



Kington Town Council

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Minutes of the Services Committee Meeting

held on Monday 23rd April 2018 at
The Old Police Station, Market Hall Street, Kington HR5 3DP

PRESENT

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr. R. Widdowson (Chair)
Cllr. E. Banks
Cllr. T. Bounds
Cllr. C. Forrester
Cllr. M. Fitton
Cllr. L. Rees
Cllr. P. Prior
Cllr. I. Wood-Johnson

Liz Kelso (Clerk)

	<u>Agenda item</u>		<u>Actions</u>
Serv 008-18	1.	Apologies Apologies were noted from Cllrs. J. Dennis and F. Hawkins	
Serv 009-18	2.	Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation.	
Serv 010-18	3.	Minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2018 It was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 th February 2018 which had been previously circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a true record of proceedings at that meeting.	
Serv 011-18	4.	Update from the Emergency Planning Group This working party has met twice and have been provided with a template plan created by Herefordshire Council. The group has agreed to consider the impact of a range of situations such as flooding, snow, pandemics, chemical spillage etc. and will look to work with existing groups working with vulnerable people in particular. Setting up a good neighbour scheme is also being considered.	

The next stage is for a meeting to be set up with the Emergency Planning Co-ordinator at Herefordshire Council and, separately, a meeting with key contacts. An update is to be provided at the Annual Town Meeting.

Serv 012-18

5

Issues raised by Housing Association Tenants

Cllr. Widdowson reported on a meeting with the Tenancy Services Officer at Stonewater Housing which he felt was useful. Most of the staff appear to work from home and repairs are outsourced to a third party. When asked about allocation of properties, it was confirmed that some are allocated through Stonewater and some through Homepoint. Only one property can be "bid" for at the one time so there is a wait if the prospective tenant is unsuccessful. Although deemed to be a successful method of allocating property, tenants experience seems to vary.

Serv 013-18

6.

Standing Items

- **Buildings currently occupied by the Town Council and such other buildings that can be determined as Community Assets**

Cllr. Widdowson reported on a meeting with Amanda Johnson of the Great Places initiative who had identified that one of the services offered was to support and facilitate asset transfers. During that meeting it had been suggested that the Town Council engages a project officer, funded through lottery funding, to oversee the required work leading to the transfer of buildings.

Some concern was expressed that the basis for taking the assets needs to be reviewed in the light of the time it has taken to get to this stage. Herefordshire Council has provided some raw data on building running costs and this will be reviewed by the working party.

It was agreed to pursue the option of grant funding for a project office and to submit a proposal to full council as soon as possible.

- **Provision of public conveniences**

Some concern was expressed that the standard of cleanliness has deteriorated and on some occasions, the toilets were not opened on time. The Clerk will report this to Herefordshire Council.

- **Provision for young people**

Nothing to report

- **Play area provision**

Nothing to report

- **Tourism and Tourist Information Centre**

Noting that the staff at the Tourist Information Centre are all volunteers, it was reported at the group AGM that the TIC is going well and finances are stable.

- **Arts, culture and museum provision**

Cllr. Forrester reported that the Museum and History Society merger is progressing.

Plans for the Makers Festival are progressing well with over 11 venues involved, centred on the Church and including the Old Police Station. There will be a private viewing on the evening of Friday 4th May with the main festival dates being 5th – 7th May.

- **Health provision, Social care, Support Services and Information and Advice Services**

Cllr. Widdowson has been pursuing Herefordshire Council on support available when Universal Credit is rolled out. It has been confirmed that help with the online application process will be available and help with personal budgeting. Appointments will be offered in Kington.

The next meeting of the Health Commission will take place tomorrow.

- **The leisure centre**

Nothing further to report on this subject.

- **LHS Foundation/Education provision**

Nothing further to report on this subject

- **Markets**

The Friday Craft market has now restarted. A report from the Market Group will be given at the Annual Town Meeting.

Serv 014-18

7. **Date of next meeting and items for the next agenda**

The next meeting will take place on 18th June. There were no further items raised for the agenda for that meeting.

Signed

Chair of Services Committee

Date