

MINUTES of an EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of WINSLOW TOWN COUNCIL held on Wednesday 25th. September 2019, at 7.00pm, in the Council Chamber, 28 High Street, Winslow

	<p><b>Present:</b> Cllrs. Wiseman (Chairman), Bishopp, Cawte, Castle, Knight, Monger and van de Poll  <b>Absent:</b> Cllrs. Chambers, Moreton, Rees and Slevin. Apologies accepted.  <b>Clerk:</b> C Loch. Deputy Clerk S Carolan  <b>Members of the Press and Public:</b> BCC Cllr. Chilver, AVDC Cllr. Renshell. There were three BCC staff, Ray Allcock, chair of the Friends of Winslow Library and no press present.</p>
19/42	<p><b>Declarations of Interest in matters to be discussed:</b> None.</p>
19/43	<p><b>Minutes of Meetings held 1<sup>st</sup>. August 2019:</b> RESOLVED that the minutes be approved and signed as a true record at the full Council meeting on October 3rd.  <b>Matters Arising:</b> None  <b>Items Deferred from Previous Meeting.</b> None</p>
19/44	<p><b>Winslow Centre Redevelopment</b>  <b>Library:</b>  Members considered a report on the recent history of the Library and the County proposal that it be demolished and replaced with a temporary facility until the new development was established. The report is attached to the minutes and in summary notes that as yet there was no agreement with the Clinical Commissioning Group, no planning consent or even application and no agreed business case. The Community Library has been a great success since being established in 2013 and is supported by a large group of volunteers and further serves as a valuable community asset as home to numerous community groups and a meeting place for many residents. Further, the town had grown since it was established and with predicted growth set to increase population by some 50% since then, the demand for this facility is growing.</p> <p><i>The meeting was adjourned to allow the public to speak.  The meeting heard views from BCC and the public and were also able to ask questions.  The meeting was reconvened</i></p> <p>Alternatives having been put to the County and pending a response it was RESOLVED that:</p> <p><b>1. Council notes that:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Bucks County Council proposes to redevelop the Winslow Centre Site and that current proposals include provisions made for the site in the Winslow Neighbourhood Plan but that those proposals would go beyond the provisions of the WNP and therefore be contrary to it</li> <li>b. The successful implementation of these proposals requires an agreement with the NHS Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group and the Norden House GP practise, and this has not been achieved</li> <li>c. Any such development will require planning consent and no application has been submitted</li> <li>d. BCC intends to press on with the demolition of all buildings on the site notwithstanding the fact that there are no agreements in place with potential development partners, no planning permission for the proposed redevelopment and no agreed business case</li> <li>e. The demolition proposals include the demolition of the Winslow Community Library building and its replacement with a temporary 'Portakain' type building</li> </ol> <p><b>2. Council believes that:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>f. Winslow Community Library has been a great success since its formation in 2013 and that its location in the present building has been a significant factor in that success together with the commitment and dedication of the volunteer staff</li> <li>g. The numerous ancillary uses of the library organised by Winslow Big Society Group, and others, are important to the ongoing success of the Community Library and would be adversely impacted or lost altogether in the event of the present facility being demolished as they could not be successfully maintained in a temporary 'Portkabin' type building</li> <li>h. There is no certainty as to when, or even if ever, a permanent replacement facility would be provided</li> </ol>

**3. Council therefore;**

- i. Calls on BCC to retain the existing library facility when the rest of the buildings on the site are demolished
- j. Supports the retention of the current facility for use as a Community Library permanently or until a permanent replacement building is provided
- k. Calls all on our local County Councillor John Chilver to support this proposal at BCC
- l. Congratulates all involved with the delivery of library and ancillary community facilities at the site now and in the future.

**MUGA:**

Members considered a report on the Jubilee games Area history and usage. This facility was closed when the County first announced that demolition was soon to progress. Over twelve months later work has yet to start but WTC policy is that the lease should not be surrendered until such time as there is agreement to relocate the facility to a suitable site at BCC's expense. The MUGA is too small for use other than for informal family play and there is no point in moving it to the proposed Sports Hub at Redfield where it would be more appropriate to replace the all-weather pitches previously in use at the Winslow Centre. As the Council has no suitable site for the MUGA, WTC would be willing to see it relocated to the Combined school where it could serve the community in preference to being scrapped. The Combined School would welcome the facility but could not allow general public access because of safe-guarding requirements.

It was RESOLVED that the matter be delegated to the Cllr. Monger and van de Poll to negotiate a suitable solution with the County.

**Correspondence:**

None

**Items for Information:**

None

Meeting Closed 8:11 pm.

Signed: ..... (Chairman) at Meeting ..... (date)