

# Amersham Town Council

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## AMERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

### DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 30 MARCH 2015

**PRESENT:** Councillor A. Seymour (Chair)  
Councillor Mrs J. Heydon (Deputy Chair)  
Councillor Mrs A. Lamont (Deputy Mayor)  
Councillor Mrs L. Walsh (Mayor)  
Councillor N. Shepherd

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs J. Wheeler (Town Clerk)  
Lizzie Richardson (Deputy Town Clerk)  
Cllr A. Williams  
Cllr H. Newton

87. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Councillor M Phillips; M. Vivis and H. Trevette.

88. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were no declarations.

89. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE APPROVED MINUTES OF 08 DECEMBER 2014:** There were no matters arising.

90. **NOTES FROM THE LAST BLOOM MEETING:** A report was circulated from Steve Catanach. Highlights include: a great response to the Design a Flowerbed competition with 265 entries; re-planted flower bed outside the toilets in Woodside Road; Stony Dean sixth formers helped to construct a log pile house in Willow Wood as a safe refuge for endangered beetle larvae and invertebrates; 5169 summer plants ordered; final three heritage fruit trees planted at Pondwicks; four cherry trees planted on the verge next to Ambers; WI Amersham Angels have carried out a litter pick on KGV where seven bags of rubbish was collected and BCC have agreed for ATC to plant 10 trees along Sycamore Road and Hill Avenue. Please see the report for more details. ACTION: SC

91. **TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF THE PLAYGROUND AND ALTERNATIVE FUNDING IF SPONSORSHIP IS NOT SUCCESSFUL:** If Councillors want the playground to open at the start of the summer holidays, the equipment will have to be ordered as soon as possible. We have some grant applications in the pipeline and some companies to approach for sponsorship – however we would need ATC to underwrite the cost of the

equipment to place the order. The total sum of the play equipment is £49,959; groundworks £18,829 and fencing £8,304

It was

Proposed

Councillor Mrs L. Walsh

Seconded

Councillor N. Shepherd

**RESOLVED to**

Underwrite the outstanding cost of the playground to enable the order to be placed.

ACTION: JW/LR

92. **UP-DATE ON THE HERVINES PROJECT AND PROJECTED TIME TABLE:**

The Town Clerk up-dated Councillors on the consultation which has seen over 400 responses so far. The consultation is due to end on 04 April 2015. Nigel Moore will then produce a report which he hopes will be available for Councillors to consider for the Finance meeting in April. The following timetable will be put in place:

May: Prepare project design brief for architects – (input from architects will be needed)

June: Distribute project design brief to architects

July: Interview and select preferred architect to undertake work

September/October: Review and agree a design

We will then need to do another consultation before any possible application for planning permission. The Councillors were happy with the project so far. ACTION: NM/JW

93. **UP-DATE ON REPAIRS TO THE MARKET HALL CLOCK TOWER, BELL**

**AND EXTERNAL:** A detailed specification has been produced by Stephen Crawley, who has been retained to project manage this work. The spec has been distributed to three contractors who went up the scaffolding last May to take a close look at the clock tower. Another company has also expressed interest in the work. The tenders will be returned by 14 April 2015. The Town Clerk is also in the process of applying for a Heritage Lottery Grant.

ACTION: JW

94. **TO CONSIDER A PROPOSED PLANTING SCHEME FOR THE TESCO**

**ROUNABOUT:** The Bloom group would like to take over the planting and maintenance of the roundabout. The planting would be a mix of low growing shrubs 25% and annual plants to add colour and interest. The Councillors AGREED to support this scheme with the comment – the more adventurous the better. Another comment was that Amersham would like to keep advertising control of our roundabouts as currently happens in Aylesbury and Buckingham.

ACTION: SC

95. **TO CONSIDER TWO PROPOSALS FOR RE-DESIGNING AND RE-**

**LAUNCHING OUR WEB SITE:** We have received two very different proposals for our web site. One is very technical and would provide a robust platform for ATC to ensure that it meets all requirements for storage of information currently requested by the Government. The second proposal shows much more creative aspirations and would be an asset in making our website more interactive and different from the majority of town and parish council websites. The Councillors agreed to delegate the final decision to the Town Clerk and Cllr Tony Williams.

ACTION: JW

96. **UP-DATE ON THE AMERSHAM CARNIVAL :** Cllr Liz Walsh and Cllr Nigel Shepherd reported that everything was going very well with the planning of the Carnival. The activity chosen for the ATC part of the field was “Amersham on the Sea” with sand castle games; beach volleyball; possible water splash and other typical seaside activities. The Councillors were happy to endorse the chosen theme for the carnival.

ACTION: ZR/JW/MR

97. **CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS:** There was little to report as the responses to the Local Plan was ongoing. Cllr Williams had sent copies of his own submission through to the office and Councillors.

98. **BUCKS COUNTY MATTERS:** An official from the DCLG was possibly due to visit Hervines Park in April but the content of the visit was not yet confirmed.

99. **MATTERS FOR REPORT:** Mark Richardson has been talking to specialist building companies for re-building of The Platt wall. The most economical option is to re-build using modern methods but with a heritage appearance. The walls are not listed. The main concern is stabilising the foundation – we have several builders working on different options to achieve this. Before any further decision can be taken we will need to engage with the homeowners and get them to secure the land in their gardens to protect our wall from future movement.

The Councillors also spoke of the future visit from the new Burgermeister of Bensheim, Herr Rolf Richter. He is due to visit Amersham in June and ATC will need to entertain him.

Part 2 – for Councillors only

100. **ITEM CONCERNING THE ARTS FESTIVAL:**

101. **ITEM CONCERNING AN ATC PROPERTY:**

102. **ITEM CONCERNING AN ATC PROPERTY:**

The meeting ended at 20.40pm

Chairman ..... Date .....