark Averill; (ii) Pothole training; (iii) Bucks &MKALC where topics covered were Oxford –Cambridge Express preferred route, LAF training, Health and Social Care explaining the proposed integration of the NHS with Social Services to enable the elderly

and infirm to remain in their homes and free up hospital space, Better Life Strategy, Waste consultation regards possible closures of recycling centres and statistics show this would have no effect on the level of fly-tipping as fly-tipping is usually commercial rather than domestic waste; (iv) SBALC – Request sent to SBDC for parish/town councils to have opportunity to ask for planning application to be decided by Committee rather than the Planning Officer if they raise an objection. Also Burnham PC pointed out that after the PC funding one hours free parking in SBDC’s car park, this action consequently increased use of the car park and Burnham PC could no longer afford to provide free parking; (v) Meeting on West Common with the Police and local residents regards ASB and traffic congestion.

**Cllr Bayliss:-** (i) Finance meeting with HO and SM to discuss budgets for next year; (ii) West Common meeting with Sgt Ellis and 20 local residents. The problem of the parking chaos along West Common was discussed and Sgt Ellis explained any problems should be reported not the Police but to Bucks CC’s Parking Enforcement. Action by GXTC will be to ask Parking Enforcement to pay more attention to the area at peak times and GXTC to write to schools regards the routes taken by school busses.

**Cllr Orme:-** (i) NPSG meeting; (ii) SBALC; (iii) Finance meeting; (iv) West Common meeting where discussed ASB. Sgt Ellis explained that he has limited police resources to carry out regular patrols of the area so the alternative is to look at ways of discouraging this behaviour i.e. discourage the use of areas where ASB occurs which are by the picnic bench by woods and the car park, near Latchmore Pond, at night time . GXTC will look in to this further. Also need to report ASB via 101 or website and Sgt Ellis did recommend via the web site as the 101 call centre is usually very busy. HO said Sgt Ellis provided very good practical and realistic information.

**Cllr T Scott:-** At a recent meeting she attend where she met councillors from other districts it was suggested that collaboration between councils may be a way forward to overcome problems. SM suggested that BUCKS&MKALC may be a good platform for such a debate.

**Cllr Surkovic:-** GX Library meeting.

**Cllr Roberts –** (i) At a recent tour of the roads in the Isle of Wight which is in Hampshire County Council, there were no potholes; (ii) He is arranging a meeting with an Independent Railway Consultant, who previously was the MD for Chiltern Rail, to discuss track and station issues.

**Cllr Palmiero:-** ShopWatch meeting with Manager of Waitrose.

**Cllr O’Keeffe:-** (i) GXCV on 15<sup>th</sup> September.

**Cllr Holmes:-** (i) NPSG; (ii) Station car park meeting at Network Rail HQ with SM. Chiltern Rail have agreed to put money forward for a pre-feasibility study. GXTC also offered money towards this (as agreed by GXTC) and it will be funded proportionally with Chiltern Rail. SBDC and Network Rail were unable to commit funding.

**Cllr J Chhokar:-** Attended a meeting with the Housing Minister on ‘Planning and Future Planning’. The Minister explained there is a massive need for additional housing which will not go away so it is best for councils to involved in shaping the housing development to the needs of the area and a Neighbourhood Plan would supports this. Also district councils are advised to be firmer with developers and encourage social housing.

**Cllr Woolveridge:-** (i) Age Concern are having a big Tea Party on 22<sup>nd</sup> October at GX Memorial Centre. JW also thanked GXTC for the use of the Council Office for their meetings.

**77/18 To note information received in the correspondence at the Town Council Office.**

CB reminded councillors about the Chairmanship Training evening on 18<sup>th</sup> October. ES,JP, TS JO JC, JW, HO,CB and SM are able to attend.

**78/18 To confirm that the next meeting of Gerrards Cross Town Council will be the Town Council meeting to be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2018, 7.30pm at the Memorial Centre.**

**The meeting closed at 9.31 pm**

Signed.....

Date.....



