

SAWBRIDGEWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes

of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held at the Council Offices, Sayesbury Manor, Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth at 20.20 hrs on **Monday 11 February 2019**.

Those present

Cllr Sotirios Adamopoulos

Cllr Roger Beeching

Cllr John Burmicz

Cllr Pat Coysten

Cllr Annelise Furnace

Cllr Heather Riches

Cllr Angela Alder (ex-officio)

In attendance:

2 members of the public – part time

R Bowran - Town Clerk

Joanne Sargant – Town Projects Manager

A18/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.
There were none

A18/21 PUBLIC FORUM

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

A18/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

A18/23 MINUTES

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 15 October 2018 (A02)
[prop Cllr Alder; secd Cllr Beeching]

To attend to any matters arising from these Minutes and not dealt with elsewhere on this Agenda. There were none.

A18/24 ALLOTMENTS

To report on matters relating to Allotments

- Allotments Manager reported that she was preparing a schedule of works to be carried out in the spring.
- Water consumption now being monitored on a site by site basis preparatory to making realistic, relevant water charges to tenants.
- Waiting list remains at 9, no new tenancies having been offered since the last meeting of the committee.
- Future developments – Clerk mentioned that the Bellmead site had become blighted by the juxtaposition with the new building development in Springhall Road. He suggested a future plan for utilising the site if it became de-allotmentised in favour of the introduction of a West Road site

A18/25 CEMETERY

To report on matters relating to the Town Cemetery

- Inspections
 - Compliance with Regulations, attempt made to confirm that we were compliant by:

- Training course at LCPAS, which was also designed to assess a potential new source of training, was cancelled!
- Maintenance
 - Sub-contractors, we have now established relationships with new grave digging contractors which are proving an improvement.
 - Automatic watering bags have been acquired which will ensure new trees become established, even in dry weather.
- Development
 - Roadway Extension, still need further quotes, matter in hand
 - Marketing, considering possible tree layouts, rose gardens and a research visit to Greenacres Epping Forest to investigate woodland burials.
 - The Spinney, waiting for cost estimates for clearance and inspiration for how best to use the asset.

A18/26 FOOTPATHS & OPEN SPACES

To report on matters relating to Footpaths and Open Spaces

- Bullfields
 - Current situation
 - Play equipment is now being inspected and maintained by the Management Committee.
 - Litter clearance is being arranged directly by the Management Committee.
 - Grass cutting will be carried out under contract against specific orders from the Management Committee.
- West Road
 - Inspection and maintenance
 - Play equipment, inspected weekly. Considerable vandalism is apparent and will have to be repaired, estimated cost will be around £3,000.
 - Litter clearance is carried out twice a week and on demand.
 - Grass cutting is carried out by the Ranger on a routine basis.
- Other areas
 - London Road flower beds
 - Maintenance has been carried out by a combination of the Ranger and Oakridge Nurseries.
- Town Green
 - Update report. Contact with EHDC and support for a grant application to Pocket Parks Plus to enable development.
 - Maze maintenance was specifically addressed and the repair and maintenance will be discussed with EHDC.
- Fair Green
 - Development. No further progress on this site.
 - Maintenance. Carrying out periodic grass cutting.

- Footpaths
 - Elmwood. Contract awarded to Honours for the clearance and restoration of the footpath. Investigation into whether this can be established as a Right of Way.
 - Parish Hall. Contract awarded to Honours for the restoration of the footpath
- Rivers Heritage Orchard
 - Update report on licencing obligations. Continuing dialogue with the landowner and agreement on maintenance and hedge work. These being funded by the landowner.
 - Volunteer group conducted a Wassail event without assistance from council officers. We did however lend them our fire bowl for the occasion.

A18/27 OPERATIONS

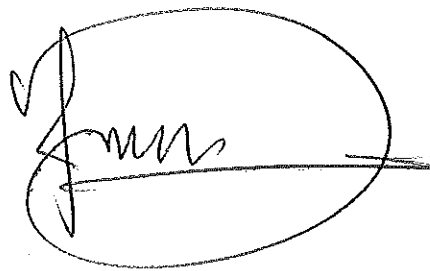
To report on matters relating to Operations

- Community Transport
 - Sawbobus. Continues in service but FIAT vehicle shows a multitude of faults. Negotiating with Mellor and FIAT to rectify.
 - Hire minibuses. Are used on a regular basis, lent one to Bishops Stortford under our reciprocal arrangement. One vehicle maintained to provide back-up for Sawbobus.

A18/28 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- Community Champions Awards.

Meeting ended at 21:20



17.VI. 2019.

