

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE TOWN EVENTS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
26th AUGUST 2020 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, 44 OLD STREET

This meeting was held under The Local Authorities and Police and crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England & Wales) Regulations 2020 section 5

PRESENT: Cllr C Francis-Pester – Committee Chairman
 Cllrs N Barton, B Cherokoff, A Goodliffe, B Hatch, G Hill, K O'Brien, A & D
 Shopland, J West, R Westwood & H Young
 Mrs Suzanne Howard, Deputy Town Clerk

7.30PM - FORMAL BUSINESS

TEA 20/951 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from; Cllr Everitt (family commitment).

TEA 20/952 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda

TEA 20/953 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE LAST COMMITTEE MEETING

Members of the Committee **AGREED** that the minutes of the 11th March 2020 were **APPROVED** and authorised for them to be signed at a point when Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.

TEA 20/954 TO RECEIVE TEA COMMITTEE BUDGET UPDATE FOR 2020/21

Members noted the 2020/21 budget figures as circulated with the agenda.

TEA 20/955 ITEMS ARISING FROM INFORMAL BUSINESS

955.1 NSC STREETS & OPEN SPACES UPDATE

The NSC Streets and Open Spaces Officer provided updates via an email to the Committee Clerk.

Badger Bridge on Poets Walk – Grant related works

Further repairs have been carried out by Public Rights of Way on the Badger Bridge and NSC are still waiting for confirmation from the Secretary of State with regards to funding for additional work.

Victorian Shelter and Bandstand – Clevedon Seafront

The East Ward Councillor confirmed that the Bandstand ceiling has now been painted.

Green open space between The Tynings and The Leys.

The overgrown area will be cleared by the Community Payback team, when Covid-19 restrictions and timescales allow.

Trees on Tickenham Road, by Clevedon Court.

NSC's streetlights team are aware of the overgrown foliage and arranging to have it cut back when Covid-10 restrictions and timescales allow.

Trees on Old Church Road, Clevedon Hall Estate.

Clevedon Hall have confirmed that several tree surveys have been conducted along the Old Church Road boundary. Clevedon Hall are still considering whether any crown lifting tree work is required and for those trees with TPO's that require work, Clevedon Hall would need to seek approval from NSC Highways Department.

NEW ITEMS RAISED**Drains located under M5 motorway bridge, towards Tickenham**

The Committee Chairman advised that the drains under the M5 Motorway bridge need clearing, as following heavy rain the area becomes flooded as the drains do not cope with the amount of water fallen.

Action – Email to Streets and Open Spaces Officer by Committee Clerk on 19th August 2020

Stone Pillars at Highdale Road path and bottom of Donkey Path, Elton Road

The East Ward Councillor raised a query concerning the condition of some stone pillars requiring maintenance due to lose or collapsed stonework.

Action – Email to NSC Parish Liaison Officer on 28th August 2020

The Committee Chairman advised that before the pandemic lockdown the Parish Liaison Officer had not attended many TEA Committee meetings. The Chairman asked for a letter to be sent to NSC asking for someone to be sent in lieu of the Officer if they cannot attend.

TEA 20/956 TO FORMALLY RATIFY THE CHANGES MADE TO THE SUMMER BEDDING PLANT ORDER DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Committee Clerk had submitted the revised purchase order prior to the TEA Committee meeting. Committee members queried the price of the wildflower seed as it was expensive. The Clerk advised that the price included labour, watering, and garden maintenance during the Spring/Summer season. The Committee Clerk advised the Committee that a complaint had been submitted to the contractor with regards to lack of watering and maintenance during the early part of the season and the contractor has offered a discount of £100.00 as a gesture of goodwill from the total invoice.

Committee members **PROPOSED**, **SECONDED** and **AGREED** to the discount offered by the Contractor and **AGREED** to the changes made to the summer bedding plant order.

