

# Amersham Town Council

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## Amersham Town Council

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 24 January 2022

#### Present:

Councillor J Barnes (Chair, Deputy Mayor)  
Councillor M Roberts (Town Mayor)  
Councillor R Dineley  
Councillor S Scott-James  
Councillor H Maitland-Jones  
Councillor V Head

**In Attendance:** Steve Catanach; Town Clerk - Community Services  
Paul Ryan; Community Services Administration Assistant  
Representatives from Park Run (part meeting)

25. **Apologies:**

Councillor M Flys (Deputy Chair)  
Councillor C Jones  
Councillor D Pinkney  
Councillor A Seymour  
Councillor J Keeler

26. **Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### Open Session

Members of Park Run addressed the committee outlining a plan to start the weekly Church Mead Park Run (the route of which includes Parsonage Woods). Questions from the Committee followed the short presentation.

27. **To discuss a proposal to have the WW1 Memorial cleaned.**

The Clerk outlined a proposal to have the WW1 Memorial cleaned. Following discussion, which noted the requirement to use a recommended contractor due to the specialist

nature of the remedial works, it was **proposed** that Cliveden Conservation be appointed to undertake the clean and repair the joints that need re-pointing, at a cost of £3914.09.

Proposed Councillor R Dineley  
Seconded Councillor V Head

28. **To consider a proposal to assist TerraCycle with the effort to collect and reduce waste.**

Councillor Barnes outlined a proposal to work in partnership with local resident Kate Lillie who accepts and recycles various items not currently recycled by Bucks Council. Once sorted these items are sent to TerraCycle who recycle them. Following discussion, the committee **agreed** with the suggestion to place recycling boxes in various shops and businesses in both AOTH and Old Amersham, inviting residents to drop 'recyclables' at the promoted locations. Councillor Barnes has volunteered to liaise with all parties involved and arrange the collections.

Proposed Councillor Maitland- Jones  
Seconded Councillor Dineley

29. **To formally accept the invite from Thames and Chilterns in Bloom to represent the region in the National Bloom finals**

Following discussion, the committee **agreed** that they would like to accept the offer from Thames and Chilterns in Bloom to represent the region in the National Britain in Bloom Finals.

Proposed Councillor M Roberts  
Seconded Councillor J Barnes

30. **Amersham in Bloom Update; to discuss and approve a number of proposed projects**

The committee were shown a short video filmed by the RHS in Amersham, documenting the town's tree planting projects. The video will be used by the RHS for promotional purposes.

Councillor Barnes and the Town Clerk—Community Services, outlined a number of 'bloom' projects for the coming season. After discussion, the committee **approved** the following proposals:

- (i) Working in partnership with the Amersham Museum, TfL and Amersham College, there is a plan to create murals for the underside of the railway bridge at Rectory Hill.

- (ii) Jubilee Pathway to Pollination– part of Sycamore Corner is to be revamped with the addition of a border of pollinators to include a swarm of bees made from stainless steel. A path will be installed through the new bed.
- (iii) Children’s Book–The school children of Amersham will be invited to help create a book which includes illustrations, poems and letters that highlight environmental issues. The book is to be published.
- (iv) The creation of a small pollinator garden on the frontage of the GPO Sorting Office in Hill Ave. Permission is being sought from the PO who own the land.

The intention is to apply for grants and obtain sponsorship, with monies in the allocated Town Centre Enhancement budget also being used where necessary.

Proposed Councillor H Maitland-Jones  
Seconded Councillor R Dineley

31. **To discuss and agree additional civic events for 2022, including the Queen’s Jubilee celebrations and the Citizen of the Year Awards**

Following discussion, the committee **agreed** to add the following events (in bold) to the Council’s programme for 2022.

Date	Event
<b>7 March</b>	<b>Town Meeting</b>
1 May 2021	1 <sup>st</sup> Band Concert <b>Mayor’s Citizen of the Year Presentations (during Band Concert)</b>
15 May	2 <sup>nd</sup> Band Concert
29 May	3 <sup>rd</sup> Band Concert
<b>2 June</b>	<b>Picnic in the Park (at King George V Playing Fields) 12pm-6pm, live music, drinks &amp; food stalls, fairground</b>
<b>3 June</b>	<b>Special Band Concert- A Big band and performer, 1pm-4pm</b>
<b>4 June</b>	<b>Children’s Jubilee Conservation event in St Michael’s Square 10am-1.30pm</b>
<b>(Provisional idea) 3 June</b>	<b>Jubilee photograph exhibition in the Market Hall</b>
12 June	4 <sup>th</sup> Band Concert
26 June	5 <sup>th</sup> Band Concert
10 July	6 <sup>th</sup> Band Concert
<b>16 July</b>	<b>Street Market in Sycamore Road</b>
24 July	7 <sup>th</sup> Band Concert
7 Aug	8 <sup>th</sup> Band Concert
14 Aug	9 <sup>th</sup> Band Concert
21 Aug	10 <sup>th</sup> Band Concert
26 Aug – 29 Aug	Festival of Arts
28 Aug	11 <sup>th</sup> Band Concert
4 Sept	Heritage Day

Proposed Councillor M Roberts  
Seconded Councillor H Maitland-Jones

32. **To review the current charges for hall and pavilion hire**

Following discussion, the Committee recommend that the hall and pavilion hire rates are adopted as per below. The new charges (per hour) to be applicable from 1 April 2022.

Hall Name	Commercial Charge per hour	Non- Commercial Charge per hour
Market Hall	16.50	£13
Hervines Park and Barn Meadow Pavilion	14.00	£10.50
Barn Meadow Community Hall	15.00	£12.50

Proposed Councillor V Head  
Seconded Councillor R Dineley

33. **To agree the appointment of the Town Council nomination for Trustee of Amersham United Charities**

Following discussion, Councillor H Maitland Jones **accepted** the invitation to represent the Council by becoming a Trustee of Amersham United Charities. Under the terms of the Charity Commission Scheme, which governs the operation of the Amersham United Charities, Council must nominate one of its nine trustees. The Amersham United Charities are responsible for managing the alms houses in Old Amersham.

Proposed Councillor V Head  
Seconded Councillor H Maitland-Jones

34. **To discuss a proposal to commence the Church Mead Park Run Event**

Noting the information provided by the Park Run representatives in the open session, the committee **approved** the request from Park Run to use Parsonage Woods as part of Church Mead Park Run route which follows a path through the woods from Church Mead. The committee noted that they would review this permission periodically, and by September in the first instance. With permission granted from all landowners, the group are hoping to hold the first of these weekly Saturday morning runs from March.

Proposed Councillor J Barnes  
Seconded Councillor H Maitland-Jones

35. **To agree the proposal to add a link dedicated to the Environment on the Council website.**

Following a proposal from Councillor Dineley, it was **agreed** that a dedicated tab be added to the website which highlights the Council's climate action/environmental efforts. It was also agreed that the information would be updated monthly while links to outside bodies would be limited to charities and not for profit organisations.

Proposed Councillor M Roberts  
Seconded Councillor H Maitland-Jones

36. **Buckinghamshire Council Matters**

There were no items for discussion.

37. **Matters for Report**

Councillor Barnes noted that she is in discussion with St Johns Church, in the hope that the diocese may allow use of the church garden to be used as a community garden.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm

Chairman .....

Date.....