

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the
Recreation and Amenities Committee
held on Monday 17th September 2018 at 6.30pm
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thattham

Present: Councillor Steve Ardagh-Walter (Chairman)
 Councillors Jeff Brooks, Jason Collis, Richard Crumly (substituting for Dan Carter),
 Rob Denton-Powell, Sheila Ellison, Julie Goode and Anne Johnson

In attendance: Naomi Mildenhall (Services Manager)
 Nick Forbes and Ben Bradshaw (NADhack) for agenda item 5 (RA/2018/82)
 1 member of the press (Newbury Weekly News)

RA/2018/78 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dominic Boeck and Dan Carter (Richard Crumly substituting).

RA/2018/79 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

RA/2018/80 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 20th August 2018, having been previously circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

RA/2018/81 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Clerks Report

(a) There was no Clerk's Report.

Other Matters

(b) Councillor Crumly requested an update on item RA/2018/68 Solar Panels, Committee was informed that following approval from Councillors Ardagh-Walter and Denton-Powell, as agreed at the last meeting, solar panels for the Council Offices were due to be fitted on the 19th September and that orders for Frank Hutchings Community Hall and Burdwood Community Centre would follow, however, due to Permitted Development Rights and the Conservation area, the public toilets would not be fitted with solar panels as both aspects of the roof were visible from the highway.

RA/2018/82 THE MOORS WORKSHOP

Committee considered a request from Newbury and District Hackspace for use of the remaining space at the Workshop, The Moors which was currently used for Town Council storage and a report from the Services Manager detailing proposed Heads of Terms.

RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow Mr Forbes and Mr Bradshaw to address the Committee.

Mr Bradshaw introduced the Hackspace and explained that it was a community maker's space started 2 years ago for learning and making that was all inclusive, they would now like to expand as space had become limited. Mr Forbes explained that there was a desire to have a clean workshop area for things like sewing as well as woodworking, metal work, 3D printing and laser cutting. They explained that it was funded by Membership and loaned equipment and that they had also been in receipt of a grant from Greenham Common Trust when they initially started up.

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RA/2018/82 THE MOORS WORKSHOP continued

They summarised their proposal to lease the entire building, which they currently part occupied, and offered to commit to improving the overall condition of the building including replacement of external double doors to add further security to the building.

RESOLVED to reinstate Standing Orders

RESOLVED to approve use of the whole Workshop by Newbury and District Hackspace, in accordance with the Draft Heads of Terms, pending receipt of the signed amended covenant.

RA/2018/83 HERITAGE WORKING PARTY

Committee received the Minutes of the Heritage Working Party meeting held on the 5th September 2018.

RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes.

RA/2018/84 THE PRIORY – DAMAGED BOUNDARY WALL

Committee considered a report from the Town Clerk detailing past inspections and work carried out on the walls surrounding the property, as requested at the last meeting of this Committee (RA/2018/73).

RESOLVED to defer a decision to a future meeting of this Committee, following conversations with the Town Council's insurer urging them to cover the repair cost and with the Tenant seeking a commitment to fund repair of the wall.

RA/2018/85 THATCHAM LIBRARY USAGE

Committee received usage data gathered by West Berkshire Council on items borrowed from Thatcham Library during the period April 2017 to March 2018.

RESOLVED to note the information.

RA/2018/86 THATCHAM OUTREACH YOUTH PROJECT REPORT

Committee received a report compiled by the Services Officer on activities by the Outreach Team between April and June 2018.

RESOLVED to note the report.

RA/2018/87 INCIDENTS

Committee received a report on incidents of vandalism and anti-social behaviour logged by the Town Council during the period 15th August and 11th September 2018.

RESOLVED to note the report.

RA/2018/88 BUDGET / EXPENDITURE COSTS

a) Committee received details of proposed BACS and cheque payments from the Imprest account (appendix i to these Minutes).

RESOLVED to approve the list of payments and that Councillors R Crumly and Ellison be appointed to sign the cheques and endorse the relevant documentation.

b) Committee received details of direct debits previously authorised by the Council and cheque payments from the Clerk's account for the month of August 2018 (appendix ii to these Minutes).

RESOLVED to note the information

c) Committee received details of income and expenditure costs against this Committee's budget for the year to date (appendix iii to these Minutes).

RESOLVED to note the information.

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RA/2018/89 REPORTS BY TOWN COUNCIL APPOINTEES

Members noted the following verbal reports from Town Council appointees:

- **Henwick Worthy Joint Management Committee**
Councillor Brooks informed Committee that the quorum of meetings had been discussed and adjustments had been requested, the Rugby Club had given a presentation that had resulted in some pitch adjustments and the Hockey Club plan was on hold whilst West Berkshire Council was finalising its Sports Pitch Strategy.
- **Thattham Allotment Gardening Club**
Councillor Collis reported that the annual awards evening had gone well and there had been a good number of people in attendance.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.38pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____