

**MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE  
MEETING, BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL  
TUESDAY 10 JANUARY 2023, 7PM  
HELD AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH ST8 6AR**

**PRESENT:**

- |                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • <b>The Mayor:</b>     | • Councillor A H Hart (Chair) |
| Councillor J Garvey     | • Councillor A Lawton         |
| • <b>Deputy Mayor:</b>  | • Councillor W Rogers         |
| Councillor C R Perkin   | • Councillor J Salt           |
| • Councillor C Brady    | • Councillor N R Yates        |
| • Councillor E Baddeley | • Councillor J T Jones        |
| • Councillor D A Hall   | • Councillor K Harper         |

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Mrs Sarah M Haydon – Chief Officer (Minute Taker)
- Ms Jodie Hancock – Events and Partnerships Officer
- Mrs Margaret Warman – Compliance & Governance Officer
- Mrs Ange Williams – Administrator Officer
- Councillor J Davies
- Councillor K J Jackson
- Councillor A J McLoughlin
- Mr James Connolly - Biddulph Chronicle

**45. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were recorded and accepted for:

- Councillor C M Smith
- Councillor S Rushton

**46. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Dispensations: None
- b) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests: None

## **47. MINUTES**

a) The Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting held on 8 November 2022 were **approved and signed**. Proposed by Councillor Perkin; seconded by Councillor Salt and agreed.

b) The Notes of the Transport Working Group meeting held on held on 23 November 2022 were **received**.

## **48. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ALLOTMENT DEPOSIT SCHEME CONSIDERATIONS**

The Chief Officer reported that a recently vacated plot required clearing, which had prompted queries as to whether a deposit scheme should be put in place for new plot holders.

Research had been carried out by the Administration Officer. Deposits appeared to be between £50-£100, for those who operated deposit schemes. The Chief Officer felt this may not be the right method to prevent people from leaving a mess, and may deter people from joining the waiting list. A scheme could not be applied to current tenants.

Councillor Salt proposed that the Town Council should not set up a deposit scheme; Councillor Garvey seconded. Agreed. Councillor Harper voted against.

Councillor Yates suggested to approach the new plot holder and whether they would clean it up in exchange for waiving the allotment costs. The Chief Officer confirmed that this had been done in the past.

## **49. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON AN ACCESSIBLE ALLOTMENT PLOT AT THE PARK LANE SITE**

The Chief Officer tabled a briefing note and queried whether the idea of an accessible plot is something that the council would like to look into.

The Chief Officer reported that there is currently a suitable plot available at the Park Lane site, although there are limitations regarding what can be offered, particularly in relation to toilets and parking.

Councillor Hart suggested looking at match funding to enable this. Councillor Jones had concerns over cost, however, believed it is a good idea and questioned whether both sites could have an accessible plot.

Councillor Davies questioned how the plot would be filled. The Chief Officer confirmed that a separate waiting list would be created, to match the criteria set out by the Town Council.

Councillor Jackson questioned whether the Moorland Road allotment site would be more suitable. The Chief Officer agreed, however the site available is Park Lane.

It was agreed to look into the details of what an accessible plot would cost and the stipulations around it. Proposal by Councillor Harper, seconded by Councillor Jones. All in favour.

#### **50. TO NOTE THAT THE ALLOTMENTS ANNUAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY, 6PM**

The Chief Officer explained that due to the pandemic there had not been a combined meeting of allotment holders.

Members agreed that Councillor Hart will Chair the meeting.

#### **51. TO AGREE A DATE FOR A BURIAL GROUND SITE VISIT**

The Chief Officer noted that it had been some time since Members had completed a site visit of the burial sites. All agreed a Wednesday morning would be most appropriate.

#### **52. JOBS FOR LENGHTSMAN (STANDING AGENDA ITEM)**

Councillor Salt reported that several streets require attention due to fallen leaves. Councillor Yates reported that the footpath on Halls Road also requires attention.

Councillor Mcloughlin stated that Mow Lane has the same problem as above. Councillor Jones mentioned that the salt and grit will need to be topped up at 'Spout Bank' (Hurst Road).

*Mr James Conolly left the meeting 7:37pm*

## **CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

*In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1, the Council is to determine which items, if any, should be taken with the public excluded.*

### **53. TO RECEIVE THE RESIGNATION FROM THE VOLUNTEER WHO SUPPORTS CLOSURE OF THE PUBLIC TOILETS AND TO CONSIDER OTHER OPTIONS**

It was agreed to advertise the position. All agreed.

### **54. TO RECEIVE VERBAL UPDATES IN RELATION TO ONGOING GRAVE ENQUIRIES**

An update was received.

### **55. TO CONSIDER LAND OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE TOWN (STANDING AGENDA ITEM)**

There were none.

*The meeting ended at 7.49 pm.*

Signed..... Date.....