

**Kington Town Council**

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**Minutes of the Services Committee Meeting**

held on Monday 18th September 2023

at the Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington

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| **PRESENT** | **IN ATTENDANCE** |
|  |  |
| Cllr. E. Banks | Liz Kelso – Town Clerk |
| Cllr. A. Dixon | Ruth Robinson – Assistant Clerk |
| Cllr. J. Gardner |  |
| Cllr. K. Greig | Karel Bretveld – Age UK |
| Cllr. M. Widdowson – In the Chair |  |
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|  | **Agenda item** |  | **Actions** |
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| **Serv 008-23** | 1 | **Apologies, declarations of interest and requests for dispensation**  |  |
|  |  | Apologies were noted from Cllrs. R. Banks. M. Fitton & P. Sell. There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensation. |  |
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| **Serv 009-23** | 2 | **Minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2023** |  |
|  |  | It was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2023 which had been previously circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.  |  |
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| **Serv 010-23** | 3 | **Collaborative working with Kington Medical Practice** |  |
|  |  | This item was deferred to the next meeting. |  |
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| **Serv 011-23** | 4 | **Services for older residents – Age UK** |  |
|  |  | Members noted with thanks a presentation from Age UK about services available for older residents in Kington and plans for future support. Advice and guidance services, drop in sessions, a foot clinic, handyman and gardening support and help with benefits were some of the areas where additional support was considered relevant. Ensuring residents are aware of the support available was also discussed and considered particularly important.  |  |
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| **Serv 012-23** | 5 | **Agenda standing items** |  |
|  |  | **Buildings currently occupied by the Town Council and such other buildings that can be determined as Community Assets** |  |
|  |  |  Members noted that following queries raised on the draft licence to occupy the Market Hall, Herefordshire Council are supportive of finding a mutually beneficial arrangement whereby community use of the Market Hall can be facilitated. Details will need to be discussed and may require the town council to take on responsibility for taking bookings for the Market Hall. It was clear that Herefordshire Council expect costs of maintaining the building to be borne by users but charges are currently estimated to be relatively low. A further report will be made to the next full council meeting. |  |
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|  |  | **Public Conveniences** |  |
|  |  | It was nothing to report on this agenda item  |  |
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|  |  | **Provision for young people** |  |
|  |  | There was nothing to report on this agenda item although members asked if the Turning Point drop in sessions, identified during the presentation from Turning Point at the last meeting, had started. A report from Turning Point will be requested for the next meeting. |  |
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|  |  | **Tourism and Tourist Information Centre** |  |
|  |  | Cllr. E. Banks has been discussing the future of tourism and the tourist information centre with the Herefordshire BID with staff from the BID attending a drop in session for local businesses every two weeks in Kington. The social media support for the tourist information centre has now stopped. Visitor numbers to the TIC have remained steady this year.  |  |
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|  |  | **Arts, Culture and Museum Provision** |  |
|  |  | Members noted that events are taking place over the Big Draw weekend shortly at various locations. |  |
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|  |  | **Social care, support services and information and advice provision** |  |
|  |  | The next meeting of the Community Forum will be held next month at the Lion Café.Members were concerned to hear of the difficulty in accessing mental health support in Kington by young people. This will be raised with the representative from the Surgery when they attend. |  |
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|  |  | **Health Provision and Care** |  |
|  |  | A representative from the Surgery had agreed to attend the meeting for this agenda item but did not do so. This item will be deferred to the next meeting.  |  |
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|  |  | **Leisure Centre** |  |
|  |  | There was nothing to report under this agenda item although it was unclear who the trustees of the Leisure Centre Trust are. |  |
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|  |  | **LHS Foundation** |  |
|  |  | There was nothing to report under this agenda item. The next meeting of the Foundation is scheduled for next month. |  |
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|  |  | **Educational provision** |  |
|  |  | There was nothing further to report under this agenda item. |  |
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|  |  | **Markets** |  |
|  |  | Members noted that the current proposals for the Licence to Occupy the Market Hall under discussion with Herefordshire Council might involve some operational changes for the market, particularly with regard to storage of goods. |  |
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| **Serv 013-23** | 7 | **Date of next meeting and items for the next agenda** |  |
|  |  | The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 20th November at 6.30pm or on the rising of the Planning Committee, whichever is later.  |  |
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|  |  | There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed. |  |
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|  |  | Signed ………………………………………… Chair of Services CommitteeDate |  |