

**MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
AMENITIES & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the **Amenities & Open Spaces Committee** which was held on **Monday, 12th March 2018** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough** at 7.00 pm

PRESENT	Councillor L. Farrell	Chairman
	Councillor M. Hall	Town Mayor
	Councillor A. Ross	
	Councillor M. Cooper	
	Councillor S. Price	
	Councillor A. Wilson	

ALSO PRESENT	Mrs S. Parker	Town Clerk
	Mrs D. Whitehall	Administrator
	Councillor G. Loosmore	Observing

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions.

565/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Castle and Cairns

566/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

567/17 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members were reminded about the forthcoming Community Litter pick taking place on three days from 16th to 18th March. Members of this Committee were particularly encouraged to take part.

Volunteers were required to assist with the Marlborough & District Lions Club Spring Boundary Walk on Sunday, 8th April.

The Chairman thanked members of the Grounds Team for their help in clearing footpaths during the recent severe weather incident, along with all members of staff who helped out at the time.

568/17 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held Monday, 29th January 2018 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman

569/17 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Members noted the Town Clerk's report and discussed the recent dog fouling poster campaign:

- Whether the campaign had been successful
 - Whether to adopt a 'name and shame' map
 - Whether the public understood the risks to health from dog fouling and that the information leaflet provided by Drove Vets was very helpful
 - Whether the Area Board could help with enforcement for the Marlborough Community Area
 - Whether more could be done to raise awareness
- It was agreed to add an agenda item to the next meeting

570/17

GROUND MANAGER'S REPORT

Members noted the Ground Manager's report and considered a recommendation about a request for a memorial bench on The Green. The Town Clerk answered a question about when the work would be carried out to improve the surface of footpaths within the Cemetery.

RESOLVED: that the request for a Memorial Bench on The Green for Alan Grindley was approved

571/17

STONEBRIDGE MEADOW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Members noted the minutes of the Stonebridge Meadow Management Committee held on 22nd February 2018. Main points discussed included:

- Whether the minutes reflected a true record of the discussion at item 7 (Management Plan Review Meeting) in that the Town Council may, in the future, want to use a small part of scrub land for an extension to Marlborough Town Football Club
- Whether a plan showing the extent of the possible area would be helpful for clarification
- Whilst a partner in the ownership of the meadow the conservation of which it fully supported, Marlborough Town Council had a duty to balance the interests of all members of the community

RESOLVED: (ii) Cllr. Ross to raise the wording at item 7 of the Stonebridge Management Committee minutes at the next meeting and ask whether it would be helpful to have a plan to show the extent of a possible conversion

It was agreed that the Town Clerk would request that a plan be drawn up showing the area needed for a possible extension to the football ground.

572/17

THE COMMON

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk and considered requests for use of the Common and a proposed meeting of the Common Users Group.

RESOLVED: (i) that the requests for use by the Rotary Club were approved

RESOLVED: (ii) to agree the request for overflow parking for a private hirer of the Town Hall which should be charged at the commercial rate and that the usual requirements around public liability insurance, traffic management, etc. are met

RESOLVED: (iii) that a Common User Group meeting should go ahead in April in order to share proposals for a Parkrun. This standalone meeting would be administered by Marlborough Town Council with attendance limited to those groups directly affected by the new proposals (Rugby Club, Golf Club, Marlborough Youth Football Club, Marlborough Model Aircraft Flying Club and the Tennis Club)

573/17

COOPER'S MEADOW PLAY AREA

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk about the upgrade to the play area at Cooper's Meadow in particular that project funding now included CIL payments of £19,384.49 bringing the total available to £43,278.96. The date of the first Working Party meeting would be 10th April at 6.30pm, to which all Members of the committee were invited. The meeting would begin with a site visit (weather permitting).

RESOLVED: that the project should move forward with the identified recommended £43,278.96 funding. Resolving drainage issues should be a priority, and the provision of additional seating should be included alongside the play equipment upgrade

574/17

LIGHTING OF SKATEPARK

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk and considered lighting to improve the skate park facility at the Recreation Ground. The Marlborough Community Youth Project (MCYP) was seeking to make a funding application via Wiltshire Council's Local Youth Network (LYN) and needed the Town Council's agreement as land owner. Matters discussed included:

- Whether to install bespoke pole lighting
- Whether, as an alternative, to add floodlights to the Community & Youth Centre building
- That planning permission would be required
- That revenue budget could be identified as well as a dedicated ear marked reserve to help part fund the project
- Whether S106 savings from other projects should be used to help match grant funds
- Whether, if grant funding and planning permission was obtained, the Town Council would manage project delivery and consult with young skateboarders

RESOLVED: (i) that the request for lighting at the Skate Park was approved

RESOLVED: (ii) that the Town Clerk should investigate whether S106 money from savings from other projects could be used

RESOLVED: (iii) to delegate to the Town Clerk to seek initial advice on lighting options and plans

575/17

FENCE AT ELCOT LANE VILLAGE GREEN/MARLBOROUGH TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Members noted a report by the Town Clerk about the removal of the fence between Marlborough Town Football Club and the Elcot Lane Playing Fields (Village Green).

The Town Clerk provided an update on recent correspondence with the Football Club including its preference for types of fence, the inclusion of a gate and potential financial contribution. Members agreed that the existing fence was in a very poor state and should be removed as soon as possible. The gate was noted as a convenience for users of the area although it was not a public right of way.

RESOLVED: (i) that the existing fence should be removed. Plans to be progressed to proceed with a post and rail stock proof fence of 1.2m high with a gate, and the offer of a financial contribution from Marlborough Town Football Club was welcomed

576/17

HEALTH & SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

Members noted a report by the Grounds Manager about a professional inspection of play areas.

RESOLVED: (i) to remove the rotting timber assault course logs at the Recreation Ground

RESOLVED: (ii) to review the Risk Assessment for the Recreation Ground play area and obtain quotations for a fence around the infant play area

577/17

ADDITIONAL MOWING EQUIPMENT

Members noted a report by the Grounds Manager.

RESOLVED: that the request for the purchase of a Honda Hrd536 qx mower was approved

578/17

CEMETERIES

RESOLVED: (i) that recent grants of Exclusive Rights of Burial, Notices of Interment, Purchases, Memorials and Inscriptions were noted

RESOLVED: (ii) that the request for an additional memorial was approved in line with the Grounds Manager's recommendation. Members confirmed that this should be no higher than 4 inches high

579/17

PLUME OF FEATHERS

Members considered suggestions from the Town Council's Legal Advisers about registration of land.

RESOLVED: to proceed with the recommendation actions to erect appropriate signage, and to write to relevant property owners to offer a legal right of way across the land

600/17

MARLBOROUGH IN BLOOM (MiB)

Cllr. Wilson gave a verbal update of recent meetings and plans for a volunteer recruitment day to take place in the Town Hall on 25th March. Responsibilities had now been defined for MiB and the Town Council. A further committee meeting was taking place on Tuesday, 13th March when it was hoped clearer plans for the 25th March recruitment event would be available.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed: Date:
Chairman