

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the **Amenities and Open Spaces Committee** held on the 11th June, 2012
in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough** at 7.30 pm

| | | |
|---------------------|---|---|
| PRESENT | Councillor R. Pitts Councillor Mrs E. Fogg Councillor B. Castle Councillor A. Spranger Councillor Mrs M. Rose | Chairman Mayor |
| ALSO PRESENT | Mr. Derek Wolfe Mrs Sue Fry Mr. R. Beale Councillor A. Ross Councillor A. Kirk Wilson Councillor G. Francis Councillor N. Barrett-Morton Councillor N. Fogg Mrs V. Compton Plus 4 members of the public. | Town Clerk Office Manager Acting Head Gardener Observing Observing Observing Observing Adviser |

84/12 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor Mrs M. Rose and -

RESOLVED: That Councillor R. Pitts be elected Chairman of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee for the 2012/2013 Municipal Year.

85/12 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs E.M. Hannaford-Dobson and Mrs C. Jackson.

86/12 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Proposed by Councillor A. Spranger, seconded by Councillor Mrs M. Rose and -

RESOLVED: That Councillor B. Castle be elected Vice Chairman of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee for the 2012/2013 Municipal Year.

87/12 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations(s) of Interest.

88/12 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman passed on thanks from the 2nd Marlborough Scout Group to the outside staff for the cutting the lawn surrounding their Head Quarters.

The Chairman brought to Councillors attention the chance to win a bottle wine by identifying a water meadow flower found growing in Cooper's Meadow.

He reported that ARK have been short listed for an award for their boardwalk at Stonebridge Meadows.

He advised that Marlborough Gardening Association will be holding their annual show on the 1st of September, a date for all budding gardeners to note. He intended to arrange another meeting of the Allotment Association in the near future.

Finally, he pointed out that the Jubilee Celebrations continue with a Festival of Dance at St. John's School on the 15th and 16th June and the Manton Music Festival on the 23rd June.

89/12 MINUTES

RESOLVED: unanimously that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd April, 2012 be approved.

The following observations were made –

Min No. 555/11 – Bus Stops and Integrated Transport Issues – Councillor Francis requested that the erection of a Bus Shelter incorporating a bench, be considered outside One Stop instead of a seat. He hoped that this could be taken to the next meeting of the Area Board.

Min No. 563/11 – Apple Tree Orchard on Marlborough Common – the Mayor requested that the Town Clerk e-mail the list of additions to the planting list to all members.

The Chairman introduced Mr. Richard Beale the Council's Acting Head Gardener, who was attending his first meeting.

90/12 REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

a) Orchard Training Course – 15th July, 2012.

He reported that this offer from Marlborough Community Orchard is gratefully accepted and that two attendees will be arranged.

b) Jubilee Field – Election of Councillor from Manton.

The Chairman reported that he had been unable to find any record of this charity on the Charity Commission's website so further investigation is needed.

c) High Street Walkabout.

The Town Clerk reported that a new date and time for this important task needed to be established. It was agreed that the High Street walkabout be rearranged for Wednesday 20th June at 6.00pm meeting at the Council Offices.

d) Benches on the Green

The Chairman reported that consideration needed to be given to replacing the metal benches on The Green with new wooden ones as they are in a poor state of repair. The metal ones could then be restored and placed elsewhere in the Town. Following the death of local resident Mr. Jim Sherratt, members of the local community have raised money for a commemorative bench in his memory which they would like to site on The Green. The Chairman stated that he would circulate a paper with possible options to Committee members for consideration. It was agreed that any wooden benches placed on The Green would be secured into the ground to prevent them being moved around.

e) Footpath 39/40

The Town Clerk reported that the decision taken at the Full Town Council meeting on the 21st May has been submitted to Wiltshire Council.

f) Kennet Place – Flood Alleviation Scheme.

At a recent meeting with Mr. Mark Heelis from the Environment Agency, the Town Clerk informed him that the Town Council could not increase the sum of £36,000 that it had previously pledged. Mr Heelis had stated that the Environment Agency could supply additional funding, now that Wiltshire Council had agreed to increase its contribution.

RESOLVED: unanimously that this project be supported in principle, subject to referring this item to the Finance and Policy Committee for consideration regarding the Town Council's funding,

91/12

MARLBOROUGH COMMON - Football Pitches.

Mr. Beale reported that an area on the Common has been prepared ready for marking out as a football pitch.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk consult with the Marlborough Youth Football Club to ascertain the size of pitch required, the size of goal posts needed and when they would like the pitch to be ready for.

92/12

PROJECTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ARK – Progress Report

The Chairman introduced Mrs C. Hitchmough from ARK who gave a brief progress report concerning Cooper's Meadow and Stonebridge Meadow.

RESOLVED: that a full report on the Stonebridge Meadow site be submitted to the next Full Town Council meeting on the 2nd July for consideration and that a member of Ark be invited to attend.

93/12 CYCLE ROUTES IN THE TOWN

The Town Clerk reported that he had received a letter from a local resident raising objections to cyclists using Figgins Lane. After some discussion it was agreed that the Town Clerk reply stating that their objections had been considered and noted.

RESOLVED: (1) that during the High Street Walkabout consideration be given to alternative signage, siting a bollard where River Park joins Figgins Lane and the possible positioning of cycle shelters within the Town; (2) that Transition Marlborough's scheme of local cycle routes be supported and that the Chairman and the Town Clerk write to Ann Yates accordingly.

94/12 ST. JOHN'S ALLOTMENT SITE – Fencing.

The Chairman reported that following a site visit with the Town Clerk he felt that the best way forward to establish the exact requirements for fencing around the site was to arrange a meeting with the St. John's allotment holders.

RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk arrange a meeting with the St. John's allotment holders.

95/12 TOWN LITTER PICK

Councillor Castle felt that a day should be appointed for litter picking various sites within the Town that would involve as many Councillors as were available as well as local schools.

RESOLVED: that the Chairman would liaise with Dr. Hazelwood regarding the involvement of students from St. John's School and Community College.

96/12 CEMETERY

- a) Exclusive Right of Burial/Notice of Interment
- b) Memorial Inscriptions / Additional Inscriptions

RESOLVED: unanimously that the above information be noted.

97/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: To note the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Monday 23rd July, 2012.

98/12 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the press and public be now excluded from the remainder of the meeting, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

99/12 CEMETERY EXTENSION

The Town Clerk reported that he had received one quotation and a detailed specification for this work to be carried out. It was agreed that two additional quotations be sought so that consideration could be given to taking this forward in next years budget.

Richard Beale offered to cost these works using Spon's External Works Book .

100/12

RIVERSIDE WALK

The Town Clerk reported that he had received one quotation for works to form a path for a Riverside Walk. Following discussion, it was agreed that it would not be possible to carry out the work during this financial year.

RESOLVED: (1) that a quote be sought for the installation of a gate in the railing at Churchill Court and if found to be favourable then this work would be carried out to achieve a start on site; (2) that the Town Clerk write to the residents of Churchill Court outlining this Councils intentions regarding the Riverside Walk.

101/12

QUOTATIONS FOR NEW TRACTOR

The Town Clerk reported that he had so far received one quotation for a new tractor on a lease hire agreement.

RESOLVED: that a fully costed set of options for both leasing and purchasing be prepared and brought to the next meeting of the Amenities and Open Spaces Committee.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed
Chairman

Dated