



MINUTES OF STOW ON THE WOLD TOWN COUNCIL'S PARKS & SQUARE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 23RD JANUARY 2020 AT THE YOUTH CLUB CENTRE, FOSSEWAY, STOW ON THE WOLD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL54 1DW AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillors: L Rixon (Chairman), M Deacon, V Davies, S Clarke, B Eddolls (Chairman of council) & Mrs H Siphthorp, Clerk/RFO of the council

Also in attendance: Advisor Mr N Surman

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr H Cheston.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Members were reminded to declare any interests in items on the agenda as the meeting progressed.

3. MINUTES – TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14TH NOVEMBER 2019

RESOLVED – Proposed Cllr Deacon, seconded Cllr Clarke that minutes should be signed by the chairman as a true and accurate record. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None as no members of public present.

6. CLERK'S REPORT AND MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14TH NOVEMBER 2019

The flag pole above the door at the Sweet Shop, in the Square, has been removed by the electricians when erecting the Christmas lights. This at some stage will be relocated to the Baguette Shop in Church Street.

Clerk has sent in an application for a Tesco Bags of Help grant towards the annual Bonfire event. The maximum grant awarded now is £2,000.

Letters have been delivered to all businesses who had signed the petition to have the fun fair relocated from the Square to an alternative location.

All the lime trees in Park/Sheep Street have been trimmed.

7. TO DISCUSS CLERK'S REPORT ON STOW CRICKET CLUB LEASE AND DAMAGE TO DRY STONE WALL ETC

RESOLVED – Proposed Cllr Deacon, seconded Cllr Eddolls that Stow Cricket Club should pay for the stone wall damaged by the tractor tyre to be repaired and that the council will use their stone waller to do this work at a cost of £250. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

RESOLVED – Proposed Cllr Deacon, seconded Cllr Davies that the clerk write to the chairman of Stow Cricket Club in relation to public liability and building insurance. Club is also to be asked to reinstate one changing room and a shower in line with plans approved by the committee some time ago. **RECORD OF VOTING** – All in favour. **Motion carried.**

8. CLERK'S REPORT ON REVIEW OF CHRISTMAS 2019

Clerk presented income/expenditure figures in relation to the town's Christmas lights and the Christmas tree lights switch on event which were noted.

(a) Christmas lights in the town

Clerk gave a report on her observations in relation to this year's Christmas lights. A member suggested that perhaps the Christmas tree should be relocated on the Stocks Green as she felt the with the two adjacent Acer trees now having tree lights in them it was overshadowed.

(b) Christmas tree lights switch on event

Clerk gave a report on her observations. A member suggested that perhaps the length of time for singing of festive songs should be reduced.

9. TO DISCUSS MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVE FROM COTSWOLD CONSERVATION BOARD (ATTENDED BY CLLR RIXON & THE CLERK) IN RELATION TO DEDICATING A STRIP OF LAND ON QEII FIELD TO PLANT WILD FLOWERS IN SUPPORT OF "GLORIOUS COTSWOLD GRASSLANDS" SCHEME

Cllr Rixon and the clerk reported on the meeting. Cllr Rixon is to arrange an onsite meeting with all members to enable her to show where exactly the 6 metre wide strip would start and finish and to gain the committee's approval. If all goes to plan the Conservation Board hopes to scatter the seeds in July 2020 but ahead of this the council will have to arrange for the area to be scarified.

10. TO REVIEW FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 2019 IN RELATION TO VISITORS TO THE VIC/LIBRARY

Members noted that the figures show an increase in footfall and counter enquiries when compared December 2018.

11. TO DISCUSS FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY BASED STREET CLEANING ACTIVITIES AWARDED BY CDC FOR AN AMOUNT OF £583 AND HOW COUNCIL CAN USE THIS FUNDING TO SUPPORT LOCAL GROUPS IN THEIR CLEAN UP ACTIVITIES OR PAY FOR KIT AND EQUIPMENT TO FACILITATE THIS ACTIVITY

It was agreed that the funding would be used to purchase good quality litter pickers, hoops for litter bags, dog poo bags, disposable gloves, hi viz jackets and maybe some branded T shirts. Clerk to obtain costs. Clerk is also to check how the funding is obtained from CDC which is not apparent in the letter.

12. GCC HAVE ASKED THAT THE COUNCIL APPLY FOR A CULTIVATION LICENCE FOR THE FLOWER BORDER ON FOSSEWAY, ADJACENT TO APRIL COTTAGE, WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING PLANTED AND MAINTAINED BY STOW CIVIC SOCIETY

Clerk explained that as this was GCC highway land that the council need to apply for a cultivation licence at a cost of £85. Cllr Rixon said she would confirm to the clerk the name of the shrub that had been planted by Stow Civic Society.

13. CLERK TO REPORT ON PROGRESS MADE IN RELATION TO PAYMENT OF ALLOTMENT RENTS

Clerk said the rents were coming in slowly but surely and the deadline is 31st January 2020. Clerk proposed that "Allotments" should be a regular agenda item and all agreed.

14. TO REPORT THAT RESIDENT IS NO LONGER ABLE TO EMPTY THE LITTER BINS AT KING GEORGE'S FIELD AND SPRING GARDENS ALLOTMENTS PLAY AREAS AND TO DISCUSS THE WAY FORWARD

Clerk confirmed that Cottage Garden Services had agreed to take over this job and will charge the same £35 per month and will carry this out when doing the fortnightly play equipment inspections at both sites.

15. TO DISCUSS NUMEROUS COMPLAINTS ABOUT DOG FOULING IN THE TOWN AND ANY ACTION REQUIRED

A real problem at the moment. Cllrs Rixon and Deacon offered to go around and spray any dog faeces that they find to draw attention to the problem. A member suggested that perhaps a dog poo bin should be located in the cemetery and it was agreed that the clerk will put this on the agenda for the next Burial Board meeting.

16. VE 75 CELEBRATIONS

Clerk reminded that the next working party meeting is taking place on Monday 3rd February 2020 at 7.00 pm. She had sent an invite to all members of council, volunteers and local groups/organisations to attend and help with the organisation of the events.

Clerk also confirmed that she had applied for a grant of £1,000 from CDC's Community Activity Support Grant towards the costs of the celebrations. Council should hear by middle of February 2020 latest on whether the application has been successful or not.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday 12th March 2020 at 7.00 pm.

18. MEETING CLOSED – At 8.32 pm.

Signed: _____ Chairman Dated: _____

DRAFT