

## **CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Cinderford Town Council held at The Council Chamber, Cinderford on Tuesday, 11th December 2018 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

### **PRESENT**

COUNCILLORS; C. Witham (Chair), R.A. Sterry (Mayor), T.R. Holder, Mrs J. Johnson, Mrs E.D. Martin, G.L. Morgan (8.10 pm), Ms S. Reader, Mrs L.I. Sterry, M. Turner.

Town Clerk - Mrs L.L. Thomas

APOLOGIES for Absence were received from Cllrs C. Brown, Mrs L. Bent, M.M. Coborn, Mrs K. Turner, R. Pritchard

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded them that the meeting was being live streamed, in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Town Council, and as contained in the openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014.

There was no public participation.

The Chair welcomed Sue Middleton (Foresters Forest) to the meeting to speak about the Hidden Heritage App. Foresters Forest had helped to produce a Forest and Coleford Hidden Heritage App which created an innovative way to tell the history of the area without littering areas with information boards, by creating apps which gave faded images of areas as they were by precisely aligning images as they are now. As Cinderford had a wealth of history, they considered this would also make a good Hidden Heritage App, but would require funding of £6/7k from the Town Council and take approximately 9 months to deliver.

Sue also wished to inform Members of a scheme currently running where a shortlist of potential candidates had been listed to receive a Blue or Green plaque in recognition of the individuals and she asked if any Town Councillor would be willing to champion any of the Cinderford characters, being; Sir Charles Dilke and Dame Muriel Powell (both Blue), Dr. Bangara and Leopold Rudelsheim (both Green). Cllrs Mrs Di Martin and Ms Sally Reader agreed to champion Dame Muriel Powell, and it was suggested that maybe Cllr Morgan would be interested in this too.

An area at Ruspidge Halt would be a butterfly conservation area, and had been fenced off, to allow for animal grazing during August-November 2019. Two new information boards had been erected to inform Members of the Public.

The Chair thanked Sue for attending and she then left the meeting at 7.30 p.m.

RESOLVED that funding for a Hidden Heritage App be discussed when considering the budget at the January meeting.

### **105. MINUTES - PLANNING MEETING.**

The Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on Tuesday 20th November 2018, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### **106. MINUTES.**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 13th November 2018, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### **107. DONATION REQUEST RECEIVED FROM RUSPIDGE GOLDEN OLDIES.**

Although the group met in Ruspidge, 50% of the attendees came from Cinderford. They had organised a Christmas meal for all their Members, which with travelling would cost around £550. and had written asking if the Town Council would contribute £150. towards their outing.

RESOLVED £150. be given, under  
Section 137.

**108. HSBC BANK PROJECT.**

Following a meeting of the working group and Architects, it had been suggested that a consultation event be held on Friday 14th and Saturday 15th December, 10 - 1 pm at the old Bank building. Polly and Chris would be available on the Friday, but Councillors would be needed to man the Saturday morning. It was also suggested that any possible extension be left for future consideration, and that Council apply for Change of Use in the near future. The Working Group had been pleased to see the suggestions put forward and looked forward to seeing the plans and VR model. The Architects had also suggested engaging a Quantity Surveyor or to a good builder who should be able to give some costings on the proposal. Following the consultation event, the Architects would update and issue the Feasibility Study document in mid January which would complete the works as agreed, and asked if Council would like a fee quote and programme for the next stage of work.

RESOLVED Council proceed with the  
planning application and to consult  
as suggested on costings, and to ask  
the Architects for a fee quote.

**109. SPEEDING ON VALLEY ROAD.**

A resident of Kings Lodge estate off Valley Road had complained to Cllr Morgan regarding the speeding traffic on Valley Road and asked for this to be investigated. Cllr Morgan had contacted Highways who confirmed they would put in some temporary 30 mph speed limit reminder signs, which would take a few weeks, as the signs had to be ordered in. However as the Police would need evidence, he currently had no budget for a speed survey to be carried out and asked if the Town Council would be willing to pay for this, which would be approximately £220. Whilst Members acknowledged the issue of speeding in this area, they asked the Clerk to contact the Police to see if they would do the speed survey, and hoped that the temporary signs would encourage people to slow down. They asked the Clerk to include this as a future agenda item.

RESOLVED accordingly.

**110. PURCHASE OF SNOW BLOWER.**

The Chair had spoken with Scott and Ryan regarding the possible purchase of a snowblower to help them with any snow clearance in the future and which he had costed at £800/£1,000. Members agreed it would be easier than expecting the men having to shovel snow and less time consuming, and agreed for the Chair and Clerk to pursue the purchase.

RESOLVED accordingly.

**111. GCC - ROAD CLOSURES.**

The Clerk had received the following road closure notifications;

- Elton Road and Church Street, Littledean - 10th - 21st Dec 09.00-15.00 excl. w/ends.
- Broad Street and New Street, Littledean - 7th - 21st January 09.00-15.00 excl w/ends.
- St. Johns Square, o/s Carmel - o/s 32 for new water connection - 25th-27th Feb 2019.
- Speech House Road for Forest Half Marathon - 24th March 2019 08.30 - 12.00.

**112. CORRESPONDENCE.**

- Wesley Players - acknowledgement and thanks for donation and four complimentary tickets for the opening night on 11th January 2019.
- Poppy Appeal Box - £21.44 collected.
- FVAF - Notice of Forest Youth Association Meeting 16th January at 7 pm at the West Dean Centre.

- Glos Wildlife Association - Pine Marten project link for further information - [www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk](http://www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk).
- Glos College - Suggestion for Students to assist with planting Town Centre tubs.
- Crossroads - Trustees have decided not to accept the offer from the Town Council for day care services, but admin offices would remain as they are.

#### **113. MEMBERS REPORTS.**

- Cllr Mrs Martin had intended to give a report on the District budget, but this had not been discussed due to no announcement being made by the Government. As Cllr Brown had been unable to attend, Cllr Mrs Martin informed Members that FVAF were making a Christmas Hamper for a refugee family living in Cinderford and asked for any donations to be taken into Chris at FVAF.
- Cllr Morgan had prepared a County Cllr Report, which was taken as read (to be emailed to Members) and attached to these Minutes. He had attended a Road Safety meeting where they had received information about a new ANPR camera which could also record speeds of vehicles which could be used as a deterrent by the Police for persistent speeding vehicles, (full details in minutes of Road Safety meeting). Members agreed the information/funding should be followed up.
- Cllrs Mrs Sterry had also attended the Road Safety meeting and had spoken with Brian Watkins about the reinstatement of the central white lines in Cinderford High Street and Members agreed the Clerk write to Highways asking them to consider the request.

Cllr Mrs Jane Johnson left the meeting at 8.20 p.m.

#### **114. COLLINGWOOD SKATEPARK.**

The Chair had received information he wished to share with Members but suggested it should be discussed as a confidential item. Report attached for Members.

RESOLVED the item be taken with  
the exclusion to Press and Public.

#### **115. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.**

Members were circulated with the figures for accounts requiring payment and it was;

RESOLVED the accounts and wages  
totaling the following amounts be paid;  
BVC/CTC - £11,507.83  
BVC - £3,642.61  
CTC - £3,345.63

#### **116. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

RESOLVED the next Meeting be held on  
Tuesday, 8th January 2019 at 7 p.m.

#### **117. CLOSURE.**

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.