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| HUNTINGDON TOWN COUNCIL |
| STRATEGY & CORPORATE PLAN COMMITTEE |

A meeting of the Strategy and Corporate Plan Committee was held on Thursday 30TH March 2023 at 7pm in the Town Hall.

Present: Councillors: A Blackwell; K Brockett; D Landon Cole; S Gifford; A McAdam, S McAdam (Vice Chairman); A Norton; P Pearce and K Webb.

In attendance: 2 members of the public.

Absent: Councillors: M Baker and P Kennington.

Clerk's Note: The Vice Chairman held a two-minute silence in respect for the passing of Former Mayor Alan Mackender-Lawrence and Col. Derek Bristow. A leave of absence was formally accepted for Councillor J Cole due to health reasons and family bereavement.

10. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors: J Cole; M Kadewere; P Kadewere; B Luckham and T Sanderson

11. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

12. **PUBLIC ADDRESS**

There were none.

13. **MINUTES**

Members had before them copies of the minutes of the Strategy & Corporate Committee held on 9th June 2022 (M1). It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED to approve and adopt these minutes then duly signed by the Vice Chairman.

14. **CORPORATE PLAN**

- i. The Town Clerk ran briefly through the list of objectives in the Corporate Plan and suggested that Members go through them in turn. Members discussed each objective, the following was noted:

| Objective | Update | Members Noted |
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| Enhancing community facilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CIL application submitted for the cricket pavilion. | It was queried when the decision was made for the chapel to be converted to a mausoleum, it was advised that it was under |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cemetery chapel mausoleum was under investigation. • The sport facilities relied on the development of the north of the town, which was ongoing. | investigation and would be presented to members in due course. |
| Protect and enhance town heritage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was an on-going BID project to establish a visitor centre within the Commemoration Hall. Work was due to commence as of April 2023, to be opened in June 2023. | It was requested that the BID board and Commemoration Hall trustees would like to attend a future meeting to present the plans for member's information. |
| Tourism & town promotion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was advised that the Huntingdon Youth Theatre had plans to use the Court Rooms for another reproduction of the Joshua Slade murder trial. | There were no questions. |
| Creating a more sustainable environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New depot had many sustainable qualities, including: rainwater harvesting, solar panels and electrical vehicles. • The next electric vehicle was delayed and would arrive in May. It was noted that electrical vehicles were more suited to short trips. • Eco audit had been completed and discussions on next steps to implement ideas was on-going. • The next date for the Eco Fair was Saturday 15th July 2023. | Members noted that HTC was making small steps in the right direction for creating a more sustainable environment. |
| Income generation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income was generated by the hire of Town Hall, Coneygear Centre and Sapley Lodge. • Additional services for the Estates Services team was developing, such as tree cutting, gritting etc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Member suggested that a website listing all the halls for hire in the local area could be created. • In house funeral planning was queried. It was advised that HTC could not sell funeral plans as a registration was required. However, it was advised that the provision for selling memorial products was being built up. • There was a national trend for natural burials and our crematorium had a reputation as an environmental site. • A Member suggested the installation of a working bar at Sapley Lodge, it was advised this would require a liquor |

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| | | <p>license and permanent bar staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was advised that a full report on Sapley Lodge would be presented at the Town Council meeting on 6th April 2023. |
| Green spaces | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain green spaces in Huntingdon | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members requested if it could be clearer which green spaces were owned by HTC. A map was suggested. It was advised that HDC were not planning on planting wildflowers in the verges this year. However, the verges would not be cut to enhance wildlife. Butterfly stakes would be used to identify these verges. It was suggested that the Freemen could be approached to provide wildflowers. |
| Efficiency & service provision | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maximise the potential and efficiency of HTC's staff | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that the replacement of staff computers needs to be planned for over the next few years. |
| Car Parking | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was no update. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no questions. |
| Devolution | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Devolution throughout the various levels of government may bring additional services currently provided by other authorities down to town council level. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that devolution will become increasingly more important in the future towards a more collaborative way of working. |
| Town boundary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To work towards increasing Huntingdon's town boundary. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The town boundary would fall under the Local Plan when implemented and the push would begin when development happens. |
| Civic pride | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HTC takes pride in the town and its civic traditions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was suggested that more councillors should be encouraged to attend civic events. |
| Use of unmaintained/unadopted space | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HTC intends to identify potential spaces within its own land, and other spaces around the town, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A member queried the maintenance of the disabled car park in Huntingdon town. |

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| | and investigate alternative uses for these areas to provide facilities. | It was advised it came under highways at CCC, however if any members wished to check the ownership of land to contact the Property and Estates manager who has access to the land registry. |
| Improved communications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications Officer was hired and improvements were underway for the magazine, website and more. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members raised some areas that were not receiving the magazine. They were advised to email in addresses that were not receiving the magazine. |

- ii. Capital projects – There was some confusion on what this item was referring to, as there were no ongoing capital projects, and regular reporting on these projects were submitted to Town Council. A member clarified that there were some miscommunications, and the item was to discuss completing a horizon scanning exercise. This would involve compiling a timeline and list of future projects, including things like the Local Plan, nuclear waste dump, pots of money and grants that were available. This list could then be reviewed annually. The benefit of this exercise was to make the most of all opportunities available. There were no comments or questions.

15. **DATE & AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting date was to be confirmed.

| ITEM NO. | ACTION | WHO'S RESPONSIBLE | UPDATE |
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| 8.1 | The Amenities Officer and Head Groundsman will conduct an inspection of Town Council owned noticeboards to ascertain if any need replacing in the same style as the new BID noticeboards | Amenities Officer | The inspection took place, and a report was submitted to the Finance Committee on the 26 th January 2023. A noticeboard working group was set up. |
| 8.2 | Councillors C Doyle, S Gifford, D Cole, A McAdam, K Brockett and A Norton would form a Tourist Trail working group which would be chaired by Councillor J Cole | Amenities Officer and then Communications Officer | The last meeting was due to take place when HM the Queen passed away. A new meeting would be called in the next local government year. |