

Minutes of a meeting of the AMENITIES COMMITTEE held in the George Reynolds Centre, Crewkerne, following a meeting of the Planning and Highways Committee on Monday 10 July 2023.

PRESENT:

Cllr. D. Wakeman (Chair), S. Ashton, M. Best, T. Bond, K. Head, D. Livesley, J. Morris, J. Nathan, and A. Samuel.

In attendance: Town Clerk K. Sheehan, Deputy Clerk E. Wilkins, Operations Manager A. Cross, and approximately 18 members of the public.

OPEN FORUM

A member of the public raised the following points relating to the proposed works to the water supply at Severalls allotments:

- Allotment holders understood that the changes to the current supply arrangements had to be made to comply with Wessex Water's infringement notice.
- He noted that although the risk of cross-contamination was low, this was still a concern and it was generally understood that hosepipes could no longer be used.
- Allotment holders were happy to volunteer some time to help implement the water troughs, if approved, and thanks were offered to staff from Crewkerne Town Council for their efforts in finding a way forward.
- The member of the public wished to clarify that although there had been an instance of aggressive behaviour towards staff, this was an individual rather than 'some' allotment holders referred to in the report.

Cllr. Wakeman thanked the resident for his comments.

8 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

23/24

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. N. Draycott, P. Maxwell and A. Stuart (all personal).

9 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

23/24

None.

10 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

23/24

It was AGREED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 12 June 2023 be APPROVED.

11 REPORT FROM THE AMENITIES CHAIR

23/24 To receive an update report from the Amenities Chairman

The Chair and Operations Manager noted the following updates:

- A Meeting Owl was now in use to improve audio visual quality of streamed meetings.
- The air conditioning project at GRC had been completed and the system was now in use.
- The replacement window unit at the GRC was scheduled to be installed in the summer holidays.
- Funding application for professional conservator to clean 'Tommy' is in progress, pending receipt of quotes to support the application.
- A Bincombe activity day was now being organised by the Deputy Clerk – volunteer support welcome.
- Quotes were being sought for the painting of the exterior woodwork at Town Hall.
- The Deputy Clerk had requested that BT paints the two kiosks outside Town Hall.
- Car park lines were due to be refurbished this week (weather dependent).

12 TENNIS COURTS

23/24 To receive a verbal update from the Town Clerk

The Clerk reported that the LTA Parks Programme in South Somerset had experienced delays due to contractor illness and poor weather but had been advised that works were likely to commence at Severalls the following week.

13 SEVERALLS ALLOTMENTS

23/24 To receive a report regarding proposed changes to the water supply and consider a way forward

A report from the Operations Manager had been circulated, outlining a proposal for a trough system which would meet Wessex Water's requirements for a water supply to the allotments. Councillors noted that over 100 allotment sites had been served with similar notices. Following discussion, the proposed water trough system was AGREED, with arrangements for installation to be delegated to the Operations Manager in consultation with the Chair of the Amenities Committee.

14 SUMMER HOLIDAY YOUTH PROVISION

23/24 To note dates for summer holiday activities in Crewkerne

Councillors noted the following confirmed summer holiday activities in Crewkerne:

- Somerset Council Fun Day at Henhayes and the GRC on Wednesday 2nd August
- Crewkerne Town Council Fun Day provided by ALS on Wednesday 9th August
- Southmead Playground graffiti project co-ordinated by ALS and funded by CTC – Thursday 17th August.

Councillors noted that the outreach work at Happy Valley was scheduled to finish at the end of the term and asked the Town Clerk to investigate extending provision throughout the summer holidays.

15 HEALTH AND WELLBEING GRANT FUNDING

23/24 To consider suggestions for a health and wellbeing project to apply for funding

Councillors AGREED to apply to the SALC fund for Health and Wellbeing projects to support the planned Bincombe Beeches activity day.

16 MATTERS OF REPORT

23/24

Cllr. Wakeman made a statement emphasising the importance of respectful communications to and about town councillors, which was echoed by Cllr. Head. Cllr. Ashton noted that the Abri mobile food pantry was working through some trading licence issues but in the meantime continued to operate at various locations around the town.

17 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

23/24

Monday 11 September 2023 following the Planning & Highways Committee meeting in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square.

The meeting closed at 20.24.

Signed:

Dated:

Am10July2023