

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held in the Large Hall of the Town Hall, Calne on Monday 1 September 2014

PRESENT: Councillor Ms H E Canfer– Town Mayor (Ex-officio)
Councillor G P Widger - **Chair**
Councillor C M R Boase – **Vice-Chair**
Councillor D I Conway
Councillor Dr J Reid
Councillor P A B Venton (6.10 pm)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr A Lawton – Gazette & Herald

OFFICERS: Mrs L A Roberts – Town Clerk
Mrs A C Cawkwell – Finance & Committee Officer

17/14 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillor Mrs Baggs, Councillor Marshall and Councillor Redmond. *Apologies had also been received from Councillor Denley just before close of office and were discovered the next day.*

18/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

19/14 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 19 May 2014, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

20/14 PROPOSAL TO CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR REFURBISHING THE TOWN HALL CLOCK

The report of the Community Services Manager, which is attached to and forms part of these minutes, was discussed by members and the following points were raised:

- The two inspection reports were good.
- There was a need to do something as the manual winding of the clock was a health and safety concern, however, the auto winding was very expensive.
- The auto winding would negate the need for weekly access by the Town Hall Caretaker and remove any need to climb the tower to adjust the time. However, it was preferable for somebody to cast a monthly eye over the movement and adjust the time during those inspections. This would quarter the risk to the employee(s).
- The Town Hall is a listed building and there is an obligation to maintain the clock.
- If installed, the auto winding would be guaranteed for ten years.

- The annual maintenance quote for £165 has to be done to preserve the warranty.
- We have a duty of care to our employees.

It was proposed by Councillor Boase, seconded by the Town Mayor, Councillor Ms Canfer, and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to

- 1) Commission the Cumbria Clock Company, to dismantle, clean, test and reassemble movement (£1495 + VAT), attend to the removal, reconditioning and return of bells and hammers (£995 + VAT) and replace cracked dial segments (£525 + VAT).
- 2) Commission the installation of an automatic winding mechanism (£5350 + VAT)

Funding to come from General Reserves.

21/14 PROPOSAL TO CONSIDER THE CHARGING POLICY AT ANCHOR ROAD TENNIS COURTS

The report of the Community Services Manager, which is attached to and forms part of these minutes, was discussed by members and the following points were raised:

- A charge should be made for the use of the Tennis Courts, however, there was a question over the cost implications of having a meter. It was felt that an informed decision could not be made until this information was available.
- If the courts were free or more easily accessible to members of the public they would be used more which in turn could provide a deterrent to avoid anti-social behaviour. Especially in the evenings when the current key system in the office required pre planning and is not necessarily readily available for spur of the moment use.
- The meter option was favoured, however, if this was to cost more than the current income of £173.50 may not really be worthwhile.
- There is a control over the current system and use can be monitored by staff at bank house.
- The Town Clerk informed that Section 106 funding was used to repair damaged fencing from people trying to get onto the courts, however, if the courts were easily accessible they may be used for other means. There was a need to find the right balance.
- Perhaps locking people out of the courts provokes anti social behaviour as people want to try to get in.
- The tennis courts are for the people of Calne and will now be more available for public use 24/7 as the Tennis Club have moved to Beversbrook.
- The key system would require the locks to be changed from time to time for security reasons, however, a meter would open up the use of the courts to the public as and when there was a wish to play.
- Unfortunately, anti social behaviour happens as a result of youths using and congregating in the children's play area, however, CCTV is currently being investigated and more police patrols in this area have been requested.

It was proposed by Councillor Widger, seconded by the Town Mayor, Councillor Ms Canfer and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to investigate costs for the installation of a meter and to leave the charging policy as it is for the season to see if there is an increase in the Tennis Court income as a result of the Tennis Club moving to Beversbrook and the courts being more available for public use.

22/14 BEVERSBROOK ALLOTMENTS

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, Councillor Ms Canfer, seconded by Councillor Boase and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to

- 1) Proceed with the removal of the composting bins, with allotment holders being responsible for the removal of allotment waste generated by their plots.
- 2) Allotment holders could purchase their own composting bins.

23/14 CASTLEFIELDS MOUND WALL UPDATE

The report of the Outdoor Services and Facilities Manager, which is attached to and forms part of these minutes, was discussed by members. The Town Clerk informed that she had challenged the wording of the Section 106 funding and Wiltshire Council had no objection to the wording being changed, however, Hills were providing the funding and there was a need to alter the Section 106 agreement to allow for it to be used to reinstate the Castlefields Wall. The Town Clerk needed to get the wording absolutely right and she would continue to pursue this matter.

24/14 UPDATE OF THE SKATEPARK, STATION ROAD

The report of the Outdoor Services and Facilities Manager, which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes, was noted by members. A request had been received that the skatepark is kept in a decent state, free from glass and rubbish, as there have been times when skateboards could not be used, however, CCTV should alleviate this problem.

25/14 TOWN HALL WORKING GROUP MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19 May 2014 were noted by members. A question was raised about the organ in the Town Hall as this was not actually playable any more and therefore perhaps no longer required. The Town Clerk would contact the person who donated the organ to see if they would like it returned or if we could donate it.

26/14 BRITAIN IN BLOOM

The notes of the meetings held on 16 June, 7 July and 11 August 2014 were noted by members.

27/14 CASTLEFIELDS CANAL AND RIVER PARK ASSOCIATION

The Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17 July 2014 together with the Chairman's report for 2013/14 were noted.

28/14 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

In view of the Confidential Nature of the business to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.

DRAFT