



Beaminster Town Council

TOWN AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Town Amenities Committee meeting held in the Cowie Room on Tuesday 10th May 2022 commencing at 7.00pm.

234 PRESENT: Cllr Beswarick (Chairman), Cllr Cheeseman, Cllr Drinnan, Cllr Langridge, Cllr Monks, Cllr Turner also Christine Bright (Town Clerk), Stefan Nikolov (Head Groundsman), Matthew Camps (Groundsman) and Mr Runyard (Beaminster Cricket & Football Clubs)

235 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Biggs and Cllr Dawkins.

236 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Members had previously been circulated with the minutes of the meeting held on 8th March 2022. Minutes confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Under this heading Cllr Langridge enquired whether any progress had been made with regard to the suggestion of planting shrubs in large planters sited in the Square, Cllr Monks advised initial discussions had take place with a local nursery, to be pursued.

237 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

No declarations were received.

238 MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD

(a) Proposed toilet/store

Cllr Cheeseman advised that a number of members had attended a demonstration of a possible ECO toilet however it had become apparent there could be long term issues. A suggestion had been put forward to investigate funding under the 'Changing Room' initiative that would potentially fund a disabled multi use facility with an option to construct a public toilet alongside.

Cllr Drinnan advised that he had made enquiries with regard to the 'Changing Room' funding and it was possible that the deadline for applications had expired.

Mr Nikolov drew attention to the poor condition of the building and council should consider demolition in the Autumn, a cost in the region of £1,700 had been obtained. He also advised of an ECO toilet facility he had seen in Chard, Somerset, the Town Clerk was asked to make enquiries with South Somerset District Council.

(b) Items raised by Cricket/Football Club representative

The representative Mr Mike Runyard advised of a request he had received to place a memorial bench or other appropriate memorial in the Playing Field which he had referred to the Cricket Club for consideration and refer to the Council for permission.

239 CEMETERY

Members noted an appointment had been made to dig the grave for a recent interment and the head groundsman had been in attendance.

240 PUBLIC HALL

(a) Fleet Club – Stair lift

Members considered two quotations received for the supply and install of swivel stair lift on the stairs at the new entrance to the Fleet Club however the general consensus felt, in the first instance, the club should attempt to raise the funds. Members **APPROVED**, in principle to the installation of a stair lift, subject to funding from external sources the Council would make a financial contribution if necessary.

AGREED to review the Council's current grant policy at the next Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting.

241 FURLANDS ALLOTMENTS

In the absence of a representative no issues were raised.

242 PUBLIC TOILETS

Members **NOTED** building works were complete and the toilets had undergone a post build deep clean on Thursday 28th April prior to opening on Tuesday 2nd May. An order had been placed for an external sign and delivery awaited.

Cllr Beswarick enquired on progress with regard to the provision of a water refill tap, some members expressed concern with regard to the proposed location outside the public toilet and felt it would be better sited in the vicinity of the kitchen window, the Town Clerk was asked to pursue.

(a) Hot water supply

Mr Nikolov advised the plumber had been unable to install a hot water supply in the existing boiler room during his visit and had subsequently submitted a quotation for consideration. Having spoken with the cleaning company it had become apparent that a hot water supply would not be essential, **AGREED** to defer unless there was a proven need in the future.

243 PROJECT & WORK SUMMARY SUBMITTED BY HEAD GROUNDSMAN AND MAINTENANCE MANAGER

Members had previously been circulated with a copy of the report, the content of which was **NOTED**. The report highlighted the lack of tools and equipment for the tasks required, **AGREED** the head groundsman to liaise with Town Clerk with regards to requirements.

Members congratulated the grounds staff on the condition of Pease Hill, the grass had been maintained whilst maintaining the wild flowers.

Mr Runyard drew attention to the signage at the entrance to Memorial Lane, he advised complaints had been received from visiting teams that the Playing Field had been difficult to find, **AGREED** to look into improved signage.

244 THE SQUARE

(a) CCTV

Members were advised of the cost to install three CCTV cameras in the Square located on the pole nearest the war memorial. Following due consideration members felt there had not been a demonstrated need for CCTV in the town square.

245 GENERAL

(a) Speed limit signs

Members considered a suggestion put forward with regard to erecting 10mph speed signs for Memorial Lane in the interests of public safety. **AGREED** to a trial period to ascertain whether they would be effective.

(b) Provision of Litter bins

Members considered the suggestions put forward in the Enforcement Officer's report, the issue with the provision of dedicated dog bins had proved to be the emptying as this would not be undertaken by Dorset Council. Members **AGREED** to undertake an audit of all the litter bin provision within the town with a view to possible better siting.

Cllr Monks advised organised litter picks would be taking place approx. every two months and suggested a record be kept of the trouble areas for consideration of a litter bin.

246 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting had been scheduled for 19th July 2022.

247 MEETING

The meeting which started at 7.00pm closed at 9.00pm.

CHAIRMAN
19th July 2022