

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
Held on Thursday 26th September 2019 in the Council Chamber at 7.15 pm

Present:

Councillor A Donaldson – Vice Chairman
 Councillor H Lacey (Mayor)
 Councillor H Reed - Chairman

Councillor G Rose
 Councillor R Taylor

Absent: Councillor L Chater, Councillor M Jones

In attendance: Councillor Jason Janes, Mr Jeremy Read (Open Spaces Group), Mrs Emma Lindsay (Town Clerk), Mr Adam Dodson (Grounds Manager) and Mrs Kate Squire (Finance Officer).

Minute No.	COMMENTS	RESOLUTION <small>for each item the proposer is named first followed by the seconder</small>
AM/39/19	PUBLIC SESSION No members of the public were present.	
AM/40/19	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received from Cllr Chater and Cllr Jones. These apologies were accepted by the members present.	
AM/41/19	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS No interests were declared and consequently no written requests for dispensation had been received.	
AM/42/19	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 27th June 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 Taylor
AM/43/19	OPEN SPACES GROUP In Co-opted member Vic Fox's absence due to illness, Jeremy Read reported that the Open Spaces Group had been working on a new Walkabout leaflet themed on trees in and around the Town, this was in first draft. He reported that they had a very strong Tree Group at present and were also working closely with the Trailway group regarding their planned enhancement project.	
AM/44/19	TRAILWAY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT The Committee considered the contents of the report circulated with the meeting papers. The Committee RESOLVED to RECOMMEND i. The establishment of the Trailway Project. ii. The approval of the governance arrangements outlined in the report. iii. The involvement of Councillor A Donaldson in the project group.	Cllr Rose Cllr Lacey
AM/45/19	DONATION OF OAK SAPLING TO COMMEMORATE 100 YEARS OF THE COUNTRY MARKET The Town Clerk advised that a resident had asked to donate an oak tree sapling to the Town with a plaque commemorating 100 years of the Country Market. The Clerk relayed the advice that had been sought from the trees group and the Grounds Manager suggested possible sites for the sapling. The Committee discussed these.	

Chair' Initials

**The Committee RESOLVED to RECOMMEND acceptance of the Oak Sapling.
This will be situated in the War Memorial Recreation Ground.**

Cllr Donaldson
Cllr Rose

AM/46/19 TOWN CLERKS REPORT

The Town Clerk reported:

Cemetery Consecration

The Town Clerk advised that the Cemetery Consecration had been cancelled and we are awaiting a new date from the Bishop.

Drinking Trough

The Town Clerk updated the Committee that following the road traffic accident which destroyed the trough; the claim process had been started with the insurance company.

Break-In at the Grounds Workshop

The Town Clerk also updated that following the recent break-in an insurance claim had been started for the stolen and damaged items.

Future Budget Planning

The Town Clerk advised that she will be looking at the budget for the next financial year and will be proposing that more provision be made for tree works following the recent tree survey and an assets plan for grounds and play equipment replacement.

Pigeons

The Town Clerk asked if the Councillors could help with the pigeon problem in the Railway Garden area by actively encouraging members of the public to stop feeding the birds. She advised that new signage would also be installed.

AM/47/19 GROUNDS MANAGERS REPORT

The Committee discussed a report from the Grounds Manager which had been previously circulated.

The Grounds Manager added that the team were working through the projects as well as day to day tasks. The new play equipment at Rixon Recreation Ground was being installed and the cable runway had been removed having been deemed unsafe.

The dog waste bag dispensers had been delivered and would be installed as soon as possible and the wheelchair friendly bench for the Railway Gardens would be arriving in the next few weeks.

Cllr Donaldson asked about the recent workshop break-in. The Grounds Manager advised that no other stolen items had been recovered but that the CCTV had worked really well and had been instrumental in apprehending the offenders.

Cllr Reed thanked the Grounds Team for doing a fine job in the Town; she had received positive comments from residents.

AM/48/19 CORRESPONDENCE

The Town Clerk reported that no correspondence within the Committee's terms of reference had been received.

AM/49/19 INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Taylor advised that the White Hart Public House is due to re-open at the end of October.

Cllr Lacey reported that the Hospital Charity Shop is now offering free water refills.

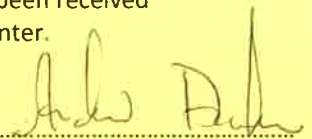
Cllr Donaldson commented that the flower troughs had been received favorably in the town and would be replanted for the winter.

Meeting closed at 20.01

Approved On

30/01/20

Chairs Signature.....



Chair' Initials

