



Minutes of the
**TOWN DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE**

Tuesday 9th July 2018 at 6.30pm
The Day Room
Waveney Local Office
London Road
Halesworth

Minutes

Present: Councillors; P Dutton, K Forster, D Thomas (Chair), K Greenberg, D Wollweber, M Took, A Fleming.

In Attendance: N Rees (Clerk) and one member of the public.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr S Leverett.
2. **Declarations of interest:** There were no interests declared.
3. **Minutes:** The minutes of the last meeting held on the 11th June, 2018 were accepted as a true record.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes:** Cllr Dutton requested a copy of the Rivers report, Cllr Thomas confirmed that the report was being produced by SCC and he would forward it to the Clerk for distribution as soon as he received it from SCC.

The Clerk would forward any feedback received from the MPs regarding information on how to get another cash point machine in the town.

5. **Review of the Town Development Committee** – To discuss the future of the TDC. The Chair was open to suggestions on the future of the Committee but felt it would be a shame to dissolve it as it had an important role in studying subjects in more depth which the full Council did not necessarily have the time to review properly. It was noted that some important working groups and sub-committees had been formed from the TDC namely; London Rd Building group, Urban improvement Working Group, Neighbourhood Plan, Town Plan, etc. Cllr Forster wished to review the important subjects in the town and work out what group, councillor or committee should deal with it. Cllr Wollweber felt that there was too much duplication and suggested that perhaps the TDC could meet on an ad hoc basis. Cllr Dutton felt that the current situation with working groups reporting to the TDC and then to the full Council was making the process of decision making far too slow. It was noted that the TDC agendas were, in recent times, lacking content and this had brought about the question of whether it needed reviewing. The Clerk was asked his opinion, and advised that the TDC was acting as a hub for other working groups and at times some of the subject matter was too involved for a normal monthly council meeting. It was therefore performing a function and was difficult to replace without forming more groups or committees but it was questionable as to whether it needed to meet every month.

Cllr Wollweber then proposed and it was RESOLVED that the TDC becomes an Ad Hoc Committee with the amendment that the Terms of Reference would be reworded by the Clerk for circulation to the members for agreement and that this would take effect from the 1st of September 2018. The renamed and reconstituted Committee would, as its first item of business, elect a Chair and Vice Chair. It was also clarified that working groups of the new Committee may meet on several occasions between meetings of the new committee. The committee would be called as required to review and agree an action from a working group or called upon by the full Council to consider an important matter for consideration.

As part of the review the Clerk would attempt to clarify a list of subjects that needed defining in terms of which committees or working groups should tackle it.

6. **London Road Building (LRB)**– There were no further updates. The Chair felt it was time to put pressure on WDC to make a decision. Cllr Wollweber however was of the opinion that it was better to leave the current situation as it was and continue to investigate options on the Community Building, whilst leaving the negotiations on the LRB open which had been agreed at the Council meeting in May. It was noted from several Cllrs that HTC had cultivated a good relationship with WDC Planners and the Policy team and it was vital to keep this going in order to maximise the chances of obtaining a new community building. Cllr Dutton and Cllr Forster were due to meet with the Planning Policy officers on Wednesday and would report back.
7. **Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC)** – To consider any effect on Halesworth. It was noted that the main consideration was the area, known as Blything, which included Halesworth and some surrounding villages. The designated area however did not make logical sense in that it positioned Halesworth at the bottom of the area and excluded the villages of Cookley, Chediston and Walpole, all of which were intrinsically connected to Halesworth from the aspect of rivers, flooding, housing development, shopping and contributions to the free parking. It was noted that the district had been divided into roughly equal parts in terms of number of electors and therefore it might be possible to remove Wenhaston, Blyford and Sotherton if necessary but add the villages mentioned above to make the area more logical. It was then RESOLVED that the Clerk would write a draft response to the LGBC suggesting this amendment and explaining the reasons behind it and that he would also contact the relevant parish councils for their feedback. The draft would be circulated to all the members of the Council for comment but as there was not sufficient time to take this to the next monthly meeting the response would have to be agreed by email. No reply or comment would be taken as agreement.
8. **Urban Improvement Working Group (UIWG)** – To discuss possible projects arising from the survey. Cllr Dutton explained aspects of the report that had been included in the Cllrs packs. The survey had provided some interesting results but it should be noted that most of the participants were over 60 and that very few businesses had taken part, despite being invited to do so. Cllr Dutton reported that there had been some resistance from Highways to consider these ideas initially but Cllr Goldson had since conceded that there were some merit to some of the suggestions. The UIWG would meet again to prioritise the list and hopefully involve Cllr Goldson and Highways engineers to help to progress matters further.
9. **CIL and S106 projects** – To receive any updates. The Clerk reported that the cost of resurfacing in the Arboretum was £8,000. At the monthly meeting Cllr Goldson had said he would pursue this on behalf of HTC as it was owned by WDC and it was a health and safety matter. The Clerk would liaise with Cllr Goldson to try and get the work completed as soon as possible and if necessary the Committee would recommend that HTC contributes towards the cost between 25% and 40% but only if this was the only way to get WDC to act quickly. The matter of CCTV was raised again but it was noted that this would be taken to the next Forum meeting for feedback from residents.
10. **Website** - To consider any items for the website. It was agreed that the Clerk's office would advise residents that the TDC would no longer meet on a monthly basis but notice would be given when the next meeting was scheduled.
11. **Maintenance** – To receive any updates. The Clerk reported that SCC Highways had, with minor amendments, agreed two positions for posts for the VAS signs along Saxon Way and further that the installation of the posts would be actioned and funded by SCC. This would hopefully slow traffic down at the Swan Lane crossing and give the Council useful data to forward to the Police.
12. **Correspondence** – There was no correspondence.

The meeting was closed at 8.20pm