

MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2020

PRESENT

- Mayor - Councillor Jones
- Deputy Mayor - Councillor Rushton
- Councillor Baddeley
- Councillor Barlow
- Councillor Brady
- Councillor Garvey
- Councillor Hall
- Councillor Harper
- Councillor Hart
- Councillor Jackson
- Councillor McLoughlin
- Councillor Rogers
- Councillor Salt
- Councillor Sheldon
- Councillor Smith
- Councillor Yates

13. APOLOGIES

None.

14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations: None.

ii) Other Interests: Councillor Sheldon in anything pertaining to Biddulph in Bloom.

15. MINUTES

The minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting held on 13 October 2020 were approved.

16. LENGTHSMAN

Standing agenda item - New jobs for the Lengthsman

Councillor Rogers was concerned that the steps to the Wharf Road car park from the High Street were unstable; the Chief Officer noted that this was a District Council issue.

Councillor Yates was concerned about the footpath on Halls Road that linked Field View and Station Road; this was a safer route to school. The Chief Officer noted that this was an ongoing issue with the management company; she would investigate this.

Councillor Jackson queried whether there could be an overview of the tasks that the Lengthsman completed for the previous 12-months; this would help to identify spend across the wards. The Chief Officer would include this in the Lengthsman tender.

Councillor Harper noted that the Lengthsman had completed work on Congleton Road/Fold Lane today; this was a job well done.

Councillor Hart felt the current Lengthsman provision was very responsive. The Town Council must make the District Council do their jobs.

Councillor Yates was confused about the role of the District Council; the overview of tasks could highlight shortcomings.

Councillor Rushton queried what could be done with the trees on the walkway on either side of B&M; the Chief Officer would report this.

17. TO CONSIDER THE BUDGET AND PROJECTS FOR 2021-22 (current income/ expenditure information attached)

The Chief Officer had provided an overview of 2020-21 income and expenditure to-date. Some tasks had been delayed as a result of lockdowns; these would be reviewed as soon as feasible.

Councillor Garvey wondered whether the Visitor Centre would form part of this Committee's work; the Chief Officer agreed that this was appropriate. At present, this is considered by the Finance Strategy and Management Committee that deals with contracts.

Councillor Hart wanted to press ahead with the new Garden of Remembrance area at the Woodhouse Burial Ground; this may need Planning Permission. Councillor Hart urged members to look at other Burial Grounds to seek ideas.

Councillor Jackson felt it was important to consider the views of Funeral Directors.

The Chief Officer would compile some ideas and would present this to Councillors at a later date.

Councillor Salt wanted to investigate woodland burials; the Chief Officer was keen to do this.

Councillor Jackson noted that any recommendations from Amey would be costly in relation to the development of the High Street.

Councillor Salt wanted to progress the Slater Street allotment site; the District Council seemed to be ready to move this forward.

The meeting closed at 8.26pm.

Signed..... Date.....