

Amersham Town Council

Flint Barn Court, Church Street, Amersham, Bucks HP7 0DB

Town Clerk – Finance & Policy - Mrs E Richardson

Town Clerk - Community & Services - Mr S Catanach

Telephone 01494 434000

E-mail townclerk@amersham-tc.gov.uk Website www.amersham-tc.gov.uk



Amersham Town Council

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES AND ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 14 August 2023

Present:

Councillor J Barnes (Chair)
Councillor R Dineley (Deputy Chair)
Councillor E Shepherd (Town Mayor)
Councillor D Pinkney (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillor M Flys
Councillor C Jones

In Attendance:

Councillor M Roberts
Steve Catanach; Town Clerk - Community Services
Paul Ryan; Administration Officer
Natalia Khimich; Marketing and Sponsorship Co-ordinator

11. **Apologies**

Councillor S Woodhead
Councillor J Keeler
Councillor A Lamont
Councillor V Head

12. **Absent No Apologies:**

Councillor S Scott-James

13. **Declarations of Interest:**

Councillor Barnes and Councillor Pinkney declared a non-pecuniary interest on Minute 19, as members of the Amersham Action Group (Christmas events)

Open Session

Two members of the Polish Society addressed the committee outlining a proposal to install a memorial stone in the Memorial Gardens to commemorate the Polish Soldiers who settled in the area following WWII.

14. **Amersham in Bloom update and proposal for several new projects**

The Clerk updated the committee on the recent bloom activities, while highlighting the success of the floral displays in the Memorial Gardens, the coronation wildflower meadows and the field of sunflowers at Willow Wood. The committee thanked Andy Honour, Jon Dyas and the leaders of the 1st Chesham Bois Scout Group along with Deborah Brett, for their help in creating the coronation display which is being installed in the Memorial Gardens.

The Clerk outlined a proposal for two new projects, as below:

- The creation and installation of a butterfly display in the bed/space (owned by the Town Council) at the front of the Chilterns Lifestyle Centre
- A revamp of the area in front of the Royal Mail Sorting Office, Hill Ave, to include the creation of several flowerbeds at ground level, replacing the old, raised planters.

Proposed Councillor D Pinkney
Seconded Councillor C Jones

15. **Update on Civic Events- including band concerts and Heritage Day**

The committee was given an update on the civic event programme. The Clerk noted that the plans for Heritage Day are on schedule with more stalls and attractions than ever before.

16. **To consider a proposal to install a Polish Memorial in the Memorial Gardens**

Noting the presentation in the open session and following a lengthy discussion, the committee agreed that a memorial to commemorate the Polish soldiers that had settled in Amersham following WWII, would be a suitable addition to the Memorial Gardens.

The committee asked that the Clerk provides a mock-up of what the Memorial (no taller than 6ft) would look like, once a location could be identified, in anticipation of the Council meeting on 25 September.

17. **Update on Visit Amersham initiative**

Natalia updated the committee on the Visit Amersham initiative, along with noting her efforts to raise sponsorship. Natalia agreed to forward the server stats for the Visit Amersham website, following the meeting, to all Councillors.

18. **To consider a summer event for the community on King George V Playing Field**

Councillor Dineley outlined a proposal to hold a summer event- Altogether Amersham – on King George V Playing Field next summer. Following discussion, the committee agreed to form a working group (five Councillors and two members of staff) to help

organise/facilitate this inclusive community event. A planning meeting is to be held prior to next month's Council meeting.

19. **To discuss the community Christmas events in Amersham**

Councillor Barnes and Councillor Pinkney, outlined the plan for a Christmas Festival in Amersham on the Hill, on 2 December. It was noted that the event will be similar to last year, along with a request that Council helps prior to the event, by way of organising the stalls, and assistance on the day of the event.

Councillor Flys advised the committee that the Old Amersham Revite Group and Retailers Group (ROAR) are organising the Christmas event in Old Amersham, in conjunction with Coopers Markets. The event is to take place on Friday 1 December.

Proposed Councillor R Dineley
Seconded Councillor C Jones

20. **Matters to Report**

There were no matters to report.

The meeting ended at 8.55pm

Chairman

Date.....