

AMERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

**HELD ON MONDAY 25 APRIL 2016**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs A Lamont – Town Mayor  
Councillor M Vivis – Deputy Town Mayor  
Councillor M Flys  
Councillor Mrs D Kenchington  
Councillor M Lacey  
Councillor C Morgan  
Councillor H Newton  
Councillor M Phillips  
Councillor A Seymour  
Councillor N Shepherd

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs L. Richardson  
Mr S Catanach  
1 member of the public

177. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Councillors Ms C Jones; R Jones; Mrs L Staite; Mrs L Walsh; T Williams

178. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr A Seymour declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9 on the agenda.

179. **MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS:** The engagements from February to April 2016 were tabled at the meeting.

180. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21 MARCH 2016:**

It was	Proposed	Councillor H Newton
	Seconded	Councillor A Seymour

**RESOLVED to**

Approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21 March 2016.

181. **MATTERS ARISING:** There were no matters arising.

182. **COMMITTEE MINUTES:**

a) **Planning & Footpaths Minutes**

It was	Proposed	Councillor Mrs A Lamont
	Seconded	Councillor M Flys

**RESOLVED to**

Approve the Minutes of the Planning and Footpaths Committee Meetings held on 4 April 2016.

**b) Finance and General Purposes Minutes**

It was	Proposed	Councillor M Phillips
	Seconded	Councillor M. Vivis

**RESOLVED to**

Approve the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 11 April 2016.

183. **MATTERS ARISING FROM FINANCE MEETING:** Cllr Shepherd enquired on progress with regard to the request for Bucks CC to remove tree roots which are uplifting pavement slabs on Stanley Hill Avenue. Steve Catanach reported that he had forwarded the request to Bucks CC who had stated that they would respond within 28 working days.

184. **TO APPROVE THE REVISED BURIAL/MEMORIAL FEES:** The burial and memorial charges had been revised based on the increase agreed at the Finance Meeting held on 11 April 2016. It was

Proposed	Councillor M Vivis
Seconded	Councillor N Shepherd

**RESOLVED to**

Approve the revised burial charges effective from 1 May 2016.

185. **TO CONSIDER THE GRANT APPLICATION FROM THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION FOR A PATHWAY TO THE LEGION HALL:** This item was deferred until the next Council meeting as documentation is still awaited from the Legion for their application.

186. **TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERSHAM COMMON VILLAGE HALL TO TAKE OVER ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACILITY:** David Stagg, Chairman of the Amersham Common Village Hall (ACVH) explained to Councillors that the key members of the Committee, ie Chairman, Treasurer and Bookings Secretary, will all be standing down at the AGM on 26 May (though are prepared to continue in their roles until 31.12.16.). Despite extensive advertising, they have been unable to find replacements to continue the running of the hall and have asked if ATC would undertake this role. After much discussion, it was AGREED that a small working group (Councillors H Newton, Ms C Jones and A Seymour) would examine the feasibility of ATC assuming responsibility for the administration of the hall, including the financial implications and workload and will then report back to Council for further consideration. (Note – Councillor Phillips expressed an interest in participating in the Working Group, subject to work commitments).

ACTION: ER/SC

187. **COMMUNITY SERVICES ITEMS:**

**a) Amersham in Bloom Update** – The update from Steve Catanach had been circulated with the Agenda. Councillors were pleased to see the progress which has been made with regard to the Amersham In Bloom initiatives for the coming season, which include: the purchase of 82 hanging baskets by residents and shop keepers; funding from residents for 25 trees planted in the verges of Stanley Hill Avenue; completion of the centrepiece model for the Memorial Gardens by the 1<sup>st</sup> Chesham Bois Scout Group; news that there are now 15 Amersham in Bloom volunteers (double that of last year); complete replanting of the Oakfield Corner flowerbed with 40 herbaceous perennials either donated or

funded by donations; replanting of the Tesco roundabout; planting of 520 trees adjacent to Willow Wood by pupils and staff of Stony Dean School.

**b) Band Concert Programme** – The band concert programme had been circulated with the Agenda. Councillors were asked to confirm with Steve Catanach if they are able to help in serving teas at the concerts.

**c) Amersham Carnival Update** – It was reported that preparations for the ‘beach’ attraction were all in hand and that we are still awaiting a copy of the poster for the event from the other organisers. After discussion, it was also agreed that a letter should be written to the Chair of Chiltern District Council to request that she/he does not participate in the Amersham Carnival parade in their official capacity (ie wearing chain of office), this being a town event rather than a district event, especially given that the Town Mayor’s role was compromised last year by the attendance of the Chair of CDC.

188. **CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS:** It was noted that planning application No. CH/2015/2243/FA for redevelopment of the former ‘Iceland’ site on Sycamore Road was being discussed at the CDC Planning Committee on Thursday 28 April. It was agreed that Councillor Morgan attend to speak on behalf of ATC. *Post-meeting note – the deadline for registering to speak at the CDC meeting was 5.30pm on Monday 25 April and ATC’s request to speak was therefore declined.*

189. **BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS:** There was nothing new to report.

190. **MATTERS FOR REPORT:**

**a) Request from ‘Active-In’ for Activity Sessions in ATC Parks** - It was reported that Active-In (part of the ‘Adventure Learning Foundation Charity’ will be holding 1 hour recreational sessions at Hervines Park and King George V Field during weekday evenings from May to September for children and young people (with funding provided by the Local Area Forum). The organisers have suggested that they would be able to provide the sessions at a third open space in Amersham, and it was agreed that Barn Meadow would be put forward for this, thereby offering the facility to children in Old Amersham, as well as Amersham-on-the-Hill.

ACTION: ER

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.**

191. **ITEM RELATING TO ATC PROPERTY**

192. **ITEM RELATING TO ATC STAFF**

193. **ITEM RELATING TO ATC PROPERTY**

194. **UPDATE ON PROJECTS ON ATC PROPERTIES:**

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

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

Council