

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 19 June 2023

- Present:**
- Councillor J Barnes (Chair)
 - Councillor R Dineley (Deputy Chair)
 - Councillor Elizabeth Shepherd (Town Mayor)
 - Councillor D Pinkney (Deputy Town Mayor)
 - Councillor A Lamont
 - Councillor V Head
 - Councillor C Jones
- In Attendance:**
- Councillor M Roberts
 - Steve Catanach; Town Clerk - Community Services
 - Natalia Khimich; Marketing and Sponsorship Co-ordinator
1. **Apologies**
- Councillor S Woodhead
 - Councillor J Keeler
2. **Absent No Apologies:**
- Councillor M Flys
 - Councillor S Scott-James
3. **Declarations of Interest:**
- There were no declarations of interest.
4. **Membership of the Heritage Day, Amersham in Bloom and Christmas sub-committees:**

It was agreed that the membership of the sub-committees would be as noted below:

Heritage Day- *Councillor Dineley, Councillor Barnes, Councillor Head*
Amersham in Bloom- *Councillor Lamont, Councillor Shepherd, Councillor Jones*
Christmas - *Councillor Pinkney, Councillor Jones, Councillor Barnes*

5. **Update on the Visit Amersham initiative**

Natalia Khimich provided an update on Visit Amersham. She advised the committee that she had successfully sought sponsorship for the eco-cups, along with noting that she was making good progress in her efforts to liaise with local businesses. The committee expressed their pleasure on hearing the work that had been undertaken, while noting that they would be grateful for updates on the planning and subsequent development of the initiative.

6. **Amersham in Bloom update**

The Clerk updated the committee on the bloom activities, including the continued efforts to be sustainable, the successful completion of additional painted communication boxes, the groups involved in helping to plant Amersham and the sowing of the field of gold (sunflowers) at Willow Wood.

A draft copy of the *Decade in Bloom Commemorative Portfolio* was also tabled. The committee thanked Michelle Catanach for her hard work in compiling this comprehensive and informative record of Amersham in Bloom.

7. **Update on the Eco-Cup**

Councillor Barnes noted that with sponsorship in place, a suitable reusable cup is now being sought.

8. **Update on Civic Events, including band concerts and the Environment Action Day**

The committee was given an update on the civic event programme, including the events and initiatives celebrating the coronation of King Charles III. The committee expressed their delight in the success of the coronation projects – commemorative tree planting and coronation meadows- that were undertaken in partnership with the local schools, while thanking the office and depot staff for their efforts with the celebrations. Councillor Dineley and Councillor Barnes noted that they had both received many positive comments from members of the public in relation to Environment Action Day, while the stallholders requested additional events, of this nature, in the future.

9. **To discuss and agree the future use of a small but currently 'unmanaged' parcel of land, which includes the wall located on the boundary of land owned by the Council and Buckinghamshire Council at King George V Playing Field.**

Following a lengthy discussion, the committee recommended that a section of the boundary wall, at the entrance to King George V Playing Field, is removed (the part that has been covered with graffiti), as it serves no purpose. Following its removal, and to mark the boundary between land owned by the Council and Buckinghamshire Council, the committee recommended that a fence is installed, from the wall to the footpath, and planted with a wildlife hedge.

The Clerk advised the committee that he is in discussion with BAM (the contractor who built the CLC) and Buckinghamshire Council, to ensure that the unkempt parcel of land, that lies beside the aforementioned boundary is reinstated to its original condition. Once completed, the committee would like to discuss potential ways to improve this and other areas of King George V Playing Field.

Proposed Councillor C Jones
Seconded Councillor R Dineley

10. **Matters for Report**

The Clerk noted that Affinity Water has arranged for a *final* drop-in session at Barn Meadow Pavilion, to discuss the imminent river improvement works that are going to take place at Barn Meadow and Pondwicks. The drop-in session will take place between 1pm and 7pm, with the first hour dedicated to representatives from the Council. Five Rivers, the contractor of Affinity Water, is due to start the river works at the end of July.

The meeting ended at 8.40pm

Chairman

Date.....