

SAWBRIDGEWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes

of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held at the Council Offices, 49-51 Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth at 20.15 hrs. on **Monday 08 October 2012.**

Those present

Cllr Angela Alder - Chair
Cllr Derek Filler

Cllr Brian Rochester

In attendance:

Cllr Eric Buckmaster
R Bowran - Town Clerk

Joanne Kenny – Admin Officer

A12/10 VACANCY ON THE COMMITTEE

Council has resolved not to appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the newly elected councillor is sworn in and asked if he/she would be interested in serving.

A12/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Pat Coysten – in hospital; Cllr Barry Hodges – on holiday.

A12/12 PUBLIC FORUM

To receive representations from members of the public on matters within the remit of the Amenities Committee. There were none.

A12/13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any Declarations of Pecuniary Interest by Members. There were none.

A12/14 MINUTES

Resolved: To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 09 July 2012 (A01) [*prop Filler; secd Cllr Rochester*]

A12/15 ALLOTMENTS

To report on matters relating to Allotments

- Allotment Association. Meetings have taken place with both allotment associations.
- Water supplies. There are still water charging issues to be resolved at Southbrook.
- Bullfields. Security fencing installation completed, new signs being commissioned.
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- Vantorts. Nothing to report.
- Bellmead. Water to the Scout hut at Bellmead will be terminated when the scouts make their move.
- Waiting list. Decreased by six as half-plots are reallocated. Clerk said it was not possible to be precise about waiting list as some people on it are found to have moved from the area when offered a plot.

A12/16 CEMETERY

To report on matters relating to the Town Cemetery

- Inspections. Continue to be carried out on a regular basis.
- Cemetery Expansion, preparation of land east of the cemetery. Next stage is to plan hedge planting round the boundaries for the autumn.

A12/17 OPEN SPACES & FOOTPATHS

To report on matters relating to Footpaths and Open Spaces

- Vantorts Park
 - No issues
- Bullfields
 - Inspection and maintenance carried out, vandalism to windows and roof seems to be down to a new group of young people who are now receiving police attention.
 - Installation of security cameras has enabled information to be passed to the police.
- West Road
 - Inspection and maintenance. Tree canopy lifting and removal of unsafe trees carried out.
 - The new picnic bench has been graffiti attacked. The tree planted by Mandeville School has been snapped off.
- Other areas
 - Bell Street flower beds have been cleared.
 - London Road flower beds have been cleared and an urgent request made to Herts Highways to tend to the tree located there.
- Footpaths
 - General state is said to be good although there is some vandalism

A12/18 CIVIC AMENITIES

To report on matters relating to Civic Amenities

- Ranger activities
 - Report on current arrangements. Steve Parrish is proving to be a valuable asset.
- Farmers Market
 - Report on September Market. First market using new stalls and layout. General feedback was good.
 - Plans for the future of the market. Re-launch on 03 November. New advertising, ATC band, new stall holders.
- Floral Displays
 - Display for 2012. All planters and baskets now removed. Suggested that the planters be re-used later in the year for Christmas displays.
- Town Signs
 - Quotations ranging from £5k - £7.5k obtained, examples shown and further investigation needed.

Meeting ended at 21:00