

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
held on Thursday 28th September 2023 at 7.15pm in The Council Chamber

Present:

Cllr A Donaldson – ex officio

Cllr C Fraser

Cllr M Jones – Vice Chairman

Cllr H Lacey – ex officio

Cllr P Marks - Chairman

In Attendance: K Squire (Town Clerk)

Members of the Public: 3

Minute No.	Comments	RESOLUTION <i>The proposer is named first followed by the seconder</i>
23/24/139	<p>PUBLIC SESSION</p> <p>A member of the public addressed the Committee with concerns regarding the proposed Market Fields development and the protection of Butts Pond Nature Reserve as an asset nearby the development as well as the aesthetics of the site for nearby residents.</p> <p>A member of the Heritage Trust updated the committee on the progress of the model railway project. She invited members to visit the workshop area. She thanked Cllr Mantock for her assistance in securing additional funding and Cllr Batstone for arranging a location where renovation work could take place. The Trust were applying for other funding for running costs and looking at ways increase workshops being held at the museum. Cllr Fraser thanked the Trust for their hard work and dedication.</p>	
23/24/140	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllr P Batstone and Cllr J Rose.</p>	Cllr Fraser Cllr Donaldson
23/24/141	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS</p> <p>No declarations of interest had been declared and no written dispensations received.</p>	
23/24/142	<p>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>The minutes of the previous Amenities meeting held on 29th June 2023, having been circulated and publicised prior to the meeting, were taken as read and approved for signature by the Committee Chairman as a true and correct record.</p>	Cllr Donaldson Cllr Lacey
23/24/143	<p>ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN STURMINSTER NEWTON</p> <p>Members discussed ongoing issues of antisocial behavior in the town. Cllr Lacey updated the committee on an open day she had attended at the Dorset Police HQ to find out about their Contact, Demand and Engagement Project. The committee decided to refer the matter to Town Council on the 5th of October to discuss possible ideas.</p>	
23/24/144	<p>GROUNDS MANAGER'S REPORT</p> <p>The Clerk gave a verbal update on behalf of the Grounds Manager. Regular maintenance of open spaces and amenity areas was completed during the Summer.</p> <p>There has been an increase in fly tipping, which is reported to Dorset Council.</p>	



The zip wire has been removed and repairs to vandalised play equipment done.

The play equipment project is in progress with providers giving quotes based on consultation with William Barnes School Council.

Repairs have been made to part of the fence at the Mill which was vandalized.

We continue to report traffic offences at Station Road to the Police.

3 members of the Grounds team attended Groundsfest in Warwickshire which is an event for Councils and Lanscapers to meet reps, trial equipment and speak to training providers. Positive feedback had been received from the staff.

The Grounds Managers office and staff room in the workshop were now being used as storage so it is vital to progress the workshop extension, especial with new developments underway.

23/24/145

INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Lacey –

- reported issues with anti social behaviour where a bench has been sited overlooking the river on Bath Road. She asked the Clerk to contact the Hinton St Mary Estate Managers as it's on Estate land.
- Had been send an email regarding annual forums being held by Dorset AONB. Cllrs Marks and Donaldson expressed interest in more information.

Cllr Donaldson – reported issues with garden waste collection at Brinsley Close. He had been assured that bins left out would be collected within 5 days.

Cllr Fraser – enquired regarding tree mitigation for the lost willows at the river bank. The Clerk will report back.

Cllr Marks – will arrange a meeting of the Town Council Open Spaces Group to discuss plans for the group going forward.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm

Approved on

Chairman's Signature

