

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held in the Large Hall of the Town Hall, Calne on Monday 8 December 2014

PRESENT: Councillor Ms H E Canfer– Town Mayor (Ex-officio)
Councillor H R Marshall – Deputy Town Mayor (Ex-officio)
Councillor Mrs M J Baggs
Councillor G P Widger - **Chair**
Councillor C M R Boase – **Vice-Chair**
Councillor D I Conway
Councillor S Denley

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor D F Short (6.13 pm)
Councillor A J Trotman

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

41/14 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors Redmond and Venton.

42/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Conway declared an interest in Agenda Item 9, concerning parking at the recreation ground, as he was Chair of Youth Rugby. However, as this car park was owned by the Town Council it wasn't necessary to declare an interest.

43/14 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 20 October 2014, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

44/14 BEVERSBROOK COMMUNITY FACILITY – PURCHASE OF MARQUEE STYLE LINER

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

- It was generally agreed that the best option would be to hire the linings and swags, this would require no groundstaff involvement.
- Beversbrook would be an ideal wedding venue as there is plenty of room for children to run around.
- It was important to chose the right type of marquee as some do not look as good as others.
- There could be a conflict if Beversbrook and the Town Hall are promoted as wedding venues, and with the later discussion of the lift, perhaps one issue should be dealt with at a time.

- As pulleys are supplied and fitted the option to hire seemed the best option. The lift at the Town Hall is essential to enable use of the facility.
- Beversbrook and the Town Hall are two totally different venues, promoting both will provide the opportunity of more revenue for the Town Council.

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor Marshall, seconded by Councillor Boase and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to hire the linings and swags for one year.

45/14 CALNE TOWN HALL LIFT

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 lift keeps breaking down and people are getting stuck inside. It was essential to provide disabled access and, as funding has been included in the budget, we should proceed with obtaining quotes for the refurbishment of the lift.
- The Town Clerk advised that to install a new lift would require structural alterations to the building. Renovation will cost in the region of £20k which has been included in the budget. There is an earmarked reserve for maintenance of the Town Hall which could be used for the lift. A new lift would cost in the region of £50k and would need to comply with DDA requirements and criteria.
- Renovation of the lift will include the replacement of worn parts and will improve its performance.
- The Town Clerk informed that the Town Hall has an Evac Chair as a means of evacuating disabled people down the stairs in cases of emergency.
- A suggestion of installing a stair lift was dismissed as this could possibly cost more and may not fulfil the dignity criteria of the DDA specifications.
- The lift has been used many times, and has been in place since 1991, it is therefore fairly old and was installed as a goods lift and not a passenger lift.
- Town Hall bookings have increased and it is being used more than usual for this time of year due to strong marketing. A working lift is essential and we do not want to deter people from booking the facility.
- The upstairs room in the Town Hall is very popular with bookings and the lift is essential. The lift should be repaired to encourage even more use.
- The Town Hall is licenced for Civil Weddings and Beversbrook does not have this licence due to specific criteria needing to be met concerning separate rooms etc.
- A Dance Club hire the Town Hall on a Thursday, this consists of elderly and disabled people who rely on the lift to get upstairs. A good working lift is essential.

It was proposed by Councillor Widger, seconded by Councillor Mrs Baggs and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to

- 1) Authorise officers to attain the best quote for refurbishment works to be carried out, and to fund works from Earmarked Reserves, Amenities 902/9057, whereby this cost does not exceed £20k, when it can be repaid back from the agreed budget in the next financial year 2015/2016.

- 2) Authorise officers to attain the best quote for future servicing and maintenance of the refurbished lift.

46/14 TOWN HALL WORKING GROUP

Members looked at the updated Work Plan and the Schedule of future Town Hall Working Group meetings and it was proposed by Councillor Denley, seconded by Councillor Mrs Baggs and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to agree the Schedule of future Town Hall Working Group meetings.

47/14 BRITAIN IN BLOOM

The notes of the meetings held on Monday 13 October and 10 November 2014 were noted by members.

48/14 CASTLEFIELDS CANAL AND RIVER PARK ASSOCIATION

The Town Clerk was pleased to inform that she had received a letter from Hills confirming that they were in agreement to the change of wording in the Section 106 agreement to allow the funding to be used for the wall. Members congratulated the Town Clerk on this positive result.

There was concern over the timing of the removal of the trees as this should be done out of nesting season, however, the funding would be unavailable until March 2015. This needed to be investigated and funding could perhaps be taken from earmarked reserves and paid back when the funding is received in March.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2014 were noted by members.

49/14 REQUEST TO PARK A SCHOOL MINI-BUS AT THE RECREATION CLUB CAR PARK AT WEEKENDS

There was very limited information provided and therefore it was proposed by Councillor Denley, seconded by the Town Mayor, Councillor Ms Canfer and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that further information was required and to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to decide whether to allow the parking of a school mini-bus at the Recreation Club car park at weekends.

The meeting closed at 6.41 pm