

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Amenities Committee held at 7.30pm on Thursday 14th June 2018 at Manor House, Lime Kiln, Royal Wootton Bassett.

PRESENT: Councillors: Rob Anstee, Mary Champion, Mike Farrow, Janet Georgiou, Sue Hughes, Mike Leighfield, Caroline Redmond and Steve Walls

Also in Attendance: Councillors: David Bowler, Steve Bucknell, Paul Heaphy, Eve Silvester and Steve Watts

Officers in Attendance: Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, Michelle Temple, Administrative Services Officer and John Macindoe, Head Groundsman

Mr Brandenburgh, resident of Royal Wootton Bassett was in attendance. He asked if the Council can produce a more up to date street map of the town.

3 APOLOGIES

No apologies received.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with sections 10 and 12 of Wiltshire Council's Members Code of Conduct, as adopted by Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council at a meeting held on 12th July 2012.

RESOLVED to note that Councillor Steve Walls, member of the Rotary, declared an interest in the Rotary application for development of a Community Garden, so will abstain from voting.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman updated members in respect of the following: -

- a) Blain Tree - Has had some harm to it, but shoots are still growing, we hope it will recover.
- b) Grounds Maintenance Contracts – with Royal Wootton Bassett Sports Association have been renewed and working well.
- c) Replace Jubilee Lake Bridge – Three quotes received, bridge now on order, hope to be in place within five weeks.
- d) Jubilee Lake Erosion Contract – Looks promising against budget. Town Clerk meeting contractor next week to discuss the project over running by 7 weeks.
- e) Otter Way Path – We have received advice that the cracking has been caused by movement. Solicitors letters have been prepared and an indemnity claim is going through our lawyers.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

To confirm and sign minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 22nd March 2018 (A/6/2017-2018) and Thursday 31st May 2018 (A/1/2018-2019), Copies previously circulated.

7. LITTER REPORT

The committee received the latest Litter Report, copy previously circulated.

Councillor Leighfield congratulated Councillor Sue Hughes on the recent litter picking campaign. The litter picking is still going on thanks to Sue's initiative.

RESOLVED to instruct our Town Clerk to seek advice from our insurance company and solicitor concerning the implications of

voluntary groups litter picking for the town and using Town Council equipment.

Councillor Bowler left the meeting.

8. PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE REPORT

The committee received a verbal report from John Macindoe, Grounds Maintenance Team Leader on the progress to date.

John advised members that all the RoSPA items scored 10 and above have been actioned and are now working on the here and now items.

Councillor Hughes thanked John and the grounds team for all the great work they have completed.

RESOLVED the report to be noted.

Councillor Watts left the meeting.

9. ROTARY APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY GARDEN

The committee received a report from John Loran of the Royal Wootton Bassett and District Rotary Club regarding the potential development of a Community Garden and Nature Reserve on the land by Woodshaw and adjacent to the Jacqui Woolford Memorial Park.

The Town Council acquired the land from Wiltshire Council and always thought it could be developed by community groups for the benefit of the community.

Early plans had been submitted for discussion, copy previously circulated.

RESOLVED that Members agreed this is a great idea and asked for the Council to start a dialogue with the Rotary and the Men Shed.

10. WESSEX WATER – ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT STRATEGIC SEWERAGE

Wessex Water are developing design solutions for improving the sewerage system in Royal Wootton Bassett. One solution from Wessex Water is for a 8m-10m diameter storage shaft to be placed approximately 10m deep underground within the New Road play area. Wessex Water have advised that the park would need to be closed during the period of construction, with demolishing of existing ground/equipment necessary for the construction of proposed works. Once the work has been completed, the play area will be reinstated.

A draft layout had been submitted previously.

RESOLVED to open a dialogue with Wessex Water to include a presentation to members at a council meeting.

Councillor Champion left the meeting.

11. YOUTH PROVISION

Wiltshire Council are currently providing a youth provision service which is facilitated through the Area Board. The provision is due to come to a close at the end of September 2018 and its future is not guaranteed.

The service involves providing a youth facility at The Methodist Church in Royal Wootton Bassett for one night per week at the cost of £7,000 per annum.

The Town Council was asked to consider funding the continuation of the service for 2 years for one night per week at a cost of approximately £14,000.

This cost would be funded by the Amenities project fund which has a balance of £30,000 and no commitments to date.

If the Committee is minded to proceed then it is recommended that authority is delegated to the Town Clerk, so it can be dovetailed with any continuation with the Area Board.

The Committees views were sought.

RESOLVED to:

- a) Town Council place pressure on our Unitary members to continue funding the CMAS service.
- b) If this fails, Town Clerk to seek instruction from members at the Amenities meeting being held on 6th September 2018.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee was asked to consider whether it would like any Press Releases or other Communications issued in respect of the Committee Agenda items.

- Rotary Application for development of a Community Garden - Dialogue with the Rotary and Men shed.

The meeting closed at 9.44pm