

Market Drayton Town Council

Minutes of a Services and Facilities Committee Meeting held at The Town Hall, Frogmore Road on Thursday 26 May 2022 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Councillors: R. Aldcroft (Chairman), A. Allen, B. Chapman, G. Chevins, M. Erwin, T. Manton, I. Nellins, N. Roberts, and M Whittle.

ABSENT: Councillors: Mrs. J. Beckett, T. Beckett, and R. Hughes.

1 members of the public were present and 4 members of the public listening to the meeting via Teams.

In Attendance: Sue Thomas, Town Clerk and Kate Harvey, Assistant Clerk.

1.SF APOLOGIES

Members **NOTED** the following apologies:

Councillor J. Beckett	-	Prior arrangement
Councillor T. Beckett	-	Poorly
Councillor R. Hughes	-	Prior appointment

2.SF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillor Chevins declared a pecuniary interest in item 7.SF and will leave the meeting when this item is being discussed.

3.SF PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public had expressed a wish to speak at the meeting.

4.SF MINUTES

Councillor Manton proposed, Councillor Allen seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

To agree and confirm the minutes of the Services and Facilities Committee meeting held on 10 March 2022.

5.SF ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – TOWN PARK (motion by Cllr Manton)

Information was circulated prior to the meeting.

Due to antisocial behaviour at the Town Park, PC Ambrose from the Local Safer Neighbourhood Team was invited to the meeting to give a report to members.

The Chairman welcomed PC Ambrose to the meeting.

Standing Orders were suspended to let him speak in the meeting.

PC Ambrose reported to members there have been several reports of Anti-Social Behavior on the Town Park; most of the complaints are about two groups of youths who congregate around the benches on the far left hand side of the park, causing a lot of noise, nuisance, and swearing at residents on a Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday evening and early hours of the morning.

All complaints have been taken very seriously, two daily patrols of the area have been put in place, one around 3.30 and the other in the evening. The issue on a Wednesday evening is after the Youth Club at the Phoenix Centre finishes; the Youth Leaders have been spoken to and they are working with the young people to raise awareness of the impact of their actions.

The individuals involved have been identified and seventeen level one antisocial behavior letters have been sent out to the children's parents.

The Chairman asked if members would like to ask PC Ambrose any questions?

The Chairman asked if the local police team would be willing to press charges on the children if they continue?

PC Ambrose said yes, the children involved are aged between thirteen and seventeen and statements would be taken off the residents.

The Chairman said Town Council will be considering moving the benches where the complaints are coming from in a later agenda item.

Members thanked PC Ambrose for acting quickly to sort the issues out at the Town Park and for giving them an update on the incident.

The meeting went back into committee.

Members had an in-depth discussion on the possible options they could carry out to reduce antisocial behavior on the Town Park.

Councillor Chapman proposed, Councillor Manton seconded, and it was **RESOLVED** with 2 abstentions:

To implement Option 2 – To relocate the benches to another area closer to the play equipment on the Town Park for a trial period of two months after which time the ASB would be reviewed.

To consider Option 3 at a later date – To upgrade the CCTV on the Town Park.

PC Ambrose left the Chamber.

6.SF TOWERS LAWN TOILETS

Information was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Clerk reported to members that since the report from the Working Group was circulated there has been an incident in the toilets that members should be aware of before making any decisions.

She reported the hand dryer in the ladies toilet has been removed due to an electrical fault; as the hand dryer in the Gents toilets is of the same age a quote has been received to replace both hand dryers at an approximate cost of £750.

After an in-depth discussion.

Councillor Manton proposed, Councillor Nellins seconded, and it was **RESOLVED** with 2 abstentions:

To replace the hand dryers in the Ladies and Gents toilets as soon as possible.

To go ahead with the Working Groups recommendations of:

Option 1

- **Install Water Heater in Service Cupboard (there is currently no hot water for cleaning)**
- **Remove Sink in Gents (this is an old sink in the corner)**
- **Install People Sensors on Lighting**
- **Install Mirror in Ladies and Gents**
- **Install New Toilet Roll Holders**
- **Install DDA Pull Handle on Disabled Toilet door**
- **Install DDA Pull Cord in disabled toilet.**

Total cost £3,350

and:

Option Five

- **To install a locking timer system on the current doors.**

Total cost of £2,915

7.SF NEWPORT ROAD TOILETS

Information was circulated prior to the meeting.

Councillor Chevins left the Chamber.

An expression of interest form asking for ideas for the future use of the no longer used sections of the Newport Road toilet block was advertised in February 2022.

The Clerk said there were two requests received for information; only one expression of interest was submitted.

Members discussed the expression of interest from The Per Cup Coffee Co-Limited for a possible drive through coffee counter to one side of the building and a counter to the other side offering refreshments.

The Clerk reminded members that Town Council only lease the toilet block, Shropshire Council own them. Shropshire Council will consider sub-leasing but all appropriate documents will have to be forwarded on to them so they can make the final decision.

Councillor Chapman proposed, Councillor Whittle seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

To invite the interested party from The Per Cup Coffee Co-Limited for a meeting with the Clerk so their business plan can be discussed.

Councillor Chevins entered the Chamber and re-joined the meeting.

Councillor Whittle left the Chamber.

Councillor Whittle entered the Chamber and re-joined the meeting.

8.SF DALELANDS PLAY AREA

Information was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Working Group made a number of recommendations for members to consider.

After a discussion:

Councillor Nellins proposed, Councillor Roberts seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

To upgrade Dalelands Play area in two phases.

Phase one:

To remove the mound in the middle by leveling out the soil over the grassed area and bike track, which would be removed.

To install a new fence and gates.

To carry out a community consultation on the age group and equipment to be installed to ensure the upgraded play area meets the needs of the local community.

Phase two:

To install new play equipment.

9.SF ARMED FORCES COVERNANT (Motion by Cllr Nellins)

Information was circulated prior to the meeting

Councillor Nellins proposed, Councillor Roberts seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

To agree signing the Armed Forces Covenant to show support to Armed Forces personnel and veterans.

10.SF IN BLOOM

Councillor Nellins proposed, Councillor Manton seconded, and it was **RESOLVED:**

i) To hold the In Bloom competition in July 2022.

ii) Judges for the In Bloom competition to be the Mayor and Councillor Roberts.

iii) The awards event to be held in September 2022.

11.SF UPDATES/INFORMATION

Members **NOTED** the following updates/information:

Welcome Back Fund – All the funding has been spent. The final draft designs are being produced using new pictures. New benches on Queen Street are yet to be installed, new planters will be appearing in the town over the next few weeks.

Croft Way Play Area – the tender has been awarded; installation will hopefully be during July 2022. Paperwork has been submitted to Shropshire Council to release the £50,000 CiL Local funding towards the project.

Platinum Jubilee – plans are in place for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Community Picnic and Funday and the Lighting of the Beacon. Any funds raised from the event will be donated to the Disasters Emergency Committee.

The meeting concluded at 8.54 pm.

Chairman: Date: