

AMERSHAM TOWN COUNCIL: Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting

Held on Monday 25 March 2019, at Flint Barn Court, Amersham HP7 0DB



**Present:**  
Councillors C Morgan  
Councillor C Jones (Town Mayor)  
Councillor M Grimson  
Councillor R Jones  
Councillor A Lamont  
Councillor A Seymour  
Councillor L Staite  
Councillor J Cook

**In Attendance:**  
Mr S Catanach  
Mrs E Richardson

80. **Apologies**  
Councillor M Flys (Deputy Town Mayor)  
Councillor L Walsh  
Councillor M Vivis  
Councillor H Newton  
Councillor N Shepherd  
Councillor D Kenchington

81. **Declarations of Interest**  
There were no declarations of interest.

82. **Open Session**  
Cllr Mimi Harker outlined a proposal from the Amersham Action Group who would like to organise a summer festival on King George V Playing Field on either 13 or 20 July. As part of the proposal Cllr Harker requested permission to use the field.

83. **Mayor's Engagements**  
The Mayor's engagements from 21 January 2019 to 25 March 2019 were circulated and noted at the meeting.

84. **To approve the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21 January 2019**

It was	Proposed	Councillor C Morgan
	Seconded	Councillor L Staite

**RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 21 January 2019.

85. **Committee Minutes:**

**i) Planning & Footpaths Committee Minutes– 25 February and 11 March 2019**

It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes of the Planning and Footpaths Committee Meeting held on 25 February 2019

Proposed Councillor A Lamont  
Seconded Councillor J Cook

Planning & Footpaths Committee Minutes 28 June- to be resolved at next Council Meeting.

It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes of the Planning and Footpaths Committee Meeting held on 11 March 2019

Proposed Councillor A Lamont  
Seconded Councillor A Seymour

**ii) Community Services Minutes – 11 February 2019**

It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 11 February 2019

Proposed Councillor A Seymour  
Seconded Councillor L Staite

**iii) Finance & General Purposes Committee Minutes – 18 February 2019**

It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 18 February 2019.

Proposed Councillor C Morgan  
Seconded Councillor L Staite

**86. Matters arising from the approved minutes:**

There were no matters arising from the approved minutes.

**87. To approve 2019/2020 civic calendar**

It was **agreed** to approve the 2019/20 civic calendar.

Proposed Councillor A Seymour  
Seconded Councillor J Cook

**88. To consider a request from the Amersham Action Group to hold a community event, Summer Festival, on 13 July 2019 on King George V Playing Field**

Following the presentation from Cllr Harker in the open session (Minute 82) and subsequent discussion Council agreed that a summer festival would be a welcome addition to Amersham on the Hill. As such Council **agreed** in principal to endorse the event, however, prior to formal approval being given the Action Group must provide further details of the event along with a detailed report outlining the support that the organising committee require from the Council.

Council agreed to form a working party to include Cllr Cook, Cllr Seymour, Cllr Jones and Steve Catanach to consider the proposal once received.

Proposed Councillor C Jones  
Seconded Councillor J Cook

89. **To consider and approve renaming the Community Services Committee**  
The Mayor's proposal to rename the Community Services Committee was considered. Following discussion, Council **agreed** to rename the Committee as the *Community Services and Engagement Committee*.

Proposed Councillor A Seymour  
Seconded Councillor J Cook

90. **To consider the purchase of new bins, including two recycling bins for the Memorial Gardens**  
The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Following discussion Council agreed that the existing bins in the Memorial Gardens are inadequate and duly **agreed** to purchase seven new hardwood bins at a cost of £3200, from GE Views. The replacements are to be funded through donations received over the past year.

Proposed Councillor L Staite  
Seconded Councillor A Lamont

91. **To consider a proposal to increase allotment rents by £4 per plot from 1 October 2019**  
The report circulated prior to the meeting highlighted a proposal to increase the allotment rents by £4 per tenant. Following discussion, Council agreed to the aforementioned increase, meaning that as of 1 October 2019, all plot holders will:
- Automatically become a member of the Amersham Allotment Holders Association
  - Automatically have Public Liability cover insurance, which will protect plot holders against accidents to both the public and other allotment holders. (This insurance is being subsidised by the Amersham Allotment Holders Association).

The £4 increase will be passed directly to the Amersham Allotment Holders Association with the Council not benefiting financially.

Proposed Councillor C Morgan  
Seconded Councillor M Grimson

92. **To receive report on Town Council properties**  
The reported circulated prior to the meeting was noted.
93. **To purchase 'school ahead and safety flashing signs' on behalf of Chestnut Lane and Elangeni School, for installation on Chestnut Lane**  
The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Following discussion Council agreed to purchase 2x twin amber flasher Bluetooth units (flashing warning lights) and 2x reflective 20mph advisory signs, on behalf of the school. Council also agreed that the signs can be installed on street lighting columns owned by the Council.

TWM Traffic Control Systems, the contractor, will install the signs with the full cost of the infrastructure, £2633, being recharged to CLESA, the school's PTA.

Proposed Councillor L Staite  
Seconded Councillor M Grimson

94. **Chiltern District Council Matters**

None

95. **Buckinghamshire County Council Matters**

None

96. **Matters to Report**

The Town Clerk noted that a letter had been received from a resident of The Broadway who is concerned about the location of the Zebra Crossing which is proposed to be installed outside the new McCarthy and Stone development. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to the current Bucks CC consultation voicing Member's concerns about the proposed location.

**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.**

97. **To consider Notice of an application for registration based on adverse possession at for land at 126 Station Road**

Members discussed the further application made by the owners of 126 Station Road for adverse possession of land currently registered to the Council and reviewed the comments of the Land Registry surveyor. After discussion,

It was

Proposed Councillor R Jones  
Seconded Councillor J Cook

That the Council accepts the application for adverse possession for the two small areas of land on which the building itself sits, as the Council has never made claim that it owns any part of the building. However, it was also agreed that the Clerk should confirm with the owner that any future claim for adverse possession of the garden area of 126 Station Road would be refused by the Council.

98. **Property update – Market Hall**

It was reported that revised quotations were still awaited for the repairs to the Market Hall clock tower. Once these had been received, a new planning application could be submitted and an application to HS2 for grant funding be made.

99. **Property update – Daybreak Nursery Lease; garden at rear of 148 Station Road**

The Clerk reported that the District Valuer stated they were unable to carry out a valuation on the garden land at this time and advised the Clerk to contact them again in July to try to arrange a date. After discussion

It was **agreed** that the Clerk arrange an independent valuation on the land from a local surveyor.

Proposed Councillor C Morgan  
Seconded Councillor J Cook

100. **Chiltern Pools Update**

The Town Clerk reported that the land swap agreement is now been signed and that the transfer of land had taken place.

The meeting closed at 8.43pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL