

**Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 1st September 2021, 7.30pm
At the Community Centre**

Welcome:

Visitor:

Present: Keith Smith Paul Newton Smith Alison Durrant Ian James
Ian Webb Sandra Rendall Sarah Olnier Pauline Webster

Apologies: Adrian Young

3. Minutes of March 2020 Meeting:

Minutes of previous meeting signed and filed. Proposed by **PNS** seconded by **IJ**

4. Matters Arising:

5. Men's Shed – the group meet monthly and are looking for a place for a shed

6. Fox Roundabout – has been painted with a protective layer by HTC

8. Open Gardens – this went ahead and raised £1800. They have secured own insurance with CDA
Skate Park is closer to completion

5. Finance update:

Total of £3,045.73 in account

6. Town Council update:

Deanne Rose, new Town Clerk has been appointed, staff have been revamped with 1 new full time Assistant Clerk, Claire, Jackie now sharing with new part time lady. A part time Finance lady also helps. These changes in attitude and working together have shown flexible skills, liaising with other parishes, partners with HCPG, sharing grants through a grants officer at another council, website and social media have been updated to a strong standard. AD would like to thank staff.

HTC now have 'Power of Competence' meaning elected members vote every year.

AD – Is HTC working with other rural town Wroughton? AD to email KS

7. Report on projects in place and planned:

Memorial Garden – on back burner. PNS has spoken with 2 stone suppliers. Path would be self-funding as you purchase a memory brick, trees could be dedicated to highworth people of interest, gardening club to be involved. Presently full of shrubs which need cutting back, colour is needed, sensory or Japanese discussed.

Safe Places – IW following up with audit of shops. To contact new CCPC for funding. The Bridge is proving the best place for safety. Possible grant available from SP in Swindon to do new leaflet. Link article to remind people.

Visit Highworth – Shut during lockdown and supported with furlough payments from Government, SBC were efficient. Re-opened with a steady flow of regulars and newbies, good feedback. Workshops, town tours have started and proving popular. With Old Town museum shutting we may get some of their artefacts to showcase.

Credit Union –

Dovecote – fell apart. New design with a quote of £3k, 2nd quote being sought. HCPG may take ownership? HTC to fund or crowdfund? Need a resident's group to run SO and AD, residents to be invited to meeting. Ongoing maintenance, insurance etc, should remain local.

Others: Job Club – The Bridge have taken this on, thanks from HCPG to those running it. Link article. A Japanese employee of TStech would like to leave a reminder of the company for Highworth to enjoy. Japanese Garden at Fairview, open green space?

Community Centre – 3 grants received, well used with 500 people per week

8. Invitation from HTC to discuss the Platinum Jubilee:

Letter from HTC to attend Wednesday 15th September, 6pm. **SR to report back**

9. May Day:

April 30th. Theme of reuse, recycle, save the planet, environment

10. The future of HCP: Is there one?

Yes. 3 HTC councillors, have they time for HCPG? Conflict of interests the only problem.

11. HCPG Website:

Under reconstruction as out of date and not used for ages so automatically taken down. Being updated and relaunched, recruit new people.

12. HCPG AGM:

All in agreement to postpone to October 2022. Proposed IW and Seconded PNS

13. Members Business: none

Next Meeting Wednesday 6th October 7.30pm