

# Gerrards Cross Town Council

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

Clerk to the Council - Mrs S Moffat clerk@gerrardscross.gov.uk

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## Minutes of the Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Gerrards Cross Memorial Centre.

**Present:** Cllr A Wood (Deputy Mayor chaired the meeting), Cllr J Chhokar, Cllr J O’Keeffe, Cllr H Orme, Cllr P Roberts, Cllr E Surkovic, and Cllr J Woolveridge.

**In Attendance:** Bucks CC Cllr Reed, I Gordon and Sue Moffat (Town Clerk).

**99/19 Declaration of Interests** - Councillors please give any declarations of interest at the beginning of the item on the Agenda.

**100/19 Apologies for absence** – Apologies have been received from Cllr C Brown, Cllr Bayliss, Cllr N Holmes, Cllr J Palmiero, SBDC Cllr S Chhokar, SBDC Cllr D Smith and BCC Cllr B Gibbs.

**101/19 To confirm the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019.**

At the proposition of Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Orme, these Minutes were agreed by Council and signed.

**102/19 Public Speaking** - None.

**103/19 To confirm the minutes of the following meetings which can be found on the web site <http://gerrardscross.gov.uk/meetings-and-minutes-2019/>:-**

**Commons Committee 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020**– At the proposition of Cllr Orme, seconded by Cllr Woolveridge, the Minutes of the Commons Committee were agreed by Council and signed. Cllr Orme highlighted that:- (i) The budget has been reviewed and there is now money available for an Outdoor gym and a single piece of equipment, a train; (ii) Camp Rd Resident Association have now cleared out the gully by the flooded ditch and made a channel from the ditch to the gully. The water level in the ditch has dropped by half. Also the tree stump nearby will be removed to free up another car park space. The logs on the Camp have now been cut up for collection on notification to the Council Office; (iii) The 3 dog bag dispensers have been removed.

**Highways Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019** - At the proposition of Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Orme, the Minutes of the Highways meeting were agreed by Council and signed. Cllr Roberts added that:- (i) Quadrant areas are going to be reviewed. He has sent about 50 photos to the office of road defects and illegal parking for 4 roads in his Quadrant; (ii) SPWP – Agreed to proceed with the third tranche; (iii) Concern was raised about the traffic light filter at the Tesco junction not always working and the length of time it takes for the pedestrian crossing to work. The Town Clerk reported that she has just heard that the 2 additional loops for the traffic light sequencing will not take place until the next financial year; (iv) The correspondence was noted regards the complaint from a resident in South Park Drive having problems with traffic congestion and parked cars blocking vision splay when exiting drive. The Highways Committee agreed that the resident should contact the Highways Authority at Bucks CC. At this Council meeting it was added that there is always traffic congestion outside schools during drop off and pick up which seems to be unavoidable.

Cllr Wood added that:- (i) He has visited the Cinema and Pizza shop to ask them to sweep up the cigarette stubs on the pavement outside their premises which they have agreed to do. He also visited Barclays Bank and the Oak End Way Dentist about flytipping and the Property Management Companies will be contacted to ask for the rubbish to be removed.

**Planning Committee 'virtual meeting' of 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019** - Cllr J Chhokar confirmed the Planning Minutes which were agreed by email during the Christmas period and gave a brief summary of the contents highlighting the 1 planning application where objections were raised.

**Planning Committee 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020**– Cllr J Chhokar confirmed the Planning Minutes and gave a brief summary of the contents highlighting the 2 planning applications where objections were raised. It was noted that there were no further updates regards the deterioration of Bulstrode Park House. It was agreed to ask SBDC exactly what is the next step in the legal procedure to prevent further decline of this historic building.

**104/19 Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) updates.**

- (i) Updates on Work in Progress. Cllr Orme reported that the next meeting is on 11<sup>th</sup> February. They have completed surveying the opinions of the 18-40 age group and they should soon be ready to produce the draft plan which will have to be approved by SBDC and then by a local referendum before submitting the agreed Neighbourhood Plan to the Secretary of State.
- (ii) To approve any proposed expenditure over £500 – No invoices over £500 this month just a £90 invoice for web site support.

**105/19 Communications Working Party Updates**

- (i) VOICE – Articles for the next edition of VOICE in April 2020 - Ongoing.
- (ii) Dates for the Diary – GXTC ATC on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2020. It was agreed to have a 7pm pre-meeting before February's Council meeting to plan the agenda and layout of the ATC.
- (iii) Resolved not to have a stand at the GX Fun Run on May 17<sup>th</sup> 2020.

**106/19 Resolved to approve payments for January 2020 – As attached.**

**107/19 Report from County and District Councillor**

Bucks CC Cllr Reed reported:- (i) On the 7<sup>th</sup> January the Shadow Executive agreed the proposed budget for 2020-21 which would be a 3.99% increase in Council tax (2% of which is ringfenced for adult/social care). Also the Shadow Executive agreed how to harmonise the tax difference between the 4 districts; (ii) The new MP, Joy Morrissey, does not support the new Local Plan and has written to the Secretary of State to this affect as she disagrees with the proposals to release Green Belt when there are Brownfield sites available for development. Also, it does not provide sufficient improvements in the infrastructure to offset the additional housing proposed.

**108/19 Report on Meetings – members update on where they have represented the Town Council since the last meeting.**

**Cllr Roberts** – Nothing to report.

**Cllr Orme** - (i) 6<sup>th</sup> January – Camp Rd Residents meeting regards the ditch and tree stump; (ii) 6<sup>th</sup> January the Fibreoptic talk.

**Cllr Woolveridge:** (i) Fibreoptic meeting; (ii) GXCV where there were 15 volunteers working in East Common cutting back holly.

**Cllr J Chhokar** – Nothing to report but has had feedback from commuters who are in favour of a bigger car park at the Station and lower prices.

**Cllr Holmes** – No report.

**Cllr O'Keeffe** : Nothing to report.

**Cllr Palmiero** – No report.

**Cllr E Surkovic** – Library Trustee meeting and trying to arrange for WeAreGX group to use the library as a meeting place.

**Cllr Bayliss** – No report.

**Cllr Scott** – No report.

**Cllr Brown** – No report.

**Cllr Wood** – (i) 13<sup>th</sup> January - Pothole project Review at Aylesbury with CB and SM. GXTC has now been given permission to extend the pothole repair work until 31 March 2012; (ii) Meeting with Highways England to check the work for the next phase. Some potholes and gullies have been repaired so the list was amended.

**109/19 To note information received in the correspondence at the Town Council Office**

- An Update from GXCA regards building costs at the Memorial Centre – The 3 tenders for the refurbishment of the 3 ladies toilets have been approved at £25k +vat. The final tender for the rebuilding of the garden room has been accepted at £75,900 +vat plus £10-£12k for architect fees.

Feedback on a multipurpose court to replace the tennis courts is positive and costs will be around £70-£80k.

Cllr Wood added that the GXTC did agree for it's grant next year to GXCA to be used towards the Garden Room rebuild as the ladies toilets will be refurbished this year. Also Highways UK have offered to repair the potholes in GXCA's car park if there is spare capacity of tarmac from GXTC's Pothole Repair project.

- Circulation of a letter from the Mayor of Buckingham Town Council expressing disappointment that the new Bucks Shadow Council has not provided better representation for town and parish councils in the proposed new system of Community Boards and have requested. GXTC was in support of this letter.

**110/19 To confirm that the next Council Meeting of Gerrards Cross Town Council will be at 7.30pm on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020.**

**The meeting closed at 8.15 pm**

Signed.....

Date.....

