

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Amenities Committee held at 7.35pm on Thursday 10th January 2019 at Manor House, Lime Kiln, Royal Wootton Bassett.

PRESENT: Councillors: Rob Anstee, Mary Champion, Mike Farrow, Janet Georgiou, Sue Hughes, Mike Leighfield and Steve Walls

Also in Attendance: Councillors: David Bowler, Paul Heaphy and Eve Silvester

Officers in Attendance: Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, Michelle Temple, Administrative Services Manager and Joshua Toll, Community Projects Officer

34. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillor Caroline Redmond.

35. 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 12th July 2012.

RESOLVED to note that no Declarations of Interest were received.

36. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman updated Members in respect of the following: -

- (a) Christmas Lights Event – Thank you to everyone who helped with this event. Members to send feedback to Michelle. This year's Christmas Lights Event will be held on Friday 29th November 2019.
- (b) Accessible Play Equipment Review – Waiting for a report from a specialist, to bring back to a future meeting.

37. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED to confirm and sign minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 8th November 2018 (A/4/2018-2019), copy previously circulated.

38. LITTER REPORT

The committee received the latest Litter Report.

RESOLVED to ask the Grounds team to include more context in future reports on exceptional items.

39. WESSEX WATER – ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT STRATEGIC SEWERAGE

Martin Tidman, Principal Planning Engineer and Lucy George, Project Manager, both representatives from Wessex Water attended to provide the Committee with an update on the works including a draft layout of the proposed works in New Road Play Park, to mitigate flooding and sewage issues.

The most viable option is the creation of a large underground storage tank to attenuate flows. Wessex would like to purchase a section of land from the Town Council and then re-provide the children's play area in an alternative location within New Road park. Members were not averse to this suggestion but expressed great concern when advised that New Road itself might be closed for six months.

Lucy informed members that the project has not got full approval yet. Wessex Water will be meeting again in February 2019 to discuss the

internal gateway, planning permission, possible purchase of some land at New Road park and the road closure, which they would re-examine.

Wessex's aim is to start works in January 2020, but will communicate with the Council after the February meeting.

Councillor David Bowler left at 8.20pm

40. LONGLEAZE PLAY PARK GATES

Following an accident at Poetsfield Play Area involving a self-closing gate, the Council's Health & Safety Officer made an inspection of all Council's self-closing gates. Although many of these were still within tolerances allowed by RoSPA and indeed all had passed previous RoSPA inspections, as this was the second accident recorded it was suggested that further investigation should be undertaken.

The Poetsfield Play Area had been refurbished but the fencing and self-closing gate from the previous scheme was left in situ. It is suspected that increased use of the Play Area may have led to additional wear and tear on the self-closing springs, although should still be noted that these comfortably passed the RoSPA criteria.

The Health & Safety Officer advised that given this was the second accident we should explore the use of a new Hydraulic self-closing gate similar to that used at the Woodshaw Green Play Area.

Investigations were undertaken with Wiltshire Council to see if this type of improvement would qualify for S106 contribution support and it was confirmed that 6 of the council's 12 gates identified for possible replacement could be improved in this manner.

Each gate costs £1,120 each, 6 of which located at Poetsfield, Otterway and Old Court will now be replaced using S106 funding in January 2019. This will leave the Council with a further 6 gates in need of replacement at some point and so the Council is asked if it wishes to draw funding from its project funds to complete this work. The Project fund stands at £30,000 and no allocation has been made from the current financial year.

The Council's instructions were sought.

RESOLVED to fund the further 6 gates from the Amenities project fund.

41. CEMETERY REPORT

The Committee received a report from Naomi Coleman, Rachel Deegan and Gill Welsman-Clarke, Administrative Officers, with regards to a Working Party meeting held at the Cemetery on Friday 16th November 2018.

The report detailed an update of the new baby section and cremated remains. Aricab have contacted Brunel Surveys to carry out a Topographical Survey which is due to take place in January 2019.

RESOLVED to note the report.

42. COMMUNICATIONS

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

RESOLVED not to issue any communications.

The meeting closed at 8.53pm