

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND AMENITIES
COMMITTEE OF THE WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ONLINE USING ZOOM, ON
MONDAY, 18 MAY 2020 AT 9.30 P.M.**

Committee members present: Councillor J T Hannaby (Chairman)
Councillors A Duveen, T Gilhome, J Goodman, E L Johnson,
A C Menzies, P O'Leary, I L Sheldon and Major J Sibbald

Others present: Four members of the public.

Deputy Clerk: S Sanders

Apologies for Absence

None

Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

None.

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2020

The minutes were approved.

1. Statements and Questions from the Public

None.

2. Allotment Matters

(a) Current status of allotment plot availability

The Deputy Clerk reported that the Grove Road and Lark Hill sites had no current vacant plots. Seven plots were available across Letcombe Fields, Naldertown and Stockham Park. Seventeen people were on the waiting list waiting for availability on Grove Road or Lark Hill.

(b) Re-location of access gate to Grove Road Site.

The access gate had been moved to enable safer access and egress.

(c) Request for scalplings for the track at Lark Hill site

The Deputy Clerk was to order a couple of bags of scalplings for delivery to Lark Hill site.

Action: Deputy Clerk

(d) Other allotment matters

Councillor Sheldon had researched the cost and benefits of Wantage Town Council becoming members of the National Allotment Society. The Cost would be £55 per annum. It was concluded that there would be no benefit to the Town Council from joining the society.

Inspections had been carried out in February. Dates for future inspections had not yet been agreed.

3. Cemetery Matters

(a) Conifer trees on left hand side of road entrance

It was noted that work had been carried out along the bank adjacent to the conifer trees, however the trees had not been cut. It was still not known who was responsible for the trees. The Chairman was to seek clarification from Oxfordshire County Council to ascertain who was responsible for the maintenance of the conifer trees.

Action: Chairman

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE OF THE
WANTAGE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ONLINE USING ZOOM, ON
MONDAY, 18 MAY 2020 AT 9.30 P.M.

(b) Repairs to the uneven areas of the cemetery approach road

The order had been placed with Oxford District Building Services. A date had not yet been agreed for the work to commence.

(c) Other cemetery matters

Funeral directors were adhering to the guidance regarding grave side burials and social distancing during the Covid-19 crisis.

It was noted that dog walkers were using the cemetery car park. It was not known if they were also visiting graves.

4. Town Centre Matters

(a) Changing Place facility in the town centre

The Deputy Clerk had not yet received the information requested from the district council (current building plans & proposed extension to ensure space is achievable for a changing place facility in the Portway toilet building). Deputy Clerk to chase.

Action: Deputy Clerk

(b) Purchase of a bus shelter for two locations in Charlton Road

Bus shelters had been installed near the community hospital and opposite the LNelson Public House.

(c) Town centre flags

It was agreed that the use of metal poles were not suitable for health and safety reasons. It was agreed that new flags and poles should be ordered as necessary. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

(d) CCTV

Deferred until next meeting.

(e) Other town centre matters

There had been some vandalism in the town centre at around midnight on 15 May 2020. The silent soldier silhouettes, commemorating soldiers who fought in WW1, had been tampered with and removed from their secured positions. The Deputy Clerk had contacted the CCTV Control Centre and Thames Valley Police. The Chairman was to follow up the contact.

Action: Chairman

Bollards in the market place had been damaged by a vehicle exiting the parking area in the town centre. Although CCTV footage had recorded the incident, the vehicle registration had not been picked up.

It was noted that the refreshing of white lines in the town centre had not yet been carried out

5. Other Business.

None

The meeting closed at 9.56pm
