



WHITEHILL TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON 27th APRIL 2018 AT 7.00PM AT THE PHOENIX ARTS CENTRE, STATION ROAD, BORDON, HAMPSHIRE, GU35 0LR.

PRESENT:

Cllr A Carew, Cllr C Leach, Cllr M Davison, Cllr I Georgii, Cllr C Mitchell, Cllr Miss S Pond, Cllr R Russell, Cllr A Tree, Cllr A Waterhouse and Cllr Mrs L Webber.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Andrea Mann (Town Clerk), David Melsome (Deputy Town Clerk), Wendy Penfold (Senior Administrator) and Chris Norkett (Grounds Officer).

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 51

1. Introduction and welcome

The Chairman welcomed Councillors, guest speakers and members of the public to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies received.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 08th May 2017

The minutes of the meeting 8th May 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman. (Proposed by Cllr I Georgii and seconded by Cllr A Carew, 6 Members present agreed).

4. Whitehill Town Council 2018 – Councillor C. Leach

Councillor Leach gave a presentation regarding his year of office as Mayor. He highlighted the growth within the Town that continued at a great pace, and the re-invigoration this would give to the whole town.

5. Questions regarding the above item - none

6. Whitehill and Bordon – Guest Speakers

- a) Mr Adam Carew from Woolmer Heritage Society gave a presentation regarding the history of Whitehill and Bordon.
- b) Mr Rob Allerston, Manager of the Phoenix Theatre and Arts Centre, co-ordinated a presentation from three residents of Whitehill and Bordon, involving life and living in the area which formed part of the Bordon Reflections Project.
- c) Mr James Child and Mr James Gross from the Whitehill and Bordon Regeneration Company gave an overview of heritage in the new Town Centre.
- d) Questions to the above presenters.

Question	Response
Are local Councils seeking to stop funding to local organisations, and will Whitehill Town Council approve this funding cut?	Community Transport funding is agreed for the coming year, and similarly funding availability for 2018/2019 is unchanged.



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Concerns raised regarding the future of the Forest Community Centre.	Discussions are still ongoing with no decision made as yet.
The majority of people live on the eastern side of the existing A325, therefore why has a decision been made to slow the traffic down?	Councillor response that no-one wished to see the bus laybys removed as part of the changes.
What are the plans to increase resources to meet the expanded town?	General discussion followed.
When is the relief road due to be finished and is it wide enough?	After the constructor issues, Skanskia had replaced Carillion and the road should be completed by Quarter 3.
Are there plans still to demolish the Roman Catholic Church, and what would happen to the stained glass windows?	Early stage discussions were taking place with the Diocese of Portsmouth, and there were some significant discussions still to take place before any statement could be made regarding the church.
What were the views regarding opinion that the relief road would not serve the purpose of taking traffic from the existing A325? What was the purpose of placing traffic restrictions along one side of Station Road?	As with the existing A325, there are national standards for road design; the new A325 will meet these standards. Station Road – the bollards have been removed Once opened and monitored, the new relief road will become the A325. The existing A325 will be de-designated There had been a lack of attention to detail in some areas, and shared concerns on minor enhancements. With regard to HGV movement, the original plan was to dissuade HGV's from the town. The plan is to encourage a route on part of the existing A325 and in through the top part of the town
The biggest asset of the town is the heathland. The belief that the town centre is too big and will damage the green areas. A major area of concern is pollution from vehicles. Replacement for trees that have been removed are still awaited – what are the plans?	The project seeks to minimalise vehicle journeys, and there is a public transport strategy in progress. For land parcels 4.1 and 4.2 there is reference to green initiatives within the planning applications. Within the Town Centre there is a plan to replace 64,000 trees. Hampshire County Council have requested – and made offers, for trees to be replaced – with native species as appropriate.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Signed..... Chairman

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