

**Minutes of the remote meeting of Hay Town Council
held at 6.00 pm on
4 September 2020**

Present: Cllr Trudy Stedman (TS) Cllr J Prothero (JPr) Cllr A Powell (AP)
 Cllr F Howard (FH) Cllr I Keith (IK) Cllr S Morris (SM)
 Cllr D Landymore (DL) Cllr R Golesworthy (RWG)

Apologies: None

In Attendance: Cllr G Radcliffe (GR) C Watkins (CW)

2587. Declarations of Interest and Code of Conduct

TS – Hay Woodland Group, Hay in Bloom
AP – HADSCAL, The Warren, Hay Woodland Group
FH – HADSCAL, Cheesemarket Trustee, Castle Trust, The Warren & proposed cycleway
RWG – HADSCAL, The Warren, niece is working on the Kingdom Project, Trustee of the British Legion, the Buttermarket
JPr – Hay in Bloom
SM – The Warren, Cubs and Scouts Leader 1st Hay Scouts, Explorers, Summer Show
DL – Owner of business in Hay, Charlotte’s of Hay

2588. Minutes of the meeting dated 28 August 2020

IK said that agenda item 2580 should read that the hatched area and speed bumps/measures are separate.

IK also raised the paragraph relating to Councillors and communication with Powys CC.

The original paragraph read: “Councillors in general felt that there was a lack of clear communication from Powys CC as to how the Social Distancing measures have been implemented, are reviewed and now seem to be changing to a “café culture” message”.

The following phrase was to be added: IK did not agree with this but voted with the other Councillors that HTC write to Powys to gain clarity.

On 2585 – amend spelling of machine.

2589. Matters Arising

NB has written to the Bowls Club asking about their intentions to return the land to its original condition and TS has approved the wording so it will have been sent.

2590. Social Distancing Measures in Hay

i) Chamber of Commerce’s requests (dated 28th August)

The Councillors discussed the points raised by the Chamber of Commerce.

Cllr Gareth Radcliffe told the Councillors about his conversation with the Head of Licensing, Powys re social distancing (SD). There appeared to be differences between what Powys CC and Jo Lancey were saying. As HTC understand, HTC can say yes or no to a business opening in Memorial Square car park, but would need to give a good reason if it said no. HTC cannot dictate the terms of the use. Expressions of Interest forms are being passed to Jo Lancey and then businesses need to apply for a licence to Powys. Jo has said that she would make the final decision. HTC can comment but it is for her to assess them. Jo has said that she doesn't want more than one takeaway business at once. There appeared to be some confusion about Memorial Square car park. The Councillors agreed that TS would draft a letter to Powys, requesting clarity, and pass it to the Councillors for their comments.

Benches and Planters for Memorial Car park

Councillors were unsure whether Powys CC who own the car park were intending to permanently close the car park. If the car park was to be closed permanently, a consultation with residents and businesses would need to be done. Was the car park to be opened in winter? If so, it didn't make sense for Powys CC to spend money making it more attractive.

FH suggested one use of the town centre would be a Saturday market and John Evans and Emily Daw would be happy to consider establishing one. The Councillors agreed that Hay town centre needs more life.

IK reminded the Councillors that plans for spending the 10k for SD measures need to be agreed by the end of November.

GR suggested that what he heard from Powys re SD measures was different to what Jo Lancey was saying. He was told a marquee could be put in and lighting. Any business will need a risk assessment for Covid 19. Once HTC had agreed a business could use the square, a licence from Powys will be needed and objections can be made. HTC can change their plans and open up the centre from Monday to Wednesday and be closed Thursday to Sunday, for example. Local existing businesses were supposed to benefit. HTC have been told that if they do not wish to be involved, then Hay Chamber of Commerce could be asked to work with Powys CC instead.

However, HTC represents a greater part of the community, both residents and businesses. GR will ask Powys how many businesses Hay CofC represents.

Voluntary Contributions

Councillors were unsure if voluntary contributions could be accepted as the square car park belongs to Powys CC. However, money for maintenance would be useful if the situation carries on as it is. Powys CC's money can only be used for buying the planters for example, with HTC carrying the costs of buying further plants.

