

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Amenities Committee held at 7.30pm on Thursday 8th November 2018 at Manor House, Lime Kiln, Royal Wootton Bassett.

PRESENT: Councillors: Rob Anstee, Mary Champion, Mike Farrow, Janet Georgiou, Sue Hughes, Mike Leighfield, Caroline Redmond and Steve Walls

Also in Attendance: Councillors: Steve Bucknell, Paul Heaphy and Eve Silvester

Officers in Attendance: Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, Michelle Temple, Administrative Services Manager and Kelly Warren, Committee Clerk and Administrative Officer.

23. APOLOGIES

No apologies received.

24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest in accordance with sections 10 and 12 of Wiltshire Council's Members Code of Conduct, as adopted by Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council at a meeting held on 12th July 2012.

RESOLVED to note that no Declarations of Interest were received.

25. CMAS PRESENTATION

Ben Evans, Director of CMAS gave Members a presentation on the work of CMAS in Royal Wootton Bassett and throughout the region.

CMAS which is a non-profit organisation and the work they provide includes the running of youth clubs, mentoring for kids and alternative education.

Ben informed Members that a youth club currently runs for 1 night per week in Royal Wootton Bassett and is held in the United Reformed Church. Approximately 40 young people aged between 15 – 17 years old regularly attend each week.

The Committee thanked Ben and his colleague Craig for the presentation.

26. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman updated Members in respect of the following: -

- Cemetery Working Party - meeting scheduled for Friday 16th November 2018.
- Christmas Lights – Michelle Temple, Administrative Services Manager provided an update regarding the stalls and confirmed the road sweeper will be there from 9.30pm and has been provided free of charge. The Christmas Trees are being delivered on Sunday 18th November 2018 and on the same day the Town Hall windows are being cleaned.
- Poppies on the High Street – Big thank you to all those involved in putting up the poppies in the High Street (RBL, Community Together Group).
- Remembering 100 years in Song and Verse – RWB Productions being held on Friday 9th November 2018, 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall, tickets available on the door.

27. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

To confirm and sign minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 6th September 2018 (A/3/2018-2019), Copy previously circulated.

28. LITTER REPORT

The committee received the latest Litter Report, copy previously circulated.

RESOLVED to note the report.

29. ACCESSIBLE PLAY EQUIPMENT REVIEW

The Committee received a report and annotated drawing from the Chairman, Councillor Sue Hughes which outlined recommendations regarding accessible play equipment in the Town Council's play parks, copy previously circulated.

RESOLVED to forward the recommendations and guidance notes to a playground specialist for their expert advice.

30. YOUTH PROVISION

Members received a report from the Chairman, Councillor Sue Hughes regarding the possible project funding of limited youth service in the 2019/2020 financial year, copy previously circulated.

The Committee agreed that there is a need for youth services in Royal Wootton Bassett and RESOLVED to;

- Note the importance of continuity and in accordance with financial regulation 11.1.2 hold a contract with CMAS in Royal Wootton Bassett for 2 years commencing 1st April 2019 and to ring fence funding from project funds to cover 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 for this purpose.
- Bring the item back to the Committee once more information has been obtained from Wiltshire Council regarding future funding.

Councillor Mary Champion left at 8.36pm.

31. HIRE OF SHOWGROUND

The Committee was asked for its thoughts on keeping the showground only for the town's Showman to keep the ground in a good state of repair.

Past experience has shown that in some cases, although not all, circuses have been known to cause considerable damage to Showfield where it has subsequently proved difficult to seek adequate compensation. This is often associated with adverse reports of flyposting around the town and even reports of defecation on the ground itself.

RESOLVED to;

- Check the wording of the Showground Deed to check if *any* Showman with a licence can use the Showground.
- Monitor circuses more when they do hire the Showground to ensure hire conditions are met and to blacklist those who do not comply.
- Look to increase the deposit at time of booking to £500.

Councillor Steve Bucknell left at 8.46pm.

32. ANNUAL ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The Committee was asked to consider making recommendations to the Revenue and Resources Committee for its budgetary position in the 2019-2020 financial year. Copies of the draft estimates relating to Amenities were previously circulated.

Members were reminded that the draft estimates represent on-going commitments and service provision at current levels. Changes have only been incorporated where there is a clear intent by the Council to undertake change.

Members were also asked to note that to avoid problems previously experienced, all recharges have been set to zero for budgetary purposes only.

The Committee was asked to consider the draft budget for the 2019-2020 financial year and make recommendations accordingly.

RESOVLED to adopt the figures to take to the next Revenue and Resources Committee meeting on Thursday 22nd November 2018.

33. COMMUNICATIONS

The Committee was asked to consider whether it would like any Press Releases or other Communications issued in respect of the Committee Agenda items.

RESOLVED to issue communications in relation to the following: -

- Men Shed – To thank them for an outstanding job maintaining the benches around the town.
- CCTV Report – To thank all of the CCTV volunteers for their hard work.
- Youth Provision – That this will be funded by the Town Council from March 2019 when the current provision runs out.
- Accessible Play Equipment – To advise residents that the Town Council is looking into accessible modifications to our play equipment.

The meeting closed at 8.59pm