

Amersham Town Council

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Town Clerk – Finance & Policy - Mrs E Richardson

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Amersham Town Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 9 October 2017

Present: Councillor A Seymour (Chair)
Councillor M Grimson (Deputy Chair)
Councillor C Morgan (Town Mayor)
Councillor C Jones (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillor A Lamont
Councillor M Vivis
Councillor L Staite

In Attendance: Steve Catanach -Town Clerk Community Services

32. **Apologies:** Councillor L Walsh
Councillor N Shepherd
Councillor D Kenchington
Councillor M Flys

33. **Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest.

34. **Matters Arising from the Approved Community Services Minutes of 14 August 2017:**
None

35. **Amersham in Bloom update including agreement to accept an invite from Thames and Chiltern in Bloom to enter the National Competition in 2018**

The Town Clerk's report circulated prior to the meeting detailed the Amersham in Bloom highlights over the past two months. The report noted the following:

- Amersham was awarded Gold and named as the 'best' town beating Henley-on-Thames and Kidlington. This is in addition to receiving a GOLD Award for the Memorial Gardens in the Parks and Open Spaces category along with the Regional Award for Conservation and Wildlife.
- The Amersham in Bloom Facebook page has seen huge increase in traffic over the past six months, most significantly when the Thames and Chiltern in Bloom results

were announced. This post received over 260 likes with over 6500 people viewing the update.

- The Amersham in Bloom Horticultural Show at Heritage Day proved a success with 250 entries over 43 classes. The show was sponsored by Hamptons International.
- Over 100 residents have contributed towards the 'donate £3 for 12 bulbs initiative' which means that 25 more road name plates will be planted compared to 2016.
- Every Tuesday (for 1hr 30min) throughout the school term seven pupils from Stony Dean School volunteer for a bloom project. The arrangement continues following the success of last year.

Following a discussion it was **agreed** that the Town Council would **accept** the invite from Thames and Chiltern in Bloom to represent the region in the National Finals in 2018.

The Town Clerk presented a proposal for a potential WW1 Centenary display in the Memorial Gardens for next summer. The proposal featured two replica SE5a biplanes, a replica WW1 warship and a soldier on a raised plinth.

Following a discussion Council commented that the display was respectful, poignant and original and as such **agreed** to approve the proposal.

Proposed Councillor C Morgan
Seconded Councillor L Staite

36. **To consider a proposal to protect the Remembrance Gardens in Old Amersham through *Centenary Fields***

The Town Clerk report circulated prior to the meeting detailed a proposal to protect the Remembrance Gardens in Old Amersham through the Centenary Fields programme, which in partnership with The Royal British Legion secures recreational spaces in perpetuity to honour the memory of the millions of people who lost their lives in World War I.

Councillors **agreed** to dedicate the Remembrance Gardens through Centenary Fields stating that the dedication would provide a unique way to commemorate the centenary of World War I.

Proposed Councillor C Jones
Seconded Councillor C Morgan

37. **To consider the updated proposal to install a 'Red Kite Model' on the roundabout at the bottom of Stanley Hill**

The report circulated prior to the meeting confirmed that the Philips Foundation would be willing to fund up to £3500 towards the costs associated with the installation of the Red Kite Structure on the roundabout at the bottom of Stanley Hill. With a potential shortfall of £1000 it was proposed that the Town Council offer £1000 towards the installation costs, using the donation received from the recent visit of the circus on King George V Playing Field.

Proposed Councillor M Grimson
Seconded Councillor M Vivis

38. **To review this year's community events organised by the Town Council and consider the proposed civic events calendar for summer 2018**

A list of proposed dates for next summer's civic events was circulated prior to the meeting.

Following discussion Council commented that this year's summer programme of events was very successful and **agreed** with the proposed dates for next year events. It was also agreed that the Town Council shall not organise the Amersham Carnival in 2018 but would be very happy to listen to a proposal from any group that may wish to organise the event if held on King George V Field.

Proposed Councillor C Jones
Seconded Councillor A Lamont

39. **To review Heritage Day and to ratify donations to a number of groups that were involved in the event**

Councillors noted that Heritage Day proved a successful event with more visitors than in 2016.

As noted in the previously circulated report many performers/exhibitors attend heritage day without charging a fee, despite incurred costs. Following discussion it was therefore **agreed** to make the following donations to the groups:

Chiltern Traction Engine Club (Steam Engines)	£350
Scoil Irish Dancing Group	£50
Robert Mackenzie Shire Horse (showcased his working horse)	£110
Chiltern Jive Jazz Club	£60

Proposed Councillor C Morgan
Seconded Councillor M Vivis

40. **Chiltern District Council Matters**

There were no items for discussion.

41. **Bucks County Council Matters**

There were no items for discussion.

42. **Matters for Report**

Cllr Seymour, on behalf of the Royal British Legion, requested the use of two Town Council vans on Remembrance Sunday. The vans are to be used to facilitate the service at Chesham Bois. This request was **approved** by council.

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.

43. **ITEM RELATING TO ATC LAND**

44. **ITEM RELATING TO ATC PROPERTY**

The meeting ended at 8.05pm

Chairman

Date.....