

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the
Recreation and Amenities Committee
held on Monday 20th May 2019 at 7pm
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thattham

Present: Councillor Jeff Brooks (Vice Chairman)
 Councillors Steve Ardagh-Walters, Mike Cole (substituting for Councillor Jeremy Cottam), John Boyd, Paul Field, Owen Jeffery, Mark Lillycrop, Simon Pike and Keith Woodhams.

In attendance: Naomi Mildenhall (Services Manager)
 Councillor David Lister
 Mr Mark Thomas from Old Bluecoat School for item RA/2019/27
 1 member of the press (Newbury Weekly News)

In the absence of the Chairman, the meeting was chaired by the Vice-Chairman Councillor Jeff Brooks.

RA/2019/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jeremy Cottam (Councillor Mike Cole appointed as substitute) and Lourdes Cottam.

RA/2019/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

RA/2019/25 WORKING PARTY TERMS OF REFERENCE AND APPOINTMENTS 2019/20

Committee considered terms of reference and appointment of Members to serve on the Working Parties reporting to this Committee for the municipal year 2019/20.

RESOLVED to agree the Terms of Reference and appointment of Members to serve on the Working Parties as detailed in appendix i to these Minutes.

RA/2019/26 HERITAGE WORKING PARTY

Committee considered the Minutes of the Heritage Working Party meeting held on 24th April 2019 along with recommendations contained therein.

RESOLVED to adopt the minutes and to co-opt Dr Nick Young, Mr Nathan Gregory, Mr Roy Tubb and Mrs Sue Ellis on to the Working Party, as recommended in the Minutes.

RA/2019/27 OLD BLUECOAT SCHOOL

Committee considered a request from the Old Bluecoat School for Landlords permission to carry out building work.

RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow Mr Mark Thomas to address the Committee.

Mr Thomas asked that permission be given to fit window grills to the North facing windows, planning permissions had already been obtained. It was explained that the need had arisen due to several vandalism issues with windows being smashed. It was also requested that permission be granted to plaster the internal walls and renew the lead flashing on the windowsills all in keeping with the preservation of the building.

Mr Thomas was thanked for his attendance.

RESOLVED to re-instate Standing Orders.

RESOLVED to grant landlords permission to the Old Bluecoat School Trust to install the window grills on the North facing windows, plaster the internal walls and renew the lead flashing on the windowsills.

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- RA/2019/28 UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENT POLICY REVIEW**
 Committee considered adoption of a draft Unauthorised Encampment Policy.
RESOLVED to adopt the Unauthorised Encampment policy, subject to the removal of the word traveller in paragraph one and that a procedure note be attached.
- RA/2019/29 ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN**
 Committee considered a request from a member of public, submitted to Full Council on 13th May 2019 (FULL/2019/35) and subsequently referred to this Committee, requesting that the Town Council “review [its] Council Environmental Plan”.
RESOLVED to establish a Working Party consisting of 5 Members with a quorum of 3 members to establish and prepare a draft Town Council Environmental Plan to be presented to a future meeting of this Committee and to appoint Councillors Jeremy Cottam, Paul Field, Richard Foster, Owen Jeffery and David Lister to the Working Party.
- RA/2019/30 BROADWAY PUBLIC TOILETS**
 Committee received a progress report from the Services Manager outlining refurbishment of the Broadway Public Toilets.
RESOLVED to pause the project and establish a working party consisting of Councillors Jeff Brooks, Mike Cole and Keith Woodhams to review the planned refurbishment and report back to this Committee.
- RA/2019/31 BRADLEY MOORE SQUARE**
 Committee received the financial statement from Deal Varney in respect of No.2 Dunston Park Ltd - Frank Hutchings Community Hall.
RESOLVED to note.
- RA/2019/32 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING APPLICATION**
 Committee received an application from Friends of Thatcham Library for funding from the Community Project Fund to purchase liability insurance for the year 2019/20.
RESOLVED to award up to £100 to the Friends of Thatcham Library to cover the cost of Liability Insurance.
- RA/2019/33 MOORSIDE COMMUNITY CENTRE**
 Committee received a report from the Town Clerk regarding the proposed transfer of Moorside Community Centre from West Berkshire Council to Thatcham Town Council and considered a recommendation from the Town Clerk that a site visit be arranged, prior to further consideration of the proposed transfer.
RESOLVED to arrange a site visit for Members and to request a copy of West Berkshire Council’s building survey and obtain a quote for a new survey.
- RA/2019/34 INCIDENTS**
 Committee received a report on incidents of vandalism and anti-social behaviour logged by the Town Council during the period of 12th March 2019 and 4th May 2019.
RESOLVED to note the report.

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RA/2019/35 BUDGET / EXPENDITURE COSTS

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

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

b) 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.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____