

Minutes of a Meeting of the Amenities and Services Committee held on Tuesday 17th January 2017 at 14.00. in the Eckford Suite, Edinburgh House, New Street, Wem.

Present:-Councillor C J Mellings (Chairman), Councillors R Dodd, P Broomhall, P Dee, E Towers and Mrs P. O'Hagan (Town Clerk).

- 1 **Apologies** - To receive any apologies for absence.

Resolved:- to accept the following apologies for absence
C Shingler, M Meakin

- 2 **Declaration of pecuniary interests** – to receive declarations of interest.

Councillor	Item	Dispensation
Cllr Dodd, Cllr Towers	Members declared a pecuniary interest in Item 8 Allotments as they are married to allotment tenants.	None

- 3 **Minutes** To approve as a correct record the minutes of a Meeting of this Committee held on 10th November 2016.

Resolved:- to approve the minutes of 10th November 2016 and they were duly signed as a true record.

- 4 **Progress Report on items raised at previous meeting**– for consideration.

It was reported that the seat refurbished with the grant from the Barber Trust had now been painted and it would be located on the recreation ground to replace a seat that is now also in need of refurbishment.

The Clerk gave an update on the streetlights that are awaiting Scottish Power connections and stated that she anticipated that these should be connected by the end of the month.

Resolved:- to note the report.

- 5 **Streetlights**

a) For update on LED conversion tender document. It was reported that the clerk had discussed the document with Shropshire Council's street lighting department but still needed to meet with them to review the final document.

A discussion took place on selecting a light which had the capacity to be changed from dimmed to non dimmed so that the light could be altered if any complaints were received about the light once it had been installed.

b) Streetlight Maintenance contract 2017-2020– to consider quotes received. It was reported that three companies had been invited to quote for the contract and that 2 companies had responded. The quotes were considered and a lengthy debate took place as both contractors came with excellent references.

The committee noted that the quote submitted by E.on the Town Council's existing contractor was not the lowest quote. However it was felt that the level and quality of service offered by E.on in the previous three years offset the slightly higher price charged.

Resolved:- to recommend that the Streetlighting maintenance contract awarded to E.on.

6 Toilets

a) To discuss quotes for replacement doors – It was reported that quotes had been received for this work and it was reported that a quote was still awaited.

Resolved:- to defer this item until the February Town Council to allow time for the outstanding quote to be submitted.

b) To receive an update on charging income. The income received from the toilets was reviewed and noted.

7 Play Areas/ Open Spaces

a) Decking Board replacement Wheatfields Play area - to consider quote (to be presented at meeting).

It was reported that 2 quotes had been sought for this work and one quote had been returned.

Resolved:- to approve the quote submitted by Welch and Phillips for removal of the decking, and handrails and tarmacking of the path.

b) Interpretation Panel Wheatfield Pond – to discuss condition of panel and possible replacement.

It was reported that the interpretation panel was in poor condition as the information was becoming difficult to read. Photographs of the panel were circulated. The Clerk also pointed out that the location of the board obscured the view of the pond from the seats.

Resolved:- to defer a decision until the committee had inspected the sign in before the next meeting.

8 Allotments

a) Love Lane Tenancy agreement – to review.

The tenancy agreement was reviewed with no amendments being deemed necessary.

b) Inspection – to receive report on December inspection.

It was reported that an inspection took place on 16.12.16 and that 3 letters had been sent to tenants requesting that they cultivate their plots to a higher standard. It was also noted that all tenants written to previously had improved the condition of their plots.

c) Paths – to consider response from NALC.

A discussion took place on this item and it was,

Resolved:- That the Town Clerk and Goundsman be asked to inspect all paths and mark up those worst affected for consideration for relaying by a working party during the summer months.

d) Allotment Land - to consider identifying more land for allotments in the Town. A discussion took place on whether new land for allotments was a priority for the Town Council in light of expenditure on more pressing items in the next few years. Cllr Towers stated that whilst the land was not needed immediately the Town Council should be aware of the need to identify future land to meet the needs of residents especially if the Town were to grow through new development. He also outlined the fact that the allotment land would be reduced as the cemetery expanded putting more pressure on the existing plots.

Resolved:- to request that the waiting list is updated and to review the situation on an annual basis.

9 CCTV

a) To approve maintenance contract.

Resolved:- to approve and ensure sufficient allocation was made in the 2017-18 Town Council budget.

b) To consider quote to upgrade recreation ground CCTV camera.

Resolved:- To request that an application is submitted to Bronze Level Task Group for the funding of a the new camera on the recreation ground in light of ongoing anti social behaviour in the area.

10 Wem Sports and Social Association

To consider the financial request received from the Executive Committee for 2017-18.

The report submitted by the Secretary of Wem sports and Social Association was considered which outlined that the financial request from the Town Council would remain unchanged for the year 2017-18.

Resolved:- to approve the financial request.

11 Date and time of meetings – to note date and time of next meeting.

Resolved:- to note that the next meeting of the committee would be 7.3.17 at 2pm