



## MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF HEDNESFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024 AT 6:30 PM

Meeting held at Pye Green Community Centre, Bradbury Lane, Hednesford, WS12 4EP

### **Present:**

Cllr Alan Pearson (Chair)  
Cllr Ronald Turville (Deputy Chair)  
Cllr Ann Turville  
Cllr Sheila Cartwright  
Cllr Arthur Roden  
Cllr Shirley Pearson  
Cllr Paul Jones  
Cllr Garry Samuels (arrived 7:25pm)

### **In attendance from Hednesford Town Council:**

Lindsey Smith – Chief Officer  
Cheryl Kinsella – Finance Officer  
Matt Johnson – Community Officer  
John Manning – Project Support Officer

### **Members of the Public:**

There were 8 members of the public present

#### **1. Apologies:**

Cllr Laura Harrison – family commitments  
Cllr Debbie Cartwright – illness

Cllr Garry Samuels joined the meeting late as he has a prior district Cllr meeting

#### **2. Declaration of Interest**

Cllr S Cartwright declared an interest for agenda item 10 due to being a district Councillor

Cllr G Samuels declared an interest for agenda item 10 due to being a district Councillor

### **3. Previous Minutes**

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 were reviewed and approved.

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson

Second: Cllr R Turville

Agreed: 5

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

### **4. Public Participation**

No questions or issues raised from members of the public

### **5. Community Art Presentation from Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles (IHL)**

Chief Officer gave an overview of £4,000 of UK Shared Prosperity Funding being agreed by full council in June 2024 for the development of a community art project within Hednesford

IHL delivered a presentation on options for the spend given the budget and timescales limitations – Town Centre Art Trail or Community bench/dedicated rest stop within Hednesford North as part of the Wayfinding project

Chief Officer informed that updated advise from CCDC is that money does not now have to be spent by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 but must be allocated and the project in progress

**Action: Chief Officer to convene a working group with IHL and interested Cllrs to agree which option and to progress**

### **6. Finance**

- a. RFO updated that the AGAR has been completed. It was noted that no amendments were needed and with minor scope for improvement – Mazars informed that variances were not explained enough although did not seek further clarification
- b. Q2 Finance Summary Budget position 24/25 shared. No questions. Advised that would go through this in more detail and the Extraordinary FOP meeting on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October
- c. Q2 Payments £500 plus 24/25 noted
- d. Q2 CIL Funding Tracker 24/25 noted
- e. Q2 S.137 payments 24/25 noted

- f. Prosperity Fund – Chief Officer gave brief update on progress of projects including some projects where progress is not being made due to issues outside of HTC control and gave an update on projects to date. Potentially will have an underspend of £12k on agreed projects. Chief Officer asked for more ideas for spend to be shared

Cllr A Pearson declared an interest when discussing Friends of Hednesford Park

A brief conversation followed about the issues with the proposed installation of the goal posts at Cotswold Road Park and the advice from CCDC that the ground is sinking and that CCDC will no longer be mowing this area or support the installation of goal posts

Several Cllrs informed that they will visit the site themselves and asked serving District Cllrs to find further information from CCDC to support HTC Officers

A discussion followed about needing to have a quick response to proposed new projects for UKSPF especially as CCDC now need all projects to be signed off by full council. It was suggested that rather than having to keep calling Extraordinary Council meeting that Council consider delegating the powers for the decision making for UKSPF to the Chair, Vice Chair and Chief Officer

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson

Second: Cllr A Turville

Agreed: 7

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**Action: Chair, Vice Chair and Chief Officer to sign off on changes to existing and new UKSPF projects**

## **7. Verbal Update from Committees/Officers**

### Finance, Operations and Personnel

- a. Updated that an Extraordinary had been called for 17.10.24 to discuss the budget
- b. Motion to increase number of spaces available on committees from 6-7

