

## **AXMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL**

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD AT AXMINSTER GUILDHALL ON WEDNESDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2018 AT 2.00 P.M.

**1. PRESENT:** Councillors J.W. Walden (Chairman), G.S. Godbeer, A.L. Young, the Town Handyman (Mr. J. Hall) and Town Clerk (Miss H. Kirkcaldie) and the Deputy Town Clerk, (Mrs. Z. Adamson-Drage).

**2. APOLOGIES :** Councillors P.G. Hayward (Vice-chairman), G. Alderson, D.R.H. Hull, A.T. Moulding, L.A.Rowe and A.E.J. Seward,.

**3. PUBLIC FORUM:** The following matters were raised in relation to Woodbury Lane Allotments:

- A request that part of plot on which the shed is located be allocated for the parking of cars.
- That cars be kept off the allotments as they are causing rutting of the paths which is a safety problem for some.
- That yellow lines be put in place on Woodbury Lane opposite the lower entrance to the allotment site to enable easier and safer ingress and egress, given that on-street parking has rendered the road single track.
- That the provision of the mirror had improved visibility.

#### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017:

Referring to item 5d) Bus Shelters – Cllr. Hayward had still to liaise with the Handyman regarding fixing of the Perspex panels.

**5. REQUEST FOR PARKING PROVISION ON WOODBURY LANE ALLOTMENTS:** Cllr. Young, seconded by Cllr. Godbeer proposed that parking be allowed on plot 28b as requested. Agreed. The request for yellow lines opposite the site entrance will be referred to the Traffic Management Committee for referral to the next Highways and Traffic Orders Committee meeting at East Devon.

**6. COMMUNITY ROAD WARDEN SCHEME AND URBAN GRASS CUTTING SCHEME:** following lengthy discussion and pending receipt of hard copies of the maps depicting the areas of amenity and visibility grass to be cut, it was resolved that the provisional response would be that Axminster Town Council did not wish to participate in the scheme. In the meantime the Town Clerk will try to find out whether such a decision would preclude the Town Council from cutting the amenity grass anyway, for which no funding was offered. The Town Handyman indicated that the tractor mounted topper was not the most suitable equipment for that work in many instances.

Some of the potholes being referred by the Neighbourhood Highway Officer were too numerous or extensive for the Handyman to deal with.

**7. REQUEST FROM ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION TO TAKE OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALLOTMENT SITES:** Cllr. Walden said that this could happen only if the following conditions were satisfied

- It would apply to all sites.
- That the Association would have to seek the views of all of its members who were existing tenants.
- That, in the light of that decision, a further vote of all allotment tenants would have to be conducted with a minimum threshold of consent to the proposal being set.
- That the Town Council would expect to see a Business Plan.

**8. ALLOTMENT REGULATIONS AND RISK POLICY:** it was agreed that in both the Regulations and the Tenancy Agreement clauses be added advising tenants to take out third party insurance cover for their activities on the allotments. This cover is provided as part of membership of Axminster Allotment Association. A clause indemnifying Axminster Town Council regarding such activities will also be added. Tenants will be advised to report any accidents they have at the allotment sites so that they can be entered in an accident book at the Town Council offices. A clause will be added to indicate

that where a shed or other structure becomes derelict and unsafe and is not removed within a stipulated time following a request from the Town Council to a tenant to do so, then the Town Council will remove the item and recharge the cost to the tenant.

8. TOWN SIGNAGE: no progress had been made with the map. It was agreed that redundant signage be removed, and other signs aligned in the correct directions. The Handyman will investigate how to adapt one sign post to carry hanging baskets.

Signed ..... Date .....