

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE  
OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE BEACON, PORTWAY, ON  
MONDAY, 21 MAY, 2018, AT 7.30 P.M.**

Committee members present: Councillors S Trinder (Chairman), Mrs C E C Dickson, C S Dickson, J Goodman, Mrs M Gradwell, Mrs J T Hannaby, K A Harris, B Mabbett and Major J Sibbald.

Others present: One member of the public (part)

Deputy Clerk: Miss S Sanders

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors C McCarthy, P O'Leary and Mrs J E Nunn-Price.

**Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

None

**Minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2018**

The last sentence in paragraph 39 c) that stated "It was reported that there may be funding available ...." was deleted.

The minutes, as amended, were approved and signed.

**1. Statements and Questions from the Public**

None.

**2. Allotment Matters**

(a) Track surfacing at Naldertown allotments

A suitable surface material needed to be investigated and quotations sought.

**Action: Deputy Clerk**

(b) Use by Sustainable Wantage of land at Stockham/Naldertown

The contractor has cleared the land at Stockham Park and it was ready to be rotovated; this work will be carried out in the next couple of weeks. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

(c) Publication of updated Allotment Policy

Both the updated Allotment Policy and Tenancy Agreement were on the Wantage Town Council website. The policy was on display at all allotment sites.

(d) Allotment sites as Assets of Community Value

The Clerk had agreed to proceed with the application for the Larkhill Allotment site as an Asset of Community Value. It was uncertain whether the requirements could be met due to spare allotment capacity elsewhere. **Action: Clerk**

(e) Clearing of vacant plots

The contractor had quoted for the clearing of a vacant plot and the cost to place a sheet over the vacant plot to prevent any significant regrowth between tenancies. The

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contractor suggested an alternative to placing a sheet on the plot once cleared would be to spray the plot with weed killer and repeat once per year. The cost to clear each plot would be £50 and the cost to cover each cleared plot with sheeting would be an additional £50. The cost of spraying the cleared plots with weed killer would be £10 per plot. The Deputy Clerk will ascertain how many vacant plots were currently available across all sites and report the findings.

**Action: Deputy Clerk**

(f) Laying of water pipe across Naldertown allotments to provide a water supply for the fire hydrant at King Alfred's Academy West Site

Thames Water had advised that they needed to place a fire hydrant at King Alfred's West Site due to the building of a new sports hall. The main supply runs through Naldertown Allotments. Installation had been accepted by the Clerk. The tenants of the allotment plots affected by the installation were to be informed of the expected work. It was suggested that Thames Water might like to help with the pathway surfacing as a gesture of goodwill.

**Action: Clerk**

(g) Other allotment matters

None.

The member of the public left the meeting.

**3. Cemetery Matters**

(a) General maintenance

When recently inspected, the litter at the cemetery was minimal.

(b) Tree cuttings at cemetery

A list had been prepared of the work required. Some of the work had been carried out. Due to staff changeover, the list will need to be reviewed. It was noted that the Fire Station Community Wardens had been contacted but no reply had been received.

**Action: Deputy Clerk**

(c) Cemetery Art Project

The artist, Suzanne O'Driscoll, had been informed that she can proceed with the artwork. The Deputy Clerk had contacted her via email to check progress.

**Action: Deputy Clerk**

(d) Consideration of CCTV at cemetery

Quotes were awaited for CCTV.

**Action: McCarthy**

(e) S106 contributions for the cemetery

The Clerk will be taking on work regarding S106 contributions with the newly established S106 Sub Committee.

**Action: Clerk**

(f) Other cemetery matters

None.

**4. Town Centre Matters**

(a) Wantage Fire Station Community Wardens

The Community Wardens had been working on the list of jobs which had been provided to them by the Council. This included painting several benches around the town centre. Unfortunately, on liaison with the co-ordinator for the project, it had been established that the Duke of Edinburgh students working alongside them were only able to carry out work close to the town centre due to time restrictions. Some benches would therefore be too far, and consideration would need to be given as to whether a contractor should be employed to repair these.

**Action: Deputy Clerk**

It was requested that a letter from the Mayor should be sent to the Wantage Fire Station Community Wardens thanking them for installing flags around the town on 5 May 2018.

(b) Update on Markets

An audit of the equipment held in the shed had been carried out and a list sent to the Councillors. It was decided that Councillor Trinder, the Clerk and the Deputy Clerk will meet to decide how to proceed with the findings from the audit.

**Action: Trinder/Clerk/Deputy Clerk**

(c) Update on defibrillators

Costings for the adoption of the telephone box had been received.

ON THE PROPOSITION of Councillor Mabbett  
SECONDED BY Councillor Goodman  
IT WAS RESOLVED to proceed with adoption.

**Action: Deputy Clerk**

(d) Posting of notices

The Deputy Clerk reported that priority was given to notices with dated events rather than general, no time limit posters. At this time of year more posters are received than the noticeboards can hold. They are put into the noticeboards in chronological order. The more in advance that posters are received, the sooner they are likely to be put up. Any posters that have already been put up are not removed to allow space for posters with earlier event dates to be put up. The wind conditions heavily affect the ability to update noticeboards. Even a light breeze can make it impractical to update.

(e) Salt/grit bins

The location for the bin in Wallingford Street had been put forward by Councillor Mrs Hannaby; she will confirm the exact location for the Deputy Clerk and the County Council will then be informed.

**Action: Deputy Clerk/Hannaby**

(f) Report on income from parking fines

The report was noted. A meeting would take place between Councillor Trinder, the Clerk and the Deputy Clerk to discuss parking fines and the policy for taking offenders to the Small Claims Court.

**Action: Trinder/Clerk/Deputy Clerk**

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(g) Feedback on attendance of May Fair

There had been some encroachment on pavements but the space left had been adequate for wheelchair access. There was an outstanding issue regarding payment that the Clerk was seeking to resolve.

**Action: Clerk**

(h) Other town matters

None.

**5. Other business**

None

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.