

Minutes of a meeting of the AMENITIES COMMITTEE held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square, Crewkerne, following a meeting of the Planning and Highways Committee on Monday 13 November 2023.

PRESENT:

Cllr. M. Best (Vice Chair), T. Bond, N. Draycott, J. Morris, J. Nathan, A. Samuel, A. Stuart and S. Woodland.

In attendance: Town Clerk K. Sheehan, Deputy Clerk G. Hughes, and eleven members of the public.

OPEN FORUM

No one wished to speak.

31 TO NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

23/24

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. S. Ashton, K. Head, D. Livesley (all personal) and D. Wakeman (work commitments).

32 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

23/24

Cllrs. Draycott and Woodland declared an interest in the item relating to Happy Valley by virtue of living near the area, and Cllr. Samuel declared an interest in the same item by virtue of working at St. Bartholomew's School.

33 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 11 September 2023 be **APPROVED**.

34 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. He also noted that the Millers Garage site had been cleared by Somerset Council operatives after becoming overgrown.

35 HAPPY VALLEY ACCESS AUDIT AND DESIGN OUT CRIME REPORTS

23/24 To note that these reports have been received and receive a verbal update from the Chair

Cllrs. Draycott and Woodland left the room for this agenda item.

Cllr. Best noted that both these reports had been circulated to all councillors. It was suggested that a small working party be formed to review the reports and formulate recommendations. Councillors noted that this would need to take place fairly quickly as estimates of any associated works would be required as part of the budget considerations. Cllrs. Best, Stuart, Nathan agreed to participate and it was hoped that the Chair of Amenities would also join the working party.

36 SHIPPING CONTAINER REFURBISHMENT

23/24 To receive an update from the Clerk and consider a proposal from Crewkerne Rugby Club to refurbish and utilise an empty shipping container

Cllr. Nathan declared an interest at this point by virtue of her membership of the Rotary Club.

The Clerk reported that following the agreement for the Rotary Club to locate a shipping container on Henhayes to store the sleigh, they had received an offer from a local company to use their yard. Subsequently, the Rugby Club had submitted a request to refurbish the existing shipping container and utilise it for their own purposes. The ownership of the container would remain with Crewkerne Town Council.

It was AGREED that the Rugby Club be permitted to refurbish and make use of the container.

37 TERMS OF REFERENCE

23/24 To review the Terms of Reference for the Amenities Committee

Subject to two minor amendments, the updated Terms of Reference for the Amenities Committee were AGREED.

38 MATTERS OF REPORT

23/24

Cllr. Nathan noted that she had received some correspondence about the George Reynolds Centre. Following some discussion, Councillors agreed that they were open to the idea of a public meeting about the Centre in the future. Cllrs. Nathan and Best were reviewing electricity bills for the Centre and would report back.

Cllr. Samuel noted that she had received numerous complaints about dog mess on pavements throughout the town. The Clerk stated that problem areas could be notified to the office, who would arrange for the Locality Officer to patrol the areas.

39 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

23/24

Monday 8 January 2024 following the Planning & Highways Committee meeting in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Market Square.

The meeting closed at 19.41.

Signed:

Dated:

Am13November2023