Active Travel and Long-term message re. Pedestrianisation

This was discussed but the Councillors felt it is not HTC's role to educate people about active travel. Similarly pedestrianisation is not working for all businesses. The Councillors thought that the best option would be consultation with Hay's residents and businesses.

Bicycle Parking/ Shelter

Councillors believed that the current cycle parking was not being used to its full capacity and that covers were not necessary. As to the cycle racks being in the wrong places or too far from the centre, it was thought that cyclists would not mind walking to the centre as they were active people. IK raised the issue of bike theft.

FH said some cyclists were riding too fast or against the one-way system.

ii) Expression of Interest - site visit requested by Origin Pizza

FH believed that HTC should not get involved.

On a separate issue, there was a possible breach of GDPR as the businesses who had sent in expressions of interest had been sent each other's email addresses. One business was unhappy at that. TS to discuss this with NB.

iii) Residents' feedback Facebook - including issue of fines from traffic warden(s)/ permits

IK had been told that one resident was struggling to take her shopping to her house. The Councillors thought the resident had enough parking for several cars at her property. IK to check with the resident re her situation.

iv) Residents' feedback Thursday 3rd September 2020 - IK & DL

IK was not able to spare the time that day. DL was waiting for confirmation about what questions should be asked. The Councillors discussed the kind of questions that should be on the survey. A few open questions were thought the best such as, "Has the SD measures impacted you, and in what ways?" "What would you like to see the money used on?"

An email with guidance on what the money could be spent on, had been sent to TS, SM and IK and this would be shared with the other Councillors. TS will draft a few questions and circulate these to the rest of the Council. This survey could be printed and circulated next week. The Councillors discussed how to ensure maximum participation in the survey. Collection points could be used e.g. the Co-op, the Post Office, Syd's shop and the Buttermarket.

v) Social media/ communications protocol

IK said she had been speaking to members of a private parents group on social media but had not been speaking as a Councillor. The Councillors agreed that informal feedback was given to all councillors at times.

vi) B&R request for a response from HTC

The B&R have requested a response to a story they are running in their paper about how SD measures are working in Hay and what HTC thought

of Powys CC's decisions. TS agreed to send a statement saying HTC were working with Powys CC to find the best solution for towns in the time of Covid. All agreed with this. TS to email HTC's response through to the B&R.

AP thought part of the problem was that Powys CC officials don't know Hay as well as the people living there and didn't want to take advice. Another problem was that their maps didn't appear to be completely accurate about traffic flow e.g. Brook Street being one-way. SM told the Councillors that some towns have re-opened closed streets e.g. Hereford.

TS said that consultation with the people of Hay was the best way to establish what the people wanted.

2591. Haygarth Surgery- reduction in hours

Councillors were not happy at the reduction of hours in the surgery. TS went to a remote meeting regarding this. In Haygarth, the diagnosis of serious illness has not been dropping as has happened in other parts of Britain, which has been put down to the use of the triage system in Haygarth. This costs £80k a year to run. TS said the local Health Board could have applied for additional funds to pay for this but chose not to. Haygarth had been relying on this additional money to help pay for the triage. TS will draft a letter to the Local Health Board and to Haygarth regarding the loss of hours.

RWG and AP left the meeting at 7.25pm

2592. AOB

GR will look at the Active Travel letter that IK will send to Powys.

GR has asked for update on charging points - they have planning permission but there are funding issues.

He has chased Powys for clarification about the Cattle St resurfacing and problems with Hay Bridge.

SM asked GR about card machines for the car park. There was an issue as signs say the machines do not take card payments. He will update HTC when he hears something. The two hours' parking has ended.

2593. Grievance panel to appoint 3 Cllrs – confidential session

A confidential matter was then discussed with members of the public excluded.

The next meeting will take place at the Sports Pavilion on Monday 14th September at 6.30 pm. SM and NB to do a risk assessment but the meeting will be limited to Councillors only.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

Signed:

T. Shedman,

Date: 14th September 2020