

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE **COMMUNITY & HERITAGE COMMITTEE** HELD ON **WEDNESDAY 27th JUNE 2018** AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE TOWN HALL, 9 DEVON SQUARE, NEWTON ABBOT

PRESENT Councillors Mrs J Cleave (Chairman) Presiding
Mrs L Sheffield (Vice Chairman)

Councillors	Mrs C Bunday	M Joyce
	D Corney-Walker	Mrs S Kingdom
	C Coyle-Moore	C N Parker
	R Hayes	M Pilkington
	M Hocking	Ms L Roberts
	D Howe	M E Ryan
	R Jenks (Dep Mayor)	T Ward
	Mrs A Jones	

In attendance: Louise Cook, Chairman of Governors, Highweek School
Judy Martyn, Head teacher, Highweek School

Officers in attendance: Natalie Hicks – Events Co-ordinator
Sally Henley – Town Development Manager
Alexandra Robinson – Committee Administrator

102. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of the Mayor, Councillor Ken Purchase.

103. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Community and Heritage Committee held on 7th February 2018 and the Special Meeting of 2nd May 2018 were received and signed as correct records.

104. **INTERESTS**

Councillor Ms L Roberts gave notice of her intention to declare an interest in Minute (106) below.

105. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

106. **PRESENTATION – GROWTH MINDSET, HIGHWEEK SCHOOL**

The Chairman welcomed Ms Cook and Mrs Martyn from Highweek School and invited them to update Members on the positive work that the school had achieved through the introduction of the Growth Mindset project.

Ms Cook, Chairman of Governors, introduced the project called Challenging Learning, a method of developing a positive growth mindset among the students to promote learning through the development of ‘softer’ life skills and creating greater resilience and the ability to challenge themselves. In essence the skills equipped them for life and the children enjoyed their learning.

Mrs Martyn, Head teacher, raised the following key points regarding the project:

- The school embarked on the project 18 months ago building on the school's mission statement that they would enable the children to be *the 'Best possible learners that they could be'*,
- Acknowledged that not everyone is a natural learner, that some are taught and the skills to learn are developed,
- The school aimed to improve resilience and attitude to learning,
- The introduction of the Challenging Learning – international project based in UK, USA, Australia, Scandinavia and more recently China and the Netherlands, managed by James Nottingham and supported by child educationalist Dr Carol Dweck,
- The school made a financial investment to follow the project with the full support of the Governing body and made a conscious decision to move away from the local authority prescribed curriculum,
- The movement from a fixed mindset; 'I can't do maths, I'll never be able to do maths' to an approach where 'I can't do maths yet, but I will try'
- Children learn from 'marvellous mistakes' and are encouraged to develop resilience to making mistakes and challenging their learning,
- The enthusiasm from the children has cascaded to their parents and wider families, who are now seeing the benefits and encouraging the children from home,
- Following a one-year review, Highweek Primary School has made more progress in the short term than any other placement and has become a study site for other schools to learn from.

Following a video presentation of the school at work, Mrs Martyn took questions from Members, who raised the following points;

- ✓ Members commended the work of the school and the positive impact it has made for the children,
- ✓ The ongoing impact for students as they move to secondary education,
- ✓ The transferrable skills for life, confidence empathy and resilience
- ✓ The possibility of working with a secondary school to continue the development of students,
- ✓ Goldie Hawn Charitable Foundation – offering early mental health support for young children,
- ✓ No streaming/sets in class, all working in mixed ability groups with the more able students helping the less able, and
- ✓ Growth Mindset covers the whole curriculum and not as a separate subject.

The Chairman thanked Ms Cook and Mrs Martyn on behalf of Members, for their thorough and informative presentation, commending them for their achievements for the school. Members suggested that they be invited to return to update Members when a complete cohort had finished the programme having progressed through the primary school. The Chairman added that it was tremendous that the programme had engaged with the parents and wider community. They were invited to leave the meeting.

Councillor Ms L Roberts, having previously declared an interest took part in the discussion.

107. **SUB-COMMITTEES/WORKING PARTIES/FORUMS**

A(i). COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GROUP – 16th MAY 2018

Arising from the consideration of the report of the meeting it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Community Engagement Group meeting held on 16th May 2018 be hereby approved and adopted;

A(ii) EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE – 13th JUNE 2018

Arising from the consideration of the report of the meeting it was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Events Sub-Committee meeting held on 13th June 2018 be hereby approved and adopted;

108. CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS 2018

The Chairman invited the Events Co-ordinator to update Members on the Christmas illuminations for 2018. Mrs Hicks reported that since the last meeting of the Community and Heritage Committee, that she and the Town Clerk had met with Festive Lighting the illuminations contractor to review the lights displayed for Christmas 2017 and to look ahead to the displays for 2018.

The Events Co-ordinator noted the numerous positive comments from residents and businesses and even visitors to the town during the last festive period who expressed complimentary feedback on the displays. She reported that the lights were installed on time and removed on the same basis and that they had only experienced one technical fault which was resolved within 48hours of reporting. Overall it was a very successful season.

Looking ahead to this year, the second year of a five year contract, plans were underway for displays for 2018. Mrs Hicks presented images of light globes which would be in addition to the traditional tree wrapping in Courtenay Street. The 'white' and 'warm white' globes would enhance the trees in the street and compliment the popular feature on the Clock Tower. Mrs Hicks reported that since the globes would incur an additional cost that they would be funded from contributions made from local businesses and would not impact on the budgeted expenditure.

Members thanked Mrs Hicks for her efforts to date on the plans for the Christmas illuminations and noted the excellent display last year.

109. NEWTON'S PLACE - UPDATE

The Chairman invited Councillor M Ryan, Chairman of Newton's Place Project Board to update Members on the project. Councillor Ryan was pleased to report that the project had been successful in its submission of the Round Two bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund and it had been awarded £800,000 towards the Delivery Phase of the project. The project could now proceed to the construction phase whereby Tenders would be invited for the construction contract. Councillor Ryan thanked all those involved in the project for their tremendous efforts in achieving the grant funding and keeping the project on track. There would be a meeting of the Project Board on 28th June 2018.

110. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The Chairman informed Members that all questions received in advance of the meeting had been clarified directly and she invited further questions from Members. Councillor Parker suggested that it may be helpful if the Committee Administrator could report any such advance questions at future meetings to share information among all Members. The Committee Administrator offered to raise the suggestion with the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk for the next meeting.

There being no further questions the Committee received and noted the Income and Expenditure statement for the Community and Heritage Committee for the period 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018 and for the period 1st April – 31st May 2018 (previously circulated).

Following consideration, accordingly it was;

RESOLVED that the Income and Expenditure Statements for the periods 1st April 2017- 31st March 2018 and 1st April - 31st May 2018 for the Community and Heritage Committee be hereby approved and adopted.

111. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Community and Heritage Committee would be held on Wednesday 17th October 2018.



Chairman