

CREWKERNE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the AMENITIES COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, following a meeting of the Planning & Highways Committee on Monday 23 May 2022.

PRESENT:

Cllr. M. Best (Vice Chair), S. Ashton, N. Draycott, K. Head, P. Maxwell, J. Morris, A. Samuel, and A. Stuart.

In attendance: Town Clerk K. Sheehan and Deputy Clerk L. Gowers, five members of the public.

OPEN FORUM

A resident asked why the grassed area surrounding the tennis courts had been cut, as she had understood that it had been identified for rewilding last summer. She did not feel that the proposed games tables were needed in this location but would want to see the area reopened and accessible.

Another resident who had previously offered to provide wildflower seeds for the land at Pithers Court reiterated this would still stand (dependent on price) for next year.

1 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

22/23

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. T. Bond, D. Livesley, J. Nathan and D. Wakeman (all personal).

2 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

22/23

It was AGREED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 14 March 2022 be APPROVED.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

22/23

No declarations of interest were made at this point.

4 REPORT FROM THE AMENITIES CHAIRMAN

22/23 To receive an update report from the Amenities Chairman

The Chairman provided an update on the following amenities projects:

- Falkland Square toilets flooring: the contractors had returned to relay the floors in both pods at no cost to the Town Council and both toilets were now reopened.
- CTC tree planting scheme: trees had been planted at the cemetery, Happy Valley and other sites.
- 'Tommy': the transfer of Tommy from SSDC to CTC was now being progressed by solicitors.
- Telephone kiosk at Town Hall: one of the telephone kiosks at Town Hall was no longer in use and was available for adoption. Councillors agreed to list this on the next Amenities Committee agenda.

It was agreed that the Severalls Memorials Gardens would also be listed as an agenda item for the next Amenities meeting.

5 PITHERS COURT

22/23 To consider a quote for the installation of a post & rail fence at the land to the rear of Pithers Court

The Clerk reported that one quote had been received to erect this fence at Pithers Court. Councillors noted that the fence was necessary to keep grounds staff safe (due to the height of the land), and if it was installed then the area could be maintained safely in house. Concerns about a spring on the land were noted, but no communication from the Management Company had been received.

It was AGREED to accept the quote from Guy Trevor Jones for £890 (excl. VAT) to supply & install a 61m post and rail fence following the top of the wall, with the Clerk to clarify access arrangements for the land. (Open Spaces budget).

6 SEVERALLS TENNIS COURTS

22/23 a. To receive an update from SSDC on the planned refurbishment of the tennis courts

The Clerk reported that she had not received any further information from SSDC to add to the report given at the previous week's Full Council meeting, with the lead officer from SSDC currently on leave.

Cllr. Best explained that SSDC/LTA were proposing to refurbish both courts to a high standard, whereas the budget set aside by CTC would only pay for one court to be brought back into action, with a short-term surface which would require further works. Some discussion took place about the access arrangements to the refurbished courts, with councillors noting that this had not yet been decided by LTA/SSDC. Cllrs. Best and Maxwell agreed to seek further updates from SSDC officers.

b. To consider quotes for fencing for the grassed area to the side of the tennis courts and resolve to seek the approval of the War Memorial Commemoration Trust to carry out the work required to re-open this area

Councillors considered the report circulated, and discussed whether there was any need for fencing. The Clerk stated that that Council's Health & Safety officer advised that the proposed fence was required due to the steep bank presenting a hazard. The fence would also allow the area to be kept open during the refurbishment works to the courts.

Councillors discussed the matter and it was AGREED not to proceed with the fencing, instead to ask the Clerk to assess costs for installing drop bollards and to clear the concrete and rubble from the area, and bring this back to a future meeting.

c. To authorise the Clerk to apply for S106 funding for the proposed table tennis table

Following the outcome of item 6b. above, this item was not discussed.

7 BARN STREET

22/23 To receive a report from Cllr. Samuel and Head and agree a way forward

A report summarising two recent public meetings regarding Barn Street Recreation Area was received. It was AGREED that a landscape architect be engaged to produce a plan for the area at a fixed cost of £100 as arranged by Cllr. Samuel. This would then be available for the local community to view and comment on before coming back to a future meeting.

8 HENHAYES

22/23 To consider a request from Rugbytots for the use of Henhayes for training session for a trial period of up to six months

It was AGREED that Rugbytots could use part of Henhayes (furthest away from the cricket area) for training sessions on Sunday mornings for a trial period of up to six months.

9 MATTERS OF REPORT

22/23

Cllr. Stuart requested that all councillors speak through the Chair in turn, and that public comment be restricted to the Open Forum section.

Cllr. Stuart advised that the June meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee would be rescheduled and a new date circulated in due course.

10 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

22/23

Monday 11 July 2022, following the Planning and Highways Committee meeting, Council Chamber, Town Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.09pm.

Signed:

Dated:

Am23May2022