



Minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 5 April 2023 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, East Street, Wareham at 7.00pm.

Committee Members present: Councillors V Green (Chairman), D Budd (Vice Chairman), B Ezzard, H Goodinge, C Turner,

Cllr B Dean was in attendance.

Officers present: N Gray, Town Clerk and RFO, Gale Pettifer, Deputy Clerk

689. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Kemp and Cllr Kirk due to ill health.

690. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

691. Public participation time

There were no members of the public present.

692. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting

Cllr Budd noted the abbreviation EPC should be noted in full to explain its meaning.

Subject to the above amendment, the minutes of the previous meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 22 February 2022 were **APPROVED** as a correct record of the meeting and would be signed by the Chairman following the meeting.

693. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Minute 607. The Clerk reported that the external wall of The Quay toilets had been painted and members agreed that it looked very nice.

Minute 608. Howards Lane toilets' wall. It was agreed that the building work, to reduce vandalism and anti-social behaviour, might be negated by the installation of CCTV. This would depend on the approval of the CCTV works by Full Council and the cooperation of the Masonic Hall.

694. Finger Post Repair or Replacement

The Committee **RESOLVED** that option 2 be approved, which was to repair the broken finger post, with a new bracket on the existing pole, at an approximate cost of £320.00, by Normtec.

695. Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) Rating

Cllr Budd asked that the survey be made available to the Buildings Task and Finish Group as there may be work which could be completed as part of a larger project.

The EPC Survey Report was **NOTED**.

696. Town Hall Roof Repair

Members discussed the report, and the damage was clarified.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept Contractor A (Complete Roofing Solutions (CRS)) to conduct the Town Hall roofing repairs as specified in the report at a cost of £1086.00+vat. Members requested that photos be obtained from the Contractor of the roof when they carry out the work.

697. Tree Survey

The Clerk provided the Committee with a breakdown of the budgets for the work to ensure there were enough funds to complete it, and that works would not be carried out until the end of nesting season in the Autumn.

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the Contractors had agreed to hold their quotes until the Autumn when the work could be done.

It was **RESOLVED** to Approve Contractor A (SDS Treeworks) to carry out the recommendations in the Tree Survey, at a cost of £5840.00.

698. Wareham Community Growers Purchase Requests

The report was discussed, and the request considered, with members agreeing that the requests were reasonable in ensuring the Wareham in Bloom application is as successful as possible.

It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a motorised utility cart, battery and charger at a cost of £1,049 +VAT from OHE Horticultural Ltd.

It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a large heritage barrel planter, along with nine small heritage planters at a cost of £1,113 +VAT from Amberol Ltd.

Both purchases to be funded from the Wareham in Bloom earmarked reserve.

699. Wareham Christmas Market

The Chair provided a background on the position and emphasised that the working party needed to have maximum community engagement with Council being the facilitator.

It was **RESOLVED** to set up a working party to oversee the Christmas Market arrangements. The working party would include the Chair and Vice Chair of the Amenities Committee, with the Deputy Clerk providing the admin, the remainder of the Committee would be made up of representatives from local businesses and voluntary groups. It was hoped the event would be self-funded. Council agreed a new budget line which covered the Road Closure, Advertising and Insurance to a total of £2,000.00.

700. Wareham Stones

The Clerk presented the report on the installation of the monolith stones which had been donated by Bloor Homes some years ago. The Clerk had met with Dorset Highways at a number of locations and the two sites which they had agreed were suitable were indicated in the report.

It was **RESOLVED** that the stones be installed on the left adjacent to the footpath into the new development on the approach into town from Worgret roundabout and

in between Sandford Road and the footpath on the approach into Wareham from Sandford, just beyond the “Welcome to Wareham” sign.

701. Wareham Men’s Shed

Members considered the request from Wareham Men’s Shed and discussed various possible venues for a permanent workshop. However, the Committee felt that, whilst this was a worthy project, there was no suitable facility owned by the Council to accommodate the request.

Councillors would make individual recommendations of other non-council owned sites that may be of use to the Wareham Mens Shed.

702. Hedgehog Highway Project

Members considered the request from HedgehogsRUS and although the Committee supported the ethos of this national organisation and would encourage all residents to be ‘hedgehog friendly’, there was no budget for this initiative. It was further noted that local wildlife organisations, with similar schemes, were well supported.

703. Any other items the Chairman deems urgent

There were no items deemed urgent.

704. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Amenities Committee was scheduled to be held at 7.00pm on 17 May 2023.

Chairman..... Date.....