

**MINUTES OF THE RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE  
MEETING, BIDDULPH TOWN COUNCIL  
TUESDAY 14 NOVEMBER, 7.30PM  
HELD AT BIDDULPH TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, BIDDULPH ST8 6AR**

**PRESENT:**

- |                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • <b>Deputy Mayor</b>         | • Councillor J T Jones     |
| Councillor N R Yates          | • Councillor C Kisicki     |
| • Councillor C Brady          | • Councillor A C Lawton    |
| • Councillor J I M Garvey     | • Councillor A C W Parkes  |
| • Councillor A H Hart (Chair) | • Councillor D A Proudlove |
| • Councillor K J Jackson      | • Councillor J Redfern     |

*Councillors Kisicki, Proudlove and Parkes were in attendance but did not sign the register.*

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

Councillor Hart recited the disclaimer regarding the recording of the meeting.

**38. APOLOGIES**

- **The Mayor:**  
Councillor A K Harper
- Councillor N Eardley
- Councillor C M Smith
- Councillor S Rushton

**39. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations. None

- b) Other Interests. Councillor Jones declared an interest in relation to item 45.

#### **40. MINUTES**

- a) To **approve and sign** the Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee meeting held on 10 October 2023

All **Agreed**.

- b) To **receive** the Notes from the Transport Working Group meeting held on 11 October 2023

The notes were **received**.

#### **41. TO CONSIDER FUTURE PLANS FOR THE NEW GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE AT THE WOODHOUSE BURIAL GROUND**

The Chief Officer gave a presentation recommending a new Garden of Remembrance, a memorial tree and a 'letters to heaven' post-box.

Councillor Lawton and Salt stated their preference to the half-sized memorials. Councillor Redfern stated that he liked the memorial tree idea.

It was proposed to circulate the presentation to Councillors for further consideration and to review in January when costings and Planning requirements could be considered. All **agreed**.

#### **42. ITEM REQUESTED BY COUNCILLOR HARPER- TO IDENTIFY A NEW BURIAL SITE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

Councillor Harper was not in attendance, but all Councillors understood the importance of looking for land that could be purchased for this purpose.

Councillor Yates suggested that memorial trees could be planted as an alternative.

#### **43. TO CONSIDER THE BUDGET FOR THIS COMMITTEE FOR 2024-25 (2023-24 INFORMATION TO-DATE ATTACHED)**

The Chief Officer detailed the current funding allocations for this Committee.

Councillor Jackson proposed that £10,000 could be allocated for allotments and a further £20,000 for the garden of remembrance development, seconded by Councillor Jones. All **Agreed**.

It was noted that additional spend might be required for the Butterfly Garden. Members of the Committee were invited to attend the guided tour that week at 11am.

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

Councillor Yates reported that the hedge on the curve at the top of the bypass requires cutting and at Meadows Way there is a large bush encroaching on the pathway.

Councillor Garvey requested that the pathway on the corner of Leek Lane to Stoneyfields be considered.

### **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.*

#### **45. TO CONSIDER FUTURE RENT PAYABLE BY THE CAFÉ AT THE VISITOR CENTRE**

*Councillor Jones declared an interest as he knows the tenant.*

Councillor Jones stated that water meterage needed to be considered, and suggested to take views from local surveyors based on the facilities. It was agreed that this was an appropriate way forward.

#### **46. TO CONSIDER ADDING A SPOUSE TO EXISTING ALLOTMENT TENANCY AGREEMENTS**

There was discussion about the issues of inheriting allotment, and it was proposed that legal advice should be sought. All agreed to review this again with further information.

*Councillor Rogers left the meeting 9.15pm.*

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

There were no updates.

*The meeting closed at 9.20pm.*

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