

Amersham Town Council

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Amersham Town Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 27 JANUARY 2020

Present: Councillor A Seymour (Chair)
Councillor M Grimson (Deputy Chair)
Councillor L Walsh
Councillor C Morgan
Councillor N Shepherd
Councillor L Staite

In Attendance: Steve Catanach; Town Clerk - Community Services
Paul Ryan; Community Services Administration Assistant
Stan Pretty; Martyrs Play Director
Richard Thompson; Hadron Consulting

34. **Apologies:** Councillor M Flys (Town Mayor)
Councillor D Kenchington
Councillor A Lamont
Councillor M Vivis

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

Open Session

A presentation was received from Stan Pretty, who on behalf of the Martyrs Play, asked the Committee to consider allowing the community group to use the Market Hall free of charge for their rehearsals. The play is to take place in March 2021.

Richard Thompson of Hadron Consulting Ltd, provided an update on the proposed Chiltern Lifestyle Centre. This included a proposal of the external play facilities- skatepark and children's outdoor play facilities.

36. **Matters arising from the Approved Minutes of 28 October 2019**

There were no matters arising.

37. **Amersham in Bloom items**

i) Amersham in Bloom update

The Chairman highlighted the recent achievements of Amersham in Bloom, which included a successful community tree plant at Willow Wood, which saw 400 residents participate in the initiative.

ii) Great British Spring Clean Events

The Committee were pleased that Amersham will once again participate in the Great British Spring Clean, the national initiative which encourages residents to litter pick within their communities. It was noted that the following events will take place:

- Litter pick involving beavers and local schools - 20 March
- AOTH Community Clean Up - 21 March 9.30-11.00am
- Old Amersham Community Clean Up - 22 March 9.30-11.00am

iii) To approve the purchase of five additional planters and trees for installation in Amersham-on-the-Hill, using a grant obtained from Chiltern District Council

The Committee was thrilled to hear that the Amersham Action Group had been successful in a bid (made by the Council) for funds from the Chiltern Revitalisation Capital Grant scheme 2019-20. The Committee **approved** using the grant, totalling £3833, to purchase five additional planters and trees for Sycamore Road/Hill Avenue.

Proposed Councillor A Seymour
Seconded Councillor M Grimson

38. **To discuss potential VE Day Commemorations**

The Clerk outlined numerous suggestions for commemorating VE Day, to include a small service performed by the Royal British Legion which will take place during the band concert scheduled for Sun 10 May, a project to erect cross street bunting designed by local school children and the purchase and 75 tea lights which will be decorated by children and placed along the path that leads to the war memorial in the Memorial Gardens.

Following discussion, the Committee **approved** the proposals.

Proposed Councillor M Grimson
Seconded Councillor C Morgan

39. **To note and approve the external woodland play facilities to be installed at King George V Field, as agreed, following delegation to the Mayor and Chairman of the Committee**

The Committee was delighted with the facilities proposed for the children's play area in King George V Playing Field, noting that it will be a fantastic community asset. Concern was raised as to how these new outdoor facilities, which also include the outdoor gym and skatepark, would be accessed whilst the Chiltern Lifestyle Centre is being built. Richard Thompson, Hadron Consulting, noted this and would duly pass on the concerns to Chiltern District Council. It was agreed that a hardstanding entrance from King George V Road would be an appropriate addition. The Committee **approved** the proposals.

Proposed Councillor A Seymour
Seconded Councillor C Morgan

40. **Civic Events**

The Chairman noted that the band concert planned for 14 June would be a joint event with the WI as the Buckinghamshire Federation of WI's celebrate their centenary this year. The WI has agreed to pay half the cost of the performer and will bake and serve the cakes. Council will provide the drinks.

Following discussion, the Committee **agreed** to allow the *Children's Funfair* to hold a funfair, aimed at toddlers and infants, on King George V Playing Field between 7th and 10th May.

Proposed Councillor C Morgan
Seconded Councillor A Seymour

41. **To consider allowing the organisers of the Martyrs Play, scheduled for 2021, to use the Market Hall free of charge or at a reduced rate for their rehearsals**

Following a brief presentation from Stan Pretty, in the open session and subsequent discussion, the Committee wholeheartedly wish to support Martyrs Play 2021 and duly **agreed** to allow the group use of the Market Hall, at no cost for their rehearsals.

Proposed Councillor A Seymour
Seconded Councillor M Grimson

42. **To consider inviting a delegation from Bensheim to visit Amersham**

Following discussion, the Committee **proposed** that an invitation is sent to Bensheim inviting a delegation to visit during the Heritage Day weekend in September. It was noted that early September may not be deemed suitable as it clashes with the lead up to Bergsträßer Winzerfest. As such, the Committee suggested early March 2021, as an alternative, to coincide with the Martyrs Play.

43. **Chiltern District Council Matters**

There were no items for discussion

44. **Bucks County Council Matters**

There were no items for discussion.

45. **Matters for Report**

It was noted that Maydencroft, on behalf of Affinity Water will be commencing remedial tree works in Barn Meadow on 10th February. These works form part of the improvements that Affinity Water are undertaking along this stretch of the River Misbourne.

Part 2

Resolved 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.

There were no items for discussion.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm

Chairman

Date.....