

**ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Amenities Committee held at 7.45pm on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at Manor House, Lime Kiln, Royal Wootton Bassett.

PRESENT: Councillors: Mike Farrow, Janet Georgiou, Sue Hughes.

Also in Attendance: Councillors: Paul Heaphy, Caroline Redmond, Steve Walls and Steve Watts.

Officers in Attendance: Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, Kelly Warren, Committee Clerk and Administrative Officer.

**Question Time**

A number of residents addressed the meeting who expressed their concerns over the proposed youth pod being installed in the Otter Way play area. The concerns were centered on anti-social behaviour and the level of noise coming from the park.

One young resident provided an alternative point of view regarding the lack of youth facilities in the town. Local young people would like a place to go to as the youth club is only available for a couple of hours a week.

The Chairman thanked all the residents for their comments.

**37. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rob Anstee, David Bowler, Mary Champion, Rebecca Hearne and Mike Leighfield.

### **38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with sections 10 and 12 of Wiltshire Council's Members Code of Conduct, as adopted by Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council at a meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

RESOLVED to note that no Declarations of Interest were received.

### **39. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman updated members in respect of the following: -

- a) Jubilee Lake – it is expected that planning conditions will be discharged the following day in order to allow the contractors access to the site from 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018. Confirmed 165 letters have been sent to advise residents of the works.
- b) Culvert Richards Close – Baldwin Brothers are accepting of the issues raised and a meeting with them will be held at the end of January.
- c) Play equipment repairs – Contractor has completed all repairs except for 2. One item has been referred back to the manufacturers under warranty. The second item is being investigated by John Macindoe.
- d) Town guide – Proof is to be received by end of January.
- e) Litter project – Members have been receiving numerous complaints from residents regarding the amount of rubbish/ fly tipping that is being left at the recycling bins in Sainsbury's car park. Confirmed the CCTV team will continue to monitor this and Councillor Mary Champion has been asked to approach Wiltshire Council to see if enforcement action can be used to encourage Sainsbury's to be more proactive in this matter.
- f) BBQ policy – Press release to be in the April issue of the Community magazine and will include Wiltshire Council guidance on the lighting of bonfires.
- g) Metal covers for picnic benches – Not to be used as they would become hot in summer. Issue of vandalism to be monitored.
- h) Goal posts and planting – This has been completed.

#### **40. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED to confirm and sign minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2017 (A/4/17-18), Copies previously circulated.

#### **41. LITTER REPORT**

The Committee received the latest Litter Report, copy previously circulated.

The Chairman updated members on the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust 'Drop the Rubbish Attitude' campaign. The press release will be in the next issue of the Community magazine and posters and stickers will be available in due course.

#### **42. ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – COMMEMORATION OF THE CENTENARY OF THE WWI ARMISTICE**

To commemorate both Remembrance day and the 100 years since signing the Armistice, the Royal Wootton Bassett branch of the Royal British Legion sought approval to display poppies on the trees along the High Street from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018 to 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

The poppies measure 1ft x 2ft, will be fixed using cable ties which will be funded by a local company and RBL volunteers will display and remove the poppies.

Wayne Lawton, Poppy Appeal Coordinator spoke at the beginning of the meeting to make this request on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

RESOLVED to authorise Royal British Legion to display of poppies on the trees along the High Street.

#### **43. YOUTH POD AT OTTER WAY PLAY AREA**

Over the past two meetings of the Committee, Members have been reviewing the future of the youth pod proposed for Otter Way play area. The Committee was asked to decide upon this matter in the light of petitions received and ongoing work by Chairman Councillor Sue Hughes.

It was RESOLVED not to place the youth pod in Otter Way play area; to refund the section 106 funding to Wiltshire Council and the youth pod be returned to the contractor for restocking to try and recover some of the money.

It was further RESOLVED that in light of the research carried out by Chairman Councillor Sue Hughes over the last six months which highlighted the lack of youth provision in the town, that a working party be established to consider options for the possible creation of a Youth Café and report back.

The working party to comprise of Councillors David Bowler, Mary Champion, Rebecca Hearne and Sue Hughes.

#### **44. COMMUNICATIONS**

The Committee was asked to consider whether it would like any Press Releases or other Communications issued in respect of the Committee Agenda items.

RESOLVED to issue communications in relation to the following: -

- Fly tipping – to advise residents that we are aware of this issue and will be raising this to Wiltshire Council
- Youth Pod – to advise residents that the youth pod will not be installed at Otter Way play park and a working party has been established to consider the feasibility of creating a youth café.

*The meeting closed at 9.10pm.*