

Amersham Town Council

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AMERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 06 OCTOBER 2014

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs L. Walsh (Town Mayor)
Councillor Mrs A. Lamont (Deputy Town Mayor)
Cllr A. Emmett
Cllr N. Shepherd
Cllr H. Trevette

IN ATTENDANCE:
Cllr H. Newton
Mrs J. Wheeler (Town Clerk)

36. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Cllr A. Seymour (Chairman); Cllr Mrs J. Heydon (Deputy Chairman); Cllr M. Vivis and Cllr Mrs V. Head.

37. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were no Declarations.

38. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** The hedge on King George V Playing Field was discussed from the approved Minutes of the meeting held on 05 August 2014. The Town Clerk agreed to discuss various options with the Depot team.

UP-DATE ON THE AMERSHAM CARNIVAL: This item was deferred to the end of the meeting.

39. **TO APPROVE SEVERAL DONATIONS FROM CIVIC EVENTS:** It was AGREED to approve the following donations:
£350 to Chiltern Traction Engine Club to cover the cost of the coal for Heritage Day
£50 to the Jive Club who performed in the Memorial Gardens on Heritage Day
£50 to the Herga Folk Club- roving singers on Heritage Day
£400 for the Help for Heroes charity from the Charity Band Concert

40. **TO CONSIDER THE COST OF QUOTES FOR DECORATION OF MARKET HALL:** Three quotes were considered:

Company A	£1220	
Company B	£1500 plus vat	
Company C	£3,225 plus vat	
It was	Proposed	Councillor N. Shepherd
	Seconded	Councillor A. Emmett

RECOMMENDED to

Appoint Company A - Upton Decorating at a cost of £1220.

41. **REVIEW OF HERITAGE DAY:** The Town Clerk circulated a spread sheet of things that would need to be improved for next year. It was noted that the event was a huge success but the popularity of the event and increasing visitor numbers brings a greater chance of things that must be addressed to reduce the risk element of the day.

42. **TO REVIEW THE QUOTES FOR TABLES AND CHAIRS TO SHARE BETWEEN MARKET HALL AND FLINT BARN:** This item was deferred to the Finance meeting in November but the Town Clerk has bookings in Flint Barn which necessitate a decision being made as soon as possible. Three quotes were received for tables and 120 chairs to replace the existing ones in Market Hall and be used when needed in Flint Barn:

Company A £6,372.90 (offered to purchase our old tables@ £5 each)

Company B £6,696.78

Company C £7,037.10

It was AGREED to appoint Company A – Aylesbury Furniture Warehouse to supply the tables and chairs. The Town Clerk would try the chairs prior to confirmation of order.

43. **UP-DATE ON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS:** Three quotes had been gathered for the Christmas lights and the Council meeting held on 15 September 2014 delegated the final decision to the Christmas Committee. Three companies had submitted quotes:

* Company A - £18,000 + vat

* Company B - £21,772 + vat

* Company C - £26,183 + vat

It was AGREED to award the three year contract to Company A- Sparkx. Various new ideas were considered including cross street banners; snowfall decorations and a frosty festoon. The Town Clerk warned that permission would be needed from the owners of the shops for fixings – if this was not possible, the normal festoons would be erected.

44. **UP-DATE ON CHRISTMAS EVENTS – CAROL SERVICE, AMERSHAM SHOWCASE AND CHRISTMAS PUDDING RACE:** The Town Clerk gave an up-date on all three events. Invitations to VIP's had gone out and a number of schools had responded. The Amersham Showcase was being organised by Amersham Action Group and a number of activities had been organised with good support from the shops. The Christmas Pudding Race was now due to go ahead on Sunday 14 December - a week after the Christmas Showcase. Details of this race were still being determined. ACTION: ZR/JW

45. **TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF A SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND A DETACHED YOUTH WORKING POLICY:** Steve Poulson and Zoe have started very quickly on a plan to engage with the youth of Amersham. Steve has put together some policies based on those used by other Town Councils for youth work – one is called the “Safeguarding Policy” and the other is a “Detached Youth Working Policy”. The Councillors were cautious about approving these policies. The Mayor requested some further information from Steve on the work he wants to do in the Community and how this will link in with his remit to provide activities during the school holidays. ACTION: SP

46. **TO APPOINT ANOTHER COUNCILLOR TO REPRESENT ATC AT CAB:** There were no volunteers from those Councillors present for this meeting. The Mayor would email everyone to reach those not present. ACTION: LW

47. **CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS:** The Town Clerk reported that the revised Open Space Review was now complete. It was also noted that Sport England did not

consider it to be a robust piece of work and ATC may have to commission its own version to progress the Hervines project.

48. **BUCKS COUNTY MATTERS**: The next County Budget Consultation was now open for response. This would go on the agenda of the next Finance meeting but Councillors may wish to consider their own personal response.

49. **MATTERS FOR REPORT**: There would be news on flooding once the Town Clerk had attended the next meeting at CDC. A final decision on the supplier of the playground would be made once the site visits were complete. Items for the next newsletter were now invited – the next edition must be finished by mid November.

50. **UP-DATE ON THE AMERSHAM CARNIVAL** (deferred from earlier): There was a lengthy discussion following the meetings held so far. It was noted that the Round Table and Amersham Action Group had rejected the suggestion to have a separate bank account and independent treasurer. Both groups favoured funding their own section of the Carnival and keeping any monies made. This option was felt to be less than transparent for the Town Council and the Town Clerk had reservations as the Responsible Financial Officer. There was however a view from most Councillors present that the Carnival should be supported by ATC to ensure the event was a success. One suggestion was to use Chiltern Avenue for stalls and the car park for the music with parking on the playing field – this would negate any problems of a muddy field but permissions would be needed from CDC and the leisure centre. It was agreed that the Carnival should progress on the field at KGV as usual and ATC should support the event; also that ATC should play an equal role in the Carnival and have a section of the field to run their own activities.

Part 2

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

That under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they include the likely disclosure of exempt information, stated to be confidential.

51. **ITEM REGARDING AMERSHAM IN BLOOM**

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53. **ITEM CONCERNING AN ATC PROPERTY**

The meeting ended at 21.33pm

Chairman Date