

**MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE  
MEETING, BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL  
TUESDAY 13 JUNE 2023, 7.30PM  
HELD AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH ST8 6AR**

**PRESENT:**

- **The Mayor:**  
Councillor A K Harper
- **Deputy Mayor**  
Councillor N R Yates
- Councillor C Brady
- Councillor N Eardley
- Councillor J I M Garvey
- Councillor A H Hart
- Councillor K J Jackson
- Councillor J T Jones
- Councillor C Kisicki
- Councillor A C Lawton
- Councillor A C W Parkes
- Councillor D A Proudlove
- Councillor S Rushton
- Councillor C Smith

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Mrs Sarah M Haydon – Chief Officer (Minute Taker)
- Ms Jodie Hancock – Events and Partnerships Officer
- Mrs Margaret Warman – Compliance & Governance Officer
- Ms Elizabeth Norton – Finance Officer
- Councillor Rogers
- Councillor Holdcroft
- Councillor Salt
- Mrs Angela Williams -Administration Officer

One member of the public

**1. ELECTION OF A CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR**

The Mayor called for nominations for the position of Chair. Councillor Jones proposed Councillor Hart; seconded by Councillor Parkes. There were no other nominations; agreed.

Councillor Hart called for nominations for the position of Deputy Chair. Councillor Jackson nominated Councillor Parkes; seconded by Councillor Harper. There were no other nominations; agreed. One abstention.

## **2. APOLOGIES**

None.

## **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations. None.
- b) Other Interests. None.

*Councillor Rogers left the meeting at 8.16pm*

## **4. MINUTES**

To approve and sign the Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting held on 11 April 2023. All agreed.

## **5. ITEM REQUESTED BY COUNCILLOR HOLDSWORTH**

*To consider the management arrangements for the Halls Road changing room/toilet facilities.*

Councillor Holdsworth expressed his concern over the lack of toilet facilities at the Halls Road Recreation Ground (The Sandhole), he explained that there is a disabled toilet that was useable, which is not available to the general public. Other facilities are in a poor state of repair.

It was suggested that a letter be written to the District Council to question whether the block could be changed into a facility that members of the public could access.

Proposed by Councillor Jones; Councillor Garvey. All agreed.

*Councillor Holdsworth and one member of public left the meeting at 8.23pm.*

## **6. TO RECEIVE A BRIEF UPDATE IN RELATION ON ONGOING PROJECTS**

The Chief Officer noted that she had previously provided Councillors with a copy of the 2022-23 Action Plan, which highlighted issues that had been carried over. She noted that there are a number of projects that will require development throughout the year. There would be additional work required at the Burial Ground in relation to paths. Allotment holders had also brought proposals forward during the last annual meeting. They would pull these together into an action plan for the Committee.

Councillor Smith questioned a whether a response has been received from Staffordshire Moorland District Council regarding the occupancy for the Visitor Centre and requested a meeting in person to discuss the backlog of issues raised.

*Councillors Salt and Smith left the meeting at 8.31pm*

## **7. TO CONSIDER PRIORITIES FOR THIS COMMITTEE FOR 2023-24**

Linked to the item above, the Chief Officer queried whether Councillors had any priorities they would like to bring forward for 2023-24.

Councillor Jackson requested to look at a new Allotment site, Shepherd Street, as a priority.

Councillor Yates noted that a footpath running alongside the Brown Lees recreation area is not currently listed on an asset register resulting in challenges as to who should maintain it. The footpath is in need of repair and requested that the Lengthsman complete the works.

Councillor Kisicki requested works to be done from Marsh Green Road to Congleton Road; the Chief Officer will add this to the Lengthsman list as he has completed this before.

Councillor Kisicki reported that the Mile signs have been removed and suggested a survey to locate any that need repair and are missing.

Councillor Lawton reported that Transport Working Group meeting planned for next week and will be bringing several priorities forward in the next meeting.

## **8. TO AGREE SITE VISITS FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The Chief Officer asked Councillors to identify any sites that they would like to visit.

## **9. JOBS FOR LENGTHSMAN (STANDING AGENDA ITEM)**

Councillor Jones requested the Village Green in Biddulph Moor be cut in advance of the Well Dressing The Chief Officer reported this will take place on the 15 June.

Councillor Kisicki reported that the road signs located on Meadows Way require cleaning. Also Halls Road to Congleton road stop sign.

Councillor Eardley reported that the trees on Duke Street and into Swallow Walk require cutting back.

Councillor Yates reported that the hedge by the tin bridge in Gillow Heath requires cutting back and at the top of the bypass from Meadows Way onto Tunstall Road.

**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.*

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

The Chief Officer explained an ongoing issue with the lack of storage space available.

A discussion was held regarding some options; it was suggested that a small group of Councilors could view potential sites.

The meeting ended at 8.56pm.

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