

Minutes of a meeting of the AMENITIES COMMITTEE held in the Beech Suite, George Reynolds Centre, Crewkerne, following a meeting of the Planning and Highways Committee on Monday 11 September 2023.

PRESENT:

Cllr. D. Wakeman (Chair), S. Ashton, T. Bond, N. Draycott, D. Livesley, J. Morris, J. Nathan, A. Samuel and A. Stuart.

In attendance: Town Clerk K. Sheehan, Operations Manager A. Cross, and approximately 20 members of the public.

OPEN FORUM

No one wished to speak.

18 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

23/24

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. M. Best and K. Head (both personal).

19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

23/24

None.

20 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 10 July 2023 be APPROVED.

21 REPORT FROM THE AMENITIES CHAIR

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

The Chair noted that the updated Amenities matrix had been circulated. No questions were raised.

22 TENNIS COURTS

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

The Town Clerk reported that the majority of the tarmacking had been carried out but unfortunately the base layer of a strip at the near end of the courts had deteriorated and would need rebuilding before further tarmac could be laid. Contractors were expected to return to site the following week.

23 SEVERALLS ALLOTMENTS

23/24 To receive a verbal update on works to alter water supply to a trough system

The Operations Manager reported that he had met with allotment holders to identify the equipment required which would now be put on order.

24 GRC ROOM HIRE CHARGES

23/24 To confirm hiring arrangements for sports clubs, including a session fee for changing rooms

Councillors considered a proposal for the sports clubs to move to a 'pay per play' arrangement for the new season, which would mean they booked and paid for the upstairs rooms, kitchen and bar facilities on the existing schedule of fees. Additionally, a fee for the usage of changing rooms would need to be set as this was currently included in the hire 'package' arrangement.

Councillors agreed that further information on cleaning and utility costs, as well as estimated income from both arrangements was required and the item was deferred to a later meeting.

25 HAPPY VALLEY OUTREACH

23/24 To confirm extending outreach provision until October half term

Councillors AGREED to continue to fund the youth outreach work at Happy Valley for an additional half term, noting that it had been positively received.

26 TREE REPORTS

23/24 To note that the five yearly tree report for Bincombe Beeches has been carried out, to note budgetary implications and recommendations and to note the annual tree report for the Henhayes Oaks and Barn Street Beech

Councillors noted the circulated report summarising the findings of the independent arborist.

It was AGREED to arrange for further specialist testing as outlined in the report for the Barn Street Beech.

It was AGREED to top up the mulch and upgrade to 6-monthly inspections in respect of the Luccombe and Turkey Oaks, but not for any further specialist testing.

It was AGREED to delegate the arrangements for the remaining works recommended in the reports to the Operations Manager.

Councillors noted that the report for Bincombe Beeches Nature Reserve highlighted that the cost of the identified works could range from £12,500- £25,000 p/a, and that this would need including in the new budget.

27 REPLACEMENT BOILER AT TOWN HALL

23/24 To consider quotations for a replacement boiler at Town Hall

This item was deferred to a future meeting, as an additional quote had not been received in time for consideration.

28 HENHAYES CAR PARK

23/24 To consider a request from Crewkerne Health Centre to close the car park for two days in support of the seasonal vaccination programme

It was AGREED to permit the two-day closure of Henhayes car park (30th September and 1st October) in support of the vaccination programme.

29 MATTERS OF REPORT

23/24

None.

30 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

23/24

Monday 13 November 2023 following the Planning & Highways Committee meeting in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square.

The meeting closed at 19.49.

Signed:

Dated:

Am11September2023