TEA 20/957 TO DISCUSS AND AGREED TO THE ANNUAL WINTER BEDDING DESIGN PROPOSAL 2020/21 FOR FLOWER BEDS MANAGED BY THE COUNCIL

Committee members debated the move towards purchasing low growing plants that are more permanent, therefore reducing the costs for flower bed maintenance in future years. The Committee **PROPOSED**, **SECONDED** and **AGREED** to obtain plants suggestions and a quote from the Contractor providing full details of plants costs, labour, and maintenance fees for all flower beds that the Council manages.

Action – Committee Clerk

TEA 20/958 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM THE ‘ROCK-IT’ GROUP FOR FUNDING TO SUPPORT A PERMANENT FIXTURE OF THE ‘COVID-19’ COBRA SNAKE IN THE FLOWER BEDS AT THE CLEVEDON BANDSTAND

Committee members discussed the local project of painted pebbles to create a ‘covid-19’ cobra snake that had evolved by the public from the coronavirus pandemic. Members **PROPOSED**, **SECONDED** and **AGREED** that the snake could be located as a permanent fixture in the Bandstand flower beds, however, future maintenance would be for the ‘Rock-It’ group to manage, not the Council. Members also **AGREED** to ask for the ‘Rock-It’ group to be asked to submit a grant application to the Council, with regards to the request for funding from the Council for the installation costs. The group would not be able to include accounts, due to the group’s status. The grant application would be considered by the F&GP Committee at their next meeting scheduled for the 14th October 2020.

Action – Committee Clerk

TEA 20/959 TO RECEIVE AND DECIDE ON A REQUEST FROM THE CLEVEDON GARDENERS GROUP ON WHETHER TO PERMANENTLY REMOVE THE BOAT AT THE COURT LANE JUNCTION DUE TO THE DECAYING CONDITION OF THE CRAFT

Committee members referred to the photos that had been sent prior to the meeting. PROPOSED, SECONDED and **AGREED** to remove the wooden structure of the decaying boat due to its condition. The boat would not be replaced.

Action – Committee Chairman

TEA 20/960 TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES FROM NSC OFFICERS CONCERNING MATTERS RELATING TO THE STRODE LEISURE CENTRE

The South Ward Councillor advised that the swimming pool had reopened following the pandemic lockdown. Facilities for users of the pool are in line with Covid-19 guidelines. The Yeo Ward Councillor confirmed to Committee members that funding of £55,000 had been sourced by NSC for the refurbishment of the wet side changing facilities and this would be completed before Christmas 2020.

TEA 20/961 TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES FROM THE TENNIS COURTS SUB-COMMITTEE RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF THE SALTHOUSE FIELDS TENNIS COURTS

The Committee Chairman advised Committee members that the current service level agreement (SLA), with North Somerset Tennis Academy (NSTA) clearly states the days and times for court use by the NSTA club. The Chairman confirmed a complaint had been received by a member of the public who had not been able to access the courts due to NSTA booking the court until 6pm, which is not as per the SLA. The Committee Clerk also advised that NSTA has advertised on social media for tennis coaching to commence from the 5th September for a period of 15 weeks, which extends beyond the expiry of the SLA with the Council. The Committee **AGREED** to write to NSTA to reiterate that the club must comply to the SLA regulations.

The Committee Clerk confirmed that there have been no reports of vandalism to the tennis court facilities since being reopened.

The Committee Clerk advised Committee members that an invoice for £32.40 had been submitted to the Council, for repairs to a net headline wire. Although the invoice had not been addressed to the Council, nor ordered by the Committee, it was PROPOSED, SECONDED and **AGREED** to pay the invoice incurred on this occasion only.

TEA 20/962 TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATES OR MAINTENANCE ISSUES CONCERNING THE DOG BIN CONTRACT

The Committee Clerk advised Committee members that complaints had been received concerning the full and overflowing bin near the play equipment at Strode Leisure Centre (Bin no. 19). The Clerk advised that NSC had supported the Council by installing the new 90 litre bin at Millcross, free of charge, allowing for the redundant bin to be moved by NSC, again free of charge and be included on the same post as bin no. 19. This has allowed for 120 litres of waste to be deposited between two bins, at no extra collection charge by the dog bin contractor.