Payments 20 January 2020

Chq No/Bacs/DD	Payee	Net Exp.	VAT	Gross Exp		Transaction Details
	<b>Commons</b>					
315 BACS	Amersham Town Council	130.00	26	156.00	8356.00	Weekly Playground inspection
316 BACS	Amersham Town Council	5000.00	1000	6000.00		Fosse Work
317 BACS	Latchmore Garden Care	85.00		85.00	85.00	Cleaning paths in commons
318 BACS	Mylyn Security Lid	1201.00	240.2	1441.20	1441.20	Rhino post repairs
319 BACS	Gpex	288.00	57.6	345.60	423.60	Signs
320 BACS	Gpex	20.00	4	24.00		pump plaque
321 BACS	Gpex	45.00	9	54.00		GXCV signs
	<b>Highways</b>					
322 BACS	Leigh Electrical	375.00	75	450.00	3872.08	Monthly street lighting contract
323 BACS	Leigh Electrical	40.00	8.00	48.00		Move MVAS
324 BACS	Leigh Electrical	90.00	18.00	108.00		Replacement vandalised shade and lamp
325 BACS	Leigh Electrical	1100.00	220.00	1320.00		3 new heads
326 BACS	Leigh Electrical	1580	368	1946.08		Removal and storage of Christmas lights
327 DD	Southern Electric	291.53	56.45	347.98	347.98	Unmetered Electricity x 2 invoices
328 BACS	Amersham Town Council	1833.33	366.67	2200.00		Devolved Highways Work
329 BACS	Bucks CC	900.00	180	1080.00	1080.00	Speed survey
330 BACS	Westotoc	1390.00	278	1668.00	1668.00	VAS sign service and repair
331 BACS	Windowflowers	750.00	150	900.00	900.00	Plant spring flowers and Maintain troughs
	<b>Administration</b>					
332 BACS	GXCA	188.42	6.88	195.30	195.30	Room rental and Christmas refreshments
333 BACS	Viking	115.39	10.88	126.27	126.27	
334 DD	Chess	118.74	23.75	142.49	142.49	Telephone and broadband
335 BACS	CCS Ltd	359.87	71.97	431.84	431.84	Photocopying
336 BACS	SBALC	64.00		64.00	64.00	Subscription
337	Bank Charges	13.65		13.65	13.65	
	<b>Neighbourhood Plan</b>					
338 BACS	Webfx	80.00	16.00	96.00	96.00	Web support
	<b>Communications</b>					
339 BAC	Nexus	100.00	20.00	120.00	300.00	Monthly software and support
340 BAC	Nexus	150.00	30.00	180.00		Web support
341 Card	Microsoft Office 365	84.00	16.80	100.80	143.04	Microsoft 365
342 Card	Microsoft Office 365	35.20	7.04	42.24		Microsoft 365
	<b>Parish Office</b>					
343 BACS	GXCA	1500.00	0	1500.00	1500.00	Quarterly ground rent
344 DD	Affinity	59.29		59.29	59.29	Waste and clean water
345 DD	Gazprom	50.38	2.52	52.90	52.90	Electricity supply
346-350 BAC	Salaries	4302.35		4302.35	4302.35	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>22340.15</b>	<b>3262.76</b>	<b>25600.99</b>	<b>25600.99</b>	

Signed

Date

Budget for 2019/20

	Budget 2019-20	Earmarked Reserves	Expenditure of budget as at 10th December 2019 (excluding VAT)	Expenditure of Earmarked Reserves as at 10th December 2019
<b>COMMONS</b>	£45,150.00	£99,925.00	£13,574.92	£60,169.68
<b>LIGHTING</b>	£18,501.00		£17,226.40	
<b>HIGHWAYS</b>	£77,750.00	£168,800.00	£30,784.78	£21,445.13
<b>GRANTS</b>	£36,370.00		£31,316.95	
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	£7,662.00	£8,000.00	£4,398.60	£2,500.00
<b>GENERAL ADMIN</b>	£22,485.00		£10,073.57	
<b>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</b>		£13,171.00		£2,397.00
<b>COUNCIL OFFICE</b>	£11,442.00		£7,253.64	
<b>SALARIES</b>	£69,000.00		£37,912.49	
<i>Earmarked Reserves Total</i>		£289,896.00		£86,511.81
<b>PRECEPT / TOTAL BUDGET</b>	£288,360.00		£152,541.35	