

A/2/2019-2020

ROYAL WOOTTON BASSETT TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Amenities Committee held at 7.30pm on Thursday 20th June 2019 at Manor House, Lime Kiln, Royal Wootton Bassett.

PRESENT: Councillors: Robert Anstee, Mike Farrow, Janet Georgiou, Sue Hughes, Eve Silvester and Steve Walls

Also in Attendance: Councillors: David Bowler, Paul Heaphy and Nic Hughes

Officers in Attendance: Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, Michelle Temple, Administrative Services Manager and Joshua Toll, Community Projects Officer

Question Time

Wayne Lawton, member of the Royal British Legion and Poppy Appeal Organiser. The Royal British Legion have lost their storage space, due to an RBL member passing away. They would like the Council to consider renting the community space attached to Boroughfields toilets to the RBL for storage.

New Road Park Bins – the base of the bins are falling out, can they please be repaired.

4. APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Councillors Mary Champion and Caroline Redmond.

5. 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.

Councillors Robert Anstee and Sue Hughes declared an interest in the Royal British Legions interest of the vacant community space attached to Broughfields toilets. As they are both members of the Royal British Legion

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman updated Members in respect of the following: -

- (a) RBL Garden of Remembrance is now completed. The dedication ceremony is being held on Saturday 22nd June 2019 at 11.00am
- (b) RBL Sensory Garden, a team of TSB volunteers have done a fantastic job and are now organising a second day
- (c) Youth Grant – we have secured a grant of £8,500 from the Area Board for the CMAS project
- (d) Otterway S106 – money going towards the installation of accessibility equipment in time for the deadline
- (e) Old Court Play Area – liaising with school children to get ideas of new play equipment, offer 106 funding allocated in time for the deadline
- (f) Update of Bassett in Bloom – going very well
- (g) Wessex Water – we have received a report from Wessex Water, which is unsatisfactory, Council now waiting to hear back from Wessex Water
- (h) Jubilee Lake Drainage Pipe – A camera survey has highlighted a crack in the pipe, the Council need to take-action. Aricab are arranging a specification and quotes

Johnathan Bourne, Town Clerk, advised the committee that we have been served notice on the use of Manor House. All future council meetings will be held at The Wiltshire Golf Club.

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED to confirm and sign minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Thursday 7th March 2019 (A/6/2018-2019) and Thursday 23rd May 2019 (A1/2019-2020), copies previously circulated.

8. LITTER REPORT

No exceptional incidents to report.

9. CLIMATE CHANGE

The Council received a presentation from David Knight from One Planet, giving the Council an insight into how it can get involved with Climate Change. Also considered was a report from the Chair following a small survey amongst Councillors and staff.

Informally following the discussion members indicated:

- (a) that having learnt more, the committee wishes to act
- (b) it wishes to take this to Full Council to declare a Climate Change Philosophy
- (c) a wish to set up a Working Party to investigate and formulate future actions
- (d) acceptance of the free support offered by Dave Knight
- (e) to report to Full Council

10. CEMETERY UPDATE

Committee received a report from Administrative Services Officers, Naomi Coleman, Rachel Deegan and Gill Welsman-Clarke, copy previously circulated.

RESOLVED to arrange a site visit to the cemetery for all Councillors to have a better understanding of what is required.

11. STANDING CONDITIONS OF HIRE OF SHOWGROUNDS

The Council is asked to adopt the changes highlighted in red, copy previously circulated.

RESOLVED to adopt the changes.

12. BOROUGHFIELD TOILETS

The Committee will be aware that the Town Council lease Boroughfield toilets from Wiltshire Council. In redesigning the toilets, the Council created a “Community Space” behind 3 unisex toilets.

At the time Wiltshire Council would not allow this to be designated as a Community Area and insisted that any point in the future the Town Council would require a variation of lease in respect of any intended usage.

The space has remained vacant and a rate rebate of £500.00 per annum has been claimed. The Royal British legion have made an approach to the Town Council to see if the area can be used on a long-term basis for storage of poppy materials in respect of remembrance.

The Royal British Legion would be happy to fund this at a cost of £500.00 per annum to compensate the council for the rates that will be charged. Wiltshire Council have indicated they would be happy to see this usage but expect a variation of leases to be agreed with all legal fees met by the Town Council.

It is anticipated that the total legal fees involved might be as high as £1000.00 for all parties concerned. This will be a one-off cost until the lease comes up for renewal in September 2023.

The Committees instructions were sought.

The Committee all agreed that this is an excellent use of the space.

RESOLVED that the Council and RBL work together. Council to cover the legal fees and the RBL to cover the loss of £500 per annum.

13. COMMUNICATIONS

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

RESOLVED to communicate the following:

- RBL making use of the Community Area at Boroughfields toilets
- RBL Sensory Garden
- Bassett in Bloom
- Youth Grant
- Climate Change

14. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

The Committee is asked that members of the public be requested to leave the meeting to allow discussion of the establishment, property and finance matters as it is considered the publicity would be prejudicial by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Meeting closed 8.57pm