TEA 20/963 TO RECEIVE CONFIRMATION OF NSC'S POLICY ON MEMORIAL BENCHES

The Committee Clerk advised Committee members that NSC do not offer the memorial bench service at present due to it not being an essential service and ongoing cuts to resources and budgets. Prior to this, not all locations were considered for benches, i.e. Poets Walk has been closed to applications for some time.

The seawall by Marshall's Field is managed by the Environment Agency and bench requests for that area should be made to them.

The Councillor for East Ward advised that there are many benches in disrepair and whether the Council can facilitate restoration. A list of seats that need mending and their location to be sought before Council can consider the suggestion.

Action – Councillor for East Ward

Once the list is obtained, the Committee Chairman suggested the Committee seek a price for repair(s). Also, to enquire as to price for the installation of new benches in the town, meaning that only permission would need to be sought from NSC regarding any future memorial bench requests, if the Council decided to accommodate this service.

Action – Committee Clerk

TEA 20/964 TO RECEIVE THE REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES;

Community Association - *Cllr Francis-Pester* – No report as no meeting held.

N Somerset Safety & Coastal Advisory Group - *Cllr Hatch* – No report as no meeting held.

Clevedon Civic Society - *Cllr Hill* – No meeting held. Individual groups on the Committee have been active during the pandemic.

Strode Leisure Centre User Group - *Cllrs Barton, Blades & Westwood* – Cllr Westwood confirmed he was arranging a workshop meeting in the Autumn 2020 with the NSC Placemaking Officer to discuss the Strode field and associated areas including the cycle paths programme. The Chairs of Town Councils will be invited to the meeting, once arranged.

Clevedon Pier Trust – *Cllr C Francis-Pester* – Next meeting to be held on 28th August 2020. A few staffing changes since the pandemic have taken place. Volunteer and visitor numbers have increased since being able to re-open. Plans are underway to reopen the Pier Copse toilet facility and revitalise Somerset steps.

Clevedon Sailing Club Committee - *Cllr Hatch* – The sailing club has been refurbished inside and out during the pandemic, with a grant from NSC to help with the decorating. Just before lockdown the slipway was repaired following storm damage, but no further progress has been made.

Clevedon Twinning Association – *Cllr Goodliffe* – The 40th anniversary plans have been cancelled due to the pandemic. The celebrations have been re-arranged for 16th-18th April 2021 to tie in with the Epernay Champagne Fest.

CANS - *Cllr Hatch* – No report as no meeting held.

Police & Communities Together - *Cllr Hill & Cllr Young* – Members should have received the monthly newsletter. Cllr Hill confirmed he has left Neighbourhood Watch, but not PACT. More people to be involved with the group are welcomed.

Gwilliam & Woodward Trust - *Cllr Shopland* – No report as no meeting held.

MARLENS Trustees - Cllr Cherokoff – The group’s main action during the pandemic has been the installation of safety and social distancing measures for residents and visitors. The main priority for Marlen’s is to streamline their processes and see how the group wishes to develop.

Farmers’ Market Co-op - Cllr West – The stalls are coming back, following the pandemic situation. The strawberry stand has now finished for the season. There may be a complaint to the Council concerning the new bed in the Queens Square around the central tree, as the new planting arrangement has taken away wildlife from the town centre.

Land Yeo Friends - Cllrs West & Westwood – Meeting held six weeks ago on Marshall’s Field. Water testing and costs for vials to be established. The AGM to be held on 1st September 2020.

TEA 20/965 CCTV REPORT

The Committee Chairman confirmed there is no further detailed news to date.

TEA 20/966 CHAIRMAN ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Clevedon United Junior Football Club – Strode Road Playing Fields

The letter received from the Clevedon United Junior Football Club on 23 June 2020, had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

The Yeo Ward Councillor advised that the matter has been referred to NSC where a major undertaking is to be considered regarding a programme of works over a nine month period of hardcore and soil to return the land to a playable surface.

TEA 20/967 DETERMINE PART I AND PART II ITEMS.

There were no Part 1 items.

The meeting finished at 8.57pm

APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE: