

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities and Open Spaces Committee** held on the 28th September, 2009 in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough at 7.25 pm**

PRESENT	Councillor B. Castle Councillor Mrs M. Rose Councillor A. Spranger Councillor G. Loosmore Councillor S. Radnedge Councillor R. Pitts	Chairman
ALSO PRESENT	Mr. Liam Costello Mrs Sue Fry Councillor Mrs P. Dow Councillor A. Ross Councillor A. Kirk Wilson Mr. N. Kerton Plus 4 Members of the Public	Town Clerk Office Manager Observing Observing Observing Wiltshire Gazette and Herald

NOTICE OF MEETING – Public Notice of the meeting has been given in accordance with Schedule 12, para 10(2) of the Local Government Act 1972

272/09 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from The Mayor Councillor N. Fogg.

273/09 DECLARATION(S) OF INTEREST

There were no Declaration(s) of Interest.

274/09 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman read out a letter that has been received from a local resident congratulating the outside staff on their work in the cemetery.

The Chairman congratulated ARK, the lead partner for the improvement of the River Kennet through Cooper's Meadow, they have been presented with a cheque for £2,000 for the 'Best Fisheries Project with Environmental Improvements' by the Association of River Trusts for the work that the partnership, of which the Town Council are a key member has done in the locality. The 'Marlborough River Restoration Scheme' have now changed its name to the 'Marlborough River Partnership'.

In the summer of 2007, trees in the ownership of the Town Council were surveyed and where necessary remedial actions, including the felling of dangerous trees were carried out. Following the unexpected fall of a Horse Chestnut tree at the entrance to Frees Avenue a further survey will be carried on all trees listed for re-inspection within 3 years. This inspection will include the trees on the riverbank at Churchill Court and those growing on top of the listed monument within Tin Pit Meadow.

275/09

TIN PIT

The Committee considered a proposal to lease part of Tin Pit Meadow, including the listed monument.

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor G. Loosmore and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that Standing Orders be suspended at 7.31pm to allow Mr. Gamblin to speak on his proposal.

Mr. Gamblin outlined his proposals for Tin Pit Meadow and then answered questions from Councillors.

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor G. Loosmore and –

RESOLVED: unanimously that Standing Orders be re-instated at 7.45 pm

Following discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor G. Loosmore and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that we accept in principle Mr. Gamblin's proposal and that we proceed to reach a formal agreement to achieve its stated objective.

With the agreement of the Committee the Chairman took agenda item 6 before agenda item 5.

276/09

CHURCHILL COURT

The Committee received an update from the Chairman regarding Churchill Court.

Following a lengthy discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor R. Pitts, seconded by Councillor G. Loosmore –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that we have an obligation to take the path as close to the river as possible, clearing those obstacles in its path along the existing wall length, commensurate with the Disability Access Act.

Following further discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor R. Pitts, seconded by Councillor G. Loosmore and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that we consult with all interested parties e.g. Ark and the Environmental Agency with a view to appointing a Chartered Surveyor to produce a detailed project plan and costings.

277/09 SALISBURY ROAD PLAYAREA

The Committee received a report from Councillor R. Pitts regarding the Salisbury Road Play Area. (copy attached)

278/09 PROPOSED DRIVEWAY WORKS – KINGSBURY STREET

The Committee considered a request from a contractor to use a small area of the Common on a short term basis to put materials from the excavation of a driveway.
After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor S. Radnedge and –

RECOMMENDED: by 4 votes for with 2 abstentions that we grant the request from a contractor to use part of the Common on a short term basis to place materials from an excavation of a driveway subject to a bond of £500.00 be deposited at the Council Offices and a charge of £50.00 per week be made.

279/09 LITTER BINS/BENCHES

The Committee discussed the purchase of additional litter bins and benches for outside areas.
After discussion it was –

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that we purchase two tree trunk benches and two litter bins for Cooper's Meadow also two litter bins to be placed either end of the Recreation Ground in Salisbury Road, and one at the Elcot Lane Playing Field. The bins at the Cemetery would also be replaced.

280/09 COOPERS MEADOW

a) The Committee discussed placing 'no cycling signs' through Coopers Meadow
After discussion it was agreed that the Committee would not support the erection of 'no-cycling signs' through Cooper's Meadow as this would entail the need for a by-law to be put in place, it would mean additional street furniture and there would be no one to police the enforcement.

b) The Committee received an update from the Chairman regarding the Marlborough Rivers Project.

The Committee discussed a report received from Charlotte Hitchmough (copy attached)

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor R. Pitts and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that this Council agree to the design and positioning of the Interpretive Panels.

Other points raised were the ‘Topping’ of grazed area, this request will be passed on to the outside staff also the expansion of the grazed area, which in principle this Council would support (Option 3.)

281/09 CEMETERY EXTENSION

The Committee discussed the clearing of additional ground at the Cemetery.

Proposed by Councillor B. Castle, seconded by Councillor S. Radnedge and –

RECOMMENDED: unanimously that this project be taken forward and that the offer from a local farmer to turn-over this land once it has been cleared be accepted.

282/09 TOWN MILL

The Committee had previously received a report from Peter Foskett (WithyKing) concerning registration of land at Town Mill.

It was agreed that before any further action is taken that this Council ask Mr. David Oliver, Tree Surgeon, to take a look at the Willow Tree on this site and provide an assessment of its condition.

283/09 CEMETERY

The Committee received the following for information (copy attached) –

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

This information to be noted.