Payments 15th October 2018							
	Chq No/Bacs/D D	Payee	Net Exp.	VAT	Gross Exp		Transaction Details
		<b>Commons</b>					
171	BACS	Amersham Town Council	160.00	32	192.00	3964.27	Install memorial bench
172	BACS	Amersham Town Council	1204.00	240.8	1444.80		Lay bases for picnic benches/seats x 7
173	BACS	Amersham Town Council	130.00	26	156.00		Weekly Playground checks
174	7180	J O'Keeffe	39.02	4.8	43.82	43.82	Additional padlocks for new container
		<b>Highways</b>					
175	BACS	Leigh Electrical	375.00	75	450.00	1050.00	Monthly street lighting contract
176	BACS	Leigh Electrical	340.00	68.00	408.00		New head 57 Howards Wood
177	BACS	Leigh Electrical	80.00	16.00	96.00		Make safe s/l damage Gaviots close
178	BACS	Leigh Electrical	80.00	16.00	96.00		Make safe s/l damage Gaviots Way
179	DD	Southern Electric	549.35	88.72	638.07	638.07	Unmetered electricity
180	BACS	Amersham Town Council	1809.56	361.91	2171.47		Devolved Highways Work
		<b>Administration</b>					
181	BACS	CBE Solutions	92.26	18.45	110.71	110.71	Photocopying
182	DD	Chess	113.50	22.7	136.20	136.20	Telephone and broadband
183	7178	C Brown	23.88		23.88	23.88	Travel expenses to Bucks&MKALC Aylesbury
184	7179	N Holmes	50.10		50.10	50.10	Travel expenses to Network Rail meeting at Quadrant, Milton Keynes ref. Station car park expansion
185	BACS	Came and Company	1374.61		1374.61	1374.61	General Insurance
186	BACS	PKF Littlejohn LLP	600	120	720.00	720.00	External audit
		<b>Parish Office</b>					
187	DD	Affinity for business	2.51		2.51	11.71	Clean water
188	DD	Affinity for business	9.20		9.20		Waste water
		<b>Neighbourhood Plan</b>					
		<b>Communications</b>					
189	BAC	Nexus	100.00	20.00	120.00	120.00	Monthly software and support
190	Card	Microsoft Office 365	84.00	16.80	100.80	143.04	Microsoft 365
191	Card	Microsoft Office 365	35.20	7.04	42.24		Microsoft 365
192		Bank Charges	6.65		6.65	6.65	
193-7	BACS	Salaries	3929.79		3929.79	3929.79	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>11188.63</b>	<b>1134.22</b>	<b>12322.85</b>	<b>12322.85</b>	

Chairman.....

Date.....

Budget for 2018/2019

	Expenditure excluding vat		Council Meeting October 2018		Total Expenditure
	Budget	From re-allocated Reserves	Budget Expenditure to 23rd April 2018 (exc VAT)	Expenditure - Earmarked Reserves	
<b>Budget 2017/18</b>					
<b>COMMONS</b>	£70,110.00	£33,800.00	£4,575.12	£3,819.50	£ 8,394.62
					£ -
<b>LIGHTING</b>	£18,501.00		£8,809.13		£ 8,809.13
					£ -
<b>HIGHWAYS</b>	£53,219.00	£57,000.00	£14,801.49	£611.00	£ 15,412.49
					£ -
<b>GRANTS</b>	£36,571.00	£600.00	£34,571.00	£600.00	£ 35,171.00
					£ -
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	£7,862.00	£11,000.00	£3,713.40		£ 3,713.40
					£ -
<b>BOOST/BKV</b>	£2,000.00				£ -
					£ -
<b>GENERAL ADMIN</b>	£13,705.00		£5,357.09		£ 5,357.09
					£ -
<b>COUNCIL OFFICE</b>	£10,692.00	£1,500.00	£3,351.20	£3,127.00	£ 6,478.20
					£ -
<b>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</b>		£4,080.00		£1,314.00	£ 1,314.00
					£ -
<b>SALARIES</b>	£69,000.00		£24,923.90		£ 24,923.90
					£ -
<b>PRECEPT / TOTAL</b>	£281,660.00	£107,980.00	£100,102.33	£9,471.50	£ 109,573.83