Proposed: Cllr R Turville

Second: Cllr A Pearson

Agreed: 6

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

**Action: Committees amended for include up to 7 Cllrs. Interested Cllrs are to attend the next round of committee meetings to be voted on where applicable**

- c. Discussion regarding the purchase of a chain for the Deputy Chair took place

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson  
Second: Cllr R Turville  
Agreed: 4  
Against: 3

**Action: Chief Officer to seek costs and bring back to Council for further discussion**

- d. Presentation from the Community Officer on the Community Grants 2024 and how some of the monies have been used by organisations

7:45pm Cllr Garry Samuels joined the meeting

- e. Social Media Policy reviewed

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson  
Second: Cllr A Roden  
Agreed: 8  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0

**Action: Social Media policy adopted**

- f. Dealing with Abusive, Persistent or Vexatious Complaints and Complainants Policy reviewed

Proposed: Cllr A Pearson  
Second: Cllr P Jones  
Agreed: 8  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0

**Action: Dealing with Abusive, Persistent or Vexatious Complaints and Complainants Policy adopted**

- i. Regeneration and Community

- a. Next meeting to take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024

- b. Chief Officer gave a brief update on the status of the Christmas Light Switch on event on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2024. Cllr R Turville requested that all available Cllrs attend and support the event

- c. Chief Officer updated that CCDC has asked all Town Councils to consider putting on an event for VE Day in May 2024 using UKSP funding
- d. Project Support Officer gave an update on current ongoing projects
- e. Motion from Project Support Officer regarding 2 options (relocate or install a 2<sup>nd</sup> row of bollards) to attempt to deal with illegal parking along Market Street

Both options in the region of £11-12,000

A lengthy discussion took place about solving one problem but creating another and the impact either option could have upon setting up on market days. The feeling was that it wouldn't be stopped no matter what is done. A brief conversation took place regarding collapsible bollards but concern was raised about whose responsibility these would be and ongoing maintenance costs

Project Support Officer informed that no loading signs have been repainted on the kerbside and people are being encouraged to report to the clear streets team at SCC

**Action: Motion was not carried. To look at costings of collapsible barriers at a later date if issue is brought back to council**

- f. Motion from Project Support Officer for council to approve the replacement of 5 colliery damaged bricks in Anglesey Garden at cost of £390.00

Proposed: Cllr A Turville  
 Second: Cllr P Jones  
 Agreed: 8  
 Against: 0  
 Abstain: 0

**Action: Colliery bricks to be replaced and funded from CIL funds**

- ii. Pye Green Community Centre
  - a. Next meeting to take place 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024
  - b. Motion from PGCC Committee for the continued free use of the function room for fish and chip supper quizzes

Proposed: Cllr R Turville

Second: Cllr A Pearson  
Agreed: 8  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0

**Action: Free use of the function room agreed for Fish and Chip quiz evenings**

iii. Planning

- a. Update provided on change of Chair of Committee
- b. Informed of the resignation of Cllr G Samuels from Committee
- c. Committee elected Cllr Shirley Pearson to join the Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Propose: Cllr R Turville  
Second: Cllr A Pearson  
Agreed: 8  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0

**Action: Cllr S Pearson confirmed as elected to Planning Committee**

- d. Date of next meeting 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024

**8. Ditch the Blade**

Brief discussion about having an amnesty blade box at PGCC. Mixed feeling about this and safety and security

**9. Communication**

General discussion about how the Town Council can communicate with residents who don't do digital

**10. Motion to move to private and confidential business – CCTV Contract**

Proposed: Cllr R Turville  
Second: Cllr A Pearson  
Agreed: 5  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 3

Cllrs G Samuels and Cllr S Cartwright left the meeting

Discussion and next steps for progression of CCTV contract confirmed

**11. Respect**

Cllr R Turville reminded everyone to treat each other with respect

**16. Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 630pm

The meeting closed at 8:50pm

Signed:

Dated:

Draft