

BRACKNELL TOWN COUNCIL
STRATEGY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
11th September 2018

Present: Chairman	Cllr: Chris Turrell
Vice Chair	Cllr: Gill Birch
	Cllrs: Iain McCracken
Town Clerk	Jackie Burgess
Substitutes:	Cllr: Michael Gibson
Co-Opted:	Cllr: Diana Henfrey.
Apologies:	Cllrs: Jennie McCracken, Malcolm Tullett, Sanjeev Prasad, Isabel Mattick
Absent:	Paul Bidwell, Marc Brunel-Walker
In Attendance:	Rachel Gordge (CA)

The meeting opened at 7.36pm and closed at 8.26pm

2350 Declarations of Interest

None

2351 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held 12th June 2018 were agreed and accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed by Chairman.

2352 Matters arising out of the minutes

1704/1632 Bracknell Gymnastics Club 17/01091/FUL: The planning application is still pending.

2089 – Land Transfer: An update will be brought to the Strategy and Finance meeting on 13th November 2018.

2268 – Land Inventory: Rachel Gordge has now joined the BTC team in Brooke House as Clerical Assistant and therefore work on this can now begin.

2268 – Bus Stops: BTC currently does not have a budget for the installation of new Bus Shelters. Following research it was agreed that the cost of supplying two new bus shelters at Hanworth Road (near Brunswick) and Bagshot Road (going out of town) was cost prohibitive and not value for money in an area that is quite well provided for already. The Committees recommendation is that this matter is not progressed at this point in time. **AGREED**

2353 External auditors Report

The report for BTC has still not been received. **NOTED**

2354 Health and Safety

There have been a few wasp stings, a sprain and the recent assault is still being dealt with by the police. **NOTED**

2355 Budget Monitoring Working Group

An update was given by the Chairman of the Budget Monitoring Group. Appreciation was noted to Laura Boorman (FAO) who obtained BTC a refund of approximately £4000 from Castle Water. The Teddy Bears Picnic raised a profit of £210.27 and there were reports of well organised parking and good organisation. This profit will go into the Teddy Bears Picnic fund for 2019.

Cllr Gill Birch recommended following a suggestion from Councillor I McCracken that BTC should be advertising what work is taking place and what work has been completed on Social Media so that the public are aware of the work that has been done by the Council.

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STRATEGY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

11th September 2018

It was clarified that due to the Mayors Charity account not accepting BACS payments, donations via BACS for the Mayor's Charity can be paid into BTC account and paid via cheque to the Mayor's Charity account for ease.

2356 Great Hollands Pavilion Working Group

An update was given by the Chairman of the Great Hollands Pavilion Working Group. The project is up to specification and currently within budget. The commercial opening has been pushed to 21st November but Francis Construction are hoping to bring this back to 14th November 2018, with a formal opening early 2019 with the splash pad being opened around Easter. Cllr Iain McCracken to invite Cemetery and Crematorium Manager to the next Pavilion meeting to discuss additional parking. It was agreed to put a non-date specific article in Bracknell Matters to encourage public interest. Cllr Iain McCracken suggested also speaking to Cllr Mary Temperton to get an article in Great Hollands Matters too.

2357 Community Events Working Group

An update was given on the progression of the WW1 Event. There will be fortnightly meetings to organise the Remembrance Event. There are 12 schools signed up for the competition and plans for the stalls, poems and assemblies are under way. Some marquee tents have been acquired for the event. Cllr Chris Turrell is working with the bus companies and would like to get posters on the side of the buses.

The roads around the event will not be closed but barriers will be used and the virtual reality experience will now be in a tent. It was suggested that this event could also be put in the press release.

2358 Carbon Footprint Working Group

An update was given about the Carbon Footprint Working Group. Renewable energy is to be assessed in 2020. The financial impact needs to be clear before this is agreed. The issue of new lights in the public toilets was discussed. The light colour needs to be considered as some colours help to discourage drug use. If lights are changed in the public toilets then it should be consistent in the new pavilion. The RFM is currently researching the cost of replacing all current lights with LED units.

The wording of the proposed motion from the Carbon Footprint Working Group was amended and this will be taken to Full Council for approval. The Motion was unanimously APPROVED by the Committee.

“BTC to consider switching to renewable energy once the current energy contracts are up for renewal in 2020 and 2021” AGREED

Cllr Chris Turrell advised that the Carbon Footprint Reduction Programme 2018-2028 is a working document and will be revised as updates are received.

2359 Budget 2019/20

Councillors were requested to contact the Town Clerk if they had any items they wished to be included in the budget discussions. The election costs for May 2019 are expected to exceed the amount budgeted for, additional monies are required to be ear marked within the 2019/20 budget. Thresfield play area path needs to be an all-weather path and the Town Clerk will lead the choice of which material is used for the path taking into consideration the water table and the area itself.
AGREED

2360 Corporate and Business Service Risk Assessment Register

The Risk Assessment was reviewed. NOTED

BRACKNELL TOWN COUNCIL
STRATEGY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

11th September 2018

2361 Birch Hill Recreational Ground Astro Pitch

It is anticipated that the works on the new surface at the astro turf at Birch Hill Recreation Ground will be completed by 15th October. Officers have been working with all the clubs who use the site to try and avoid too many disruptions to the scheduled programme. Extra work was required when it was discovered the shock pad needed to be replaced. Due to savings elsewhere there will be no change to the bottom line of the 2018/19 budget.

Confidential Business

To move that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as applied by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, Members of the Press and Public were excluded from the meeting.

2362 South Hill Park Trust

Jane Li and Mike O'Donovan, two new SHP Trustees have added a question to the next Agenda about funding to the SHP Finance subcommittee. This question has been raised before and BTC are keen to hear why these amounts are being carried forward.

Cllr Diana Henfrey is meeting with Eric Macias on 18th September as the previous meeting on 4th September was cancelled. This is to discuss the 2018/19 Grant conditions.

The SHP minutes for 27th August have not yet been circulated.

A meeting was held between Chief Executive Craig Titley, BTC Town Clerk Jackie Burgess and BTC Leader Cllr Chris Turrell in August. This was to discuss turning the print room into a function room and the structural changes and budget that would be needed to take place to achieve this. An email received from the Chair of the Trustees advising that work has started on the Print Room move but that the Trustees are investigating further capital support to allow the function room refurbishment to proceed.

The accounts at each monthly board meeting are dated two months earlier.

Thanks to Cllr Ian Kirke for deputising for Cllr Diana Henfrey whilst she was absent at two recent meetings.

The BTNP Consultation draft includes policy EV12 to retain SHP as an Arts Centre.

Next Meeting –13th November 2018 at 7.30pm Council Chamber Brooke House

SignedDated