

BRACKLEY TOWN COUNCIL
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You are hereby summoned to attend a Meeting of the **Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee** to be held on **Monday 17th July 2017**, in the Old Fire Station Community Room, 37 High Street, Brackley immediately following the meeting of the Planning & General Works Committee.

Dated: 12th July 2017



Town Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

AGENDA

156/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

157/17 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda, **and the nature of that interest**, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and Brackley Town Council's Code of Conduct.

158/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

This section of the meeting gives members of the public who are present an opportunity to speak. You may speak on any item which appears on the agenda for this evening's meeting.

Please state your name and address before asking your question.

159/17 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Members are asked to receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 19th June 2017.

160/17 MEMBERS REPORTS

161/17 GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT

The Town Clerk will report back on progress following the discussion at the previous meeting.

162/17 DEFIBRILLATOR

Cllr E. Wiltshire has requested that this item be on the agenda for discussion

163/17 CHRISTMAS BOOKING AT OLD FIRE STATION

Following discussions, the original request has now been withdrawn.

164/17 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION OR INFORMATION

Minutes of the **Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee** held on **Monday 19th June 2017**, in the Old Fire Station Community Room, 37 High Street, Brackley.

Present: Chair Cllr Sharps Cllr Thompson, Baker, Barrie, Cartmell, Morrell, Sharps, Tiller, E Wiltshire,

Also Present: Cllrs Bagot-Webb, Ross and P Wiltshire

Officer: Town Clerk, RFO

104/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Broomfield, Stimpson and Waldron

105/17 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

106/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Daniel Manciocchi– Northamptonshire Scouts – Would like to support the provision of a Skate Park. I used to work in Brackley at the Hub and with that closed down there are more young people on the streets, my role is to support young people in the town with other facilities, and a skate park would be beneficial to the town.

Tian Franklyn, Towcester – I understand that different people have been trying for the last 16 years with no success, but we set up a social media account last year to bring the skating community together and it now has over 400 members. We are representing these people and believe it is now time that Brackley has a skate park.

Adam Wood –former member of the skate park group who helped with the initial set up, I work in the industry and feel that this is now needed in the town. In Dorchester anti social behaviour was reduced by 30% when a skate park was built and this activity creates a community and becomes a way of life.

Theo Hayward – In 2007 we had a group of youngsters asking for such a facility, in 2011 Rosie Herring (SNC) reported that it was a long held belief that Brackley should have a skate park, and in 2017 it was a local village that managed to open a skate park - not Brackley.

Ian Anderson – NAYC, I am a resident of Brackley, and I have been supporting the skating community for the last 6 years. Things seemed to have come to a halt here. What has changed in the plans to build a new skate park in the area around the leisure centre? This was part of the discussions when the design of the swimming pool was ongoing, but it seems that something has changed.

Mac McConnell – I'm passionate about youth issues here in Brackley. Anti-social behaviour happens when there is nothing for young people to do. All skate board related issues are about skaters trying to find places to skate. I strongly believe that the kids need to be involved with the design etc., to give them ownership and respect for the area.

107/17 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On the proposition of Cllr Baker it was **RESOLVED** to:

Receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Direct Responsibilities and General Purposes Committee held on Monday 22nd May 2017.

108/17 MEMBERS REPORTS

None

109/17 GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT

Mr B Collins gave an overview of the contract for the grass cutting – a couple of initial issues were addressed quickly. Things settled down until about 4 weeks ago – operatives left the contractor, which led to missed cuts, dropping back into a longer cycle, rain etc.. Currently all areas are on correction notices excluding Brackley Park and Egerton Field, so the Council will not be charged for the month if the areas are not up to date.

Mr Paul Almond then told Councillors that the Contractor is not performing over all the sites and at a meeting with the MD of the company it was reiterated that all areas must be back to standard by the end of June. The contractor is doing all they can as they want to keep the contract.

Councillors then asked various questions of Mr Collins and Mr Almond regarding the contract.

The Officers were asked to bring a report to council as soon as possible.

110/17 SKATE PARK

Brackley Town Council supports the provision of a skate parks and had requested money to be included in the s106 agreement for the development to the south of Turweston Road in order to accommodate this.

Cllr Baker had always been very keen on the skate park and had worked to persuade South Northamptonshire Council to provide land. SNC own all the land around the Leisure Centre and BTC had been campaigning for years, but it was never in the management contract. Ian Davies has said he would look again when the pool is finished, probably February 2018.

She advised the group to go to the SNC Council meeting in July to put forward their case.

Cllr Cartmell gave some of the background to previous skate park provision and said that BTC has £60k in its reserves for skate park, but doesn't have any suitable land. All suitable areas are owned by SNC.

Cllr Tiller said that a number of housing developments have gone ahead in the town, all with playgrounds, but there is nothing for the teenagers. Potterspury got a really nice skate park because they have councillors that were willing to push it harder. Cllr Baker said that the difference was that Potterspury Parish Council owned the land and that the BTC councillors are behind a skate park.

On the proposition of Cllr Ross it was AGREED that Skate Park Working Party be established with Cllrs Tiller, Ross, Cartmell, Morrell and Thompson, and also Mr Iain Anderson, Mr Mac McConnell.

111/17 BRACKLEY & DISTRICT ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Members noted the letter from the Brackley & District Allotment Association detailing its new policy in relation to the waiting list.

The Allotments Working Party had previously looked at various areas but the Allotment Association did not find any of them acceptable. The Clerk had also contacted all the local land owners to see if they were prepared to sell or lease

land to the Council, with no success. There is £120k of s106 money allocated from the Radstone Fields Development and the agreement states that SNC will work with BTC to identify land for allotments. BTC has the responsibility to consider any request for additional allotments but, in terms of land available, BTC has no power to compulsory purchase, and none of its existing land is deemed suitable.

On the proposition of Cllr Cartmell, it was AGREED that the Clerk would write to the Allotments Association noting their letter and asking for a breakdown of allotment tenants at each of the three sites.

112/17 CHRISTMAS BOOKING AT OLD FIRE STATION

A request had been received to operate a Grotto at the Old Fire Station Community Room for the five Sundays preceding Christmas. Members' views were requested.

On the proposition of Cllr Cartmell it was AGREED that the Clerk would go back to the applicant for more information regarding time of booking, cost of entry and to ask if they would be prepared to reduce the number of weeks. The Clerk would report back at next meeting

113/17 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION OR INFORMATION

None

Meeting closed 20.55

Chairman