

AXMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 17TH FEBRUARY 2020 AT NOON AT AXMINSTER GUILDHALL

1. PRESENT: Cllr. J.W. Walden, (Chairman), Cllr. A.E. Bourner, Cllr. A.G. Sedgewick, Cllr. M.D.G. Spurway, Cllr. P.G. Wales, The Town Clerk and the Administrative Assistant.
2. APOLOGIES: Cllr. D.R.H. Hull, Cllr. M.Mynard.
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

CLLR. WALDEN DECLARED A PERSONAL INTEREST AS BEING A MEMBER OF THE SKATE PARK STEERING GROUP.

CLLR. SPURWAY DECLARED A PERSONAL INTEREST AS BEING A MEMBER OF THE CLOAKHAM LAWN SPORTS CLUB COMMITTEE
4. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 8TH JULY 2019: these minutes, having been approved and adopted by the full Town Council, were signed by the Chairman.
5. PUBLIC FORUM: None.
6. MATTERS ARISING FROM MEETING HELD ON 8TH JULY 2019: None.
7. DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AMENITIES COMMITTEE: Cllr. Walden, seconded by Cllr. Bourner, proposed that the terms as discussed and revised be recommended to the full Town Council. Agreed.
8. SECTION 106 MATTERS:
 - a. Meeting with District Council Officers – the date suggested was 10th March at 11.00
 - b. Update on Present Projects – members reported on progress with those projects about which they had particular information.
9. AMENITY MATTERS AND ISSUES:
 - a. Bus Shelters – Cllr. Walden proposed that those materials which could be salvaged from the redundant bus shelter at Chard Road be used for repairs at Raymonds Hill or elsewhere. Agreed. Cllr. Walden proposed that the redundant bus shelter be removed from its present position, scrapped and the ground made safe. Agreed. Cllr. Walden proposed that the feasibility of replacing the missing panel in the bus shelter in Trinity Square be investigated. Agreed. A letter will be sent to the District Council asking that consideration be given to reviewing the possibility of placing a bus shelter by the terminus in Millwey Avenue at such time as the tenancy of the affected house changes.
 - b. Notice Boards – the boards at Poplar Mount and Raymonds Hill are in need of considerable remedial work to prevent water penetration and condensation.
 - c. Seats – Cllr. Walden proposed that the vandalised seat by the former Methodist Church be replaced. Agreed. Cllr. Walden proposed that a seat be placed near the junction of Cherry Tree Road and Flax Meadow Lane subject to permission being given by the site owners. Agreed. Cllr. Walden proposed that a seat be placed in Dukes Way at the entrance to the open area just below the Woodbury Lane allotment site. Agreed. A letter will be sent to the Developers inviting them to suggest a suitable location further into the site for consideration at a later date. Contact will be made with a property owner in Castle Street regarding the possibility of siting a seat there.

- d. Jubilee Fountain – The Town Clerk will contact a local contractor regarding upgrading the wiring to the lighting fixture and replacement of the bulbs with those which are more environmentally friendly.

10. ALLOTMENT MATTERS AND SITE ISSUES:

- a. Matters Arising from Tenants, Meeting – Cllr. Walden suggested that as an interim measure, and subject to the landowner's consent, a concave mirror be placed opposite the lower entrance to the Woodbury Lane allotment site to improve safety for emerging vehicles. He said that if this was deemed to resolve the problem it might then be possible to retain the hedge-bank rather than cut it away.
- b. Hedging and Tree Works – the Town Clerk will be contacting the contractors.
- c. Review of Allotment Rules and Letter to Allotment Holders – the Town Clerk and the Administrative Assistant will revise these in the light of guidance from the Town Council insurers. Cllr. Walden confirmed that he wished to be informed about each application for a shed or greenhouse.
- d. Millwey Rise – appropriate action will be taken to remove a dangerous structure from an allotment.
- e. North Street – nothing was raised.
- f. Woodbury Lane – nothing was raised.

11. COMMUNITY ROAD WARDEN SCHEME, GRASS CUTTING POTHOLES AND FUNDING: The Town Clerk regretted that the situation regarding training had still not been clarified by the Highway Authority. Cllr. Walden suggested that the town sign at Weycroft be re-sited by the layby as it could not be positioned where it had been previously as the verge was too narrow now. The Town Clerk will contact the Highway Officer to seek approval. The new signs will all be at a height sufficient to allow a planter, funded from the Community Benefit Fund or the Town Improvement Fund, to be placed beneath.

12. MATTERS OF URGENCY: None.

Cllr. Bourner proposed that under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, (as amended by the Local Government Act 1972 the public, (including the press) be excluded from the meeting as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Cllr. Wales seconded the proposal. Agreed

13. LETTER FROM MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC: following discussion, it was agreed that this be referred to the Responsible Financial Officer for advice as to which was the better of two options in addressing the request.