

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
Held on Thursday 28th March 2019 in the Council Chamber at 7.15 pm

Present:

Councillor L Chater	Councillor H Lacey (Mayor)
Councillor A Donaldson	Councillor H Reed
Councillor V Fox	Councillor G Rose
Councillor M Jones (Deputy Mayor)	

Absent:

None

In attendance: Councillor P Batstone, Councillor Robert Taylor, Jeremy Read (Co-opted Member), Mrs Emma Lindsay (Town Clerk), Adam Dodson (Grounds Manager) and Kate Squire (Finance Officer)

Minute No.	COMMENTS	RESOLUTION for each item the proposer is named first followed by the seconder
AM/12/19	PUBLIC SESSION No comments were made or questions asked.	
AM/13/19	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE No apologies for absence had been received.	
AM/14/19	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS No interests were declared and consequently no written requests for dispensation had been received.	
AM/15/19	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 10th January 2019 having been circulated and publicised prior to the meeting were taken as read and approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record	Cllr Donaldson Cllr Rose
AM/16/19	OPEN SPACES GROUP Co-opted Member Jeremy Read reported as follows: Since the last meeting of the Amenities Committee, a good deal of hedge-laying work has been carried out, mainly in Butts Pond Meadows, and a number of dead or dying trees have been identified for removal. Ditches have been cleared, notably the one between Yewstock School and the Meadows, which has been deepened and will provide some stagnant water to encourage the growth of algae, which will provide suitable conditions for frogs. Material has been ordered for building up footpaths in the Meadows in place where flooding has been experienced in wet conditions. Work is continuing to develop up to date work plans for open spaces under the control of the Town Council. This is being undertaken by Countryside Ranger apprentices, under the supervision of Graham Stanley. The Group noted with regret, but fully understood, the decision of the Town Council against proceeding with the link between the Jubilee Path and the Trailway. It is reassuring that the Council intends to review alternative access points. The Group is much encouraged by the action in hand to secure land at the end of Brinsley Close as a possible start to the extension of the Trailway towards Stalbridge, and warmly welcomes the grant of £70,000 by North Dorset District Council to the Trailway Network.	



- AM/17/19 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE STURMINSTER NEWTON OPEN SPACES GROUP
After considering the report circulated with the meeting papers, the Committee noted the revised terms of reference for the Sturminster Newton Open Spaces Group.
- AM/18/19 REQUEST FROM THE YOUTH CLUB TO HOLD AN EVENT
The Committee discussed a report from the Town Clerk which had been circulated with the meeting papers regarding a request from the Youth Club to hold an event at Rixon Recreation Ground on the 27th July 2019.
The Committee RESOLVED to RECOMMEND the approval of the Youth Club holding an event at the Rixon Recreation Ground and to show support of this by waiving the hire charge. Cllr Rose
Cllr Donaldson
- AM/19/19 TREE CONDITION SURVEY
The Committee discussed in detail the findings of the recent tree survey. The Town Clerk advised that she had ordered the urgent works adjacent to Riverside Meadows to be done immediately and will gain retrospective permission at the next Town Council meeting.
- AM/20/19 MAINTENANCE OF PLAY EQUIPMENT
After considering the report circulated with the meeting papers,
The Committee RESOLVED to RECOMMEND the approval of expenditure for maintenance of play equipment. CllrRose
Cllr Donaldson
- AM/21/19 BOILER REPLACEMENT IN THE PAVILION
Having discussed the report circulated with the meeting papers,
The Committee RESOLVED to RECOMMEND the approval of the installation of a new boiler in the Pavilion. CllrJones
Cllr Lacey
- AM/22/19 TOWN CLERKS REPORT
Sturminster Newton Mill work has begun on looking at renewing the lease. Allotments the Clerk and Grounds Manager are working with the Allotment Association to streamline processes and how the Association can best support the tenants.
Cemetery The Clerk advised that she hoped the Cemetery Reconsecration will take place during the Summer.
- AM/23/19 GROUNDS MANAGERS REPORT
The Committee fully discussed a report from the Grounds Manager which had previously been circulated.
- AM/24/19 CORRESPONDENCE
The Town Clerk reported that a letter had been received regarding dog fouling in Town. The Clerk recommended that this be discussed as an agenda item at the next Amenities Committee meeting and advised that she would contact the Dog Warden and work with the Grounds Manager to find possible solutions.
The Town Clerk had also received a letter from the Sturminster Newton Garden Club asking for permission to hold a Plant Sale outside near the Railway Gardens on the 18th May 2019. Permission has previously been granted and the Town Clerk will write back.
- AM/25/19 INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS
Cllr Jones asked if the Council would reconsider allowing BBQ's at the Mill and Recreation Ground. The Grounds Manager responded that the use of BBQ's would be too great a health and safety risk.
Cllr Chater voiced concerns about the speed of traffic at Northfields. The Town



Clerk suggested this be raised as an agenda item at the next Planning and Environment Committee meeting.
Cllr Donaldson updated the Committee regarding an accident that had occurred on the road at the school, the lack of hazard signs at the bridge warning of the school is a pressing issue.

Meeting Closed at 8.15pm

Approved On Chairs Signature.....

DRAFT