.

**AXMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL SITE MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Starting at the Guildhall on Monday 22nd June, 2015 at 7.15p.m.

1. PRESENT : Councillors J.W. Walden (Chairman), P.G. Hayward, M.D. Symes and Town Clerk (Miss H. Kirkcaldie) and the Deputy Town Clerk, (Mrs. P.M. Hutchings).

2. APOLOGIES : Councillors G.S. Godbeer, Mrs. D.J. Hull, D.R.H. Hull, A.T. Moulding.

3. MINUTES OF MEETNGS HELD ON 4th MARCH 2015: the minutes of the meeting held on 4th March 2015, having been approved and adopted by the Town Council, were signed by the Chairman.

4. PUBLIC FORUM: None

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4th MARCH 2015:

None

6.SITE VISITS:

a) Fountain – the cost of moving the fountain would be in the region of £20,000 to enable a recessed bus stop where the fountain is currently. Moving the fountain also raises the question of where it could be re-positioned, if indeed necessary considering the costs involved.

b) – Floral Displays & grass cutting – the hanging baskets were in place and the 3 Minster Green flower beds all planted with thanks to local volunteers. The planters outside the Guildhall have also been stocked. It was suggested that Cllr. Moulding be asked to help find out which areas of grass cutting were covered by EDDC and DCC so that the Town Council could try to come up with a programme of cutting which meet local aspirations. Cllr. Walden suggested a suitable area for a potential workshop once a handyman would be employed.

c) – Woodbury Park Allotments – the new gate had been installed at the higher entrance and all agreed was a huge improvement with much easier access. Cllr. Symes would arrange disposal of the old gate. The Deputy Town Clerk will;

- Ask a contractor to clear/strim the top boundary near the top gate and down the first track.

- Write seeding weed letters to a few plot holders identified whilst walking the site

- Gain permission from 2 allotment holders to for photographs of their plots to be taken for the Town Council’s website

- Ask the Allotment Association to include in their next newsletter a reminder that no rubbish is to be dumped in the boundary hedgerows

Cllr. Walden will investigate the correct procedure for the safe removal of low grade hazardous material found found on a plot

d) Millwey Rise Allotments – all looking very neat and tidy

e) North Street Allotments – Cllr. Walden suggested a site meeting be arranged with Western Power Distribution to discuss the low hanging branches over the electricity cables and to combine their visit with looking at the damaged fencing around their Sub Station near Shand Park.

The Town Clerk will write to EDDC for a progress report regarding the land at the end of the allotments

The Deputy Town Clerk would ask a contractor to cut the grass path all the way to the end of the allotments now all plots were in use and write to a tenant regarding seeding weeds

f) Seats, Bus Shelters & Notice Boards –

SEATS

It was agreed that the Town Clerk write to Jessops and ask for the removal of the seat currently sited on their land, which is broken, and request permission for Axminster Town Council to replace the seat at Latches walk with a recyclable one. Cllr. Hayward suggested a seat also be placed, if ever feasible, where the previous bus shelter was at Millwey Rise, First Avenue.

Cllr Hayward stated that Tesco had given their permission for a seat to be placed on the Belle Vue Walkay through to the store from Trinity Square. It was felt however felt that Tesco should take ownership of any bench placed on their walkway. The Town Clerk will write to Tesco with this suggestion.

Cllr Hayward mentioned that rubbish typically collects around public benches and that EDDC had removed the bin by the bench at North St. The Town Clerk said that this was only a temporary removal. It was also noted that EDDC would not provide any additional bins in town and that if further bins were deemed necessary, Axminster Town Council would need to provide/incorporate into budget. When a handyman is employed, emptying of Town Council bins could be included as part of his or her responsibilities.

Cllr Hayward reported that the benches outside St Johns Ambulance station and by Willhayes needed attention with loose slats.

BUS SHELTERS

Cllr Symes had noticed that the roofs of several of the shelters needed washing. A further need for a town handyman. Cllr. Hayward will arrange for the missing acrylic panels to be replaced in the appropriate shelters.

NOTICE BOARDS

The Town Council notice board was now in place in the Guildhall car park which complements the Guildhall Managements notice board.

g) Footpaths – residents had reported that the footpath behind Woodbury Way and Valley path were overgrown and are frequently used. The footpath warden will be contacted to arrange the cutting of these.

Signed ……………………………..………………………………....................................... Date …………………………………………………