

MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON

MONDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2022 AT 7.00pm

FENLAND ROOM, THE PAVILION, RECREATION WAY, MILDENHALL, IP28 7HG

Present:

- Clr. Bristow (Chair)
- Cllr. Busuttil (Vice-Chair)
- Cllr. Alecock
- Cllr. Bloodworth
- Cllr. Chipping (from 7.05pm)
- Cllr. Leaman
- Cllr. Shipp

In attendance: Mr M Knight (Town Manager).

1. APOLOGIES AND ACCEPTANCE FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Foord and Sulman.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr. Roman currently has a dispensation granted by the Full Council for reasons of ill-health until April 2022.

- Cllr. Alecock: West Suffolk District Council.
- Cllr. Shipp: West Suffolk District Council.

Signed:

Date:

3. **TO RECEIVE APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5th SEPTEMBER 2022 FROM THOSE MEMBERS PRESENT AT THE MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes with some grammatical changes. Proposed by Cllr. Bristow and seconded by Cllr. Busuttil. All in favour.

4. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were in attendance.

5. **TO CO-OPT MEMBERS ONTO THIS COMMITTEE**

Cllr. Chipping expressed an interest in joining the committee and was co-opted, all in favour.

6. **STANDING ITEMS**

6.1 Update from the Town Manager regarding Action Sheet

The Town Manager gave a brief report on updates and questions were asked about the waste bin provision audit. It was thought inappropriate that Council staff should be responsible for collecting and disposing of dog waste. It was proposed that a contractor be appointed to make these collections, proposed by Cllr. Shipp, seconded by Cllr. Alecock, all in favour.

6.2 To discuss any matters concerning Mildenhall in Bloom

It was reported that new bulbs were ready to go into the planters as well as the war memorial.

6.3 To discuss any matters concerning the Closed Cemetery

The general condition of the cemetery was discussed and it was **AGREED** that the general upkeep should be improved paying attention to the bin area as well as litter. The Town Manger also reported that DDA work was now continuing apace now that several contractors were beginning to return quotes.

6.4 To discuss any matters concerning the War Memorial

It was reported that the area had recently had a clean and weed ahead of the Remembrance Sunday ceremonies on the 11th and 13th November.

6.5 To receive the capacity report for Council Buildings

The report was **NOTED** and the increase in hirers was welcomed.

6.6 To receive the most recent Speed Awareness Monitor statistics

The report was **NOTED**.

7. GENERAL MATTERS

7.1 To receive a verbal update regarding works on the Jubilee Field

The Town Manager reported that quotes were still forthcoming and the work on the entrances and brick plinth for the Mildenhall Beacon should be ready for consideration in the next month.

It was also reported that the saplings obtain through the Woodland Trust as part of the Queen’s Green Canopy should be delivered imminently. It was requested that all Members be informed when these are received so that the planting can be documented and shared on social media.

7.2 Verbal update on Community Defibrillator

It was reported that the requested location outside Sainsbury’s was not feasible due to the availability of electricity and the cost of a contractor to fit it. It was then **AGREED** that the unit be placed at the side of the Jubilee Centre where mains electricity is available. The exact location to be communicated to the Members of this committee when established.

7.3 To consider a proposal regarding Council assets

Much discussion took place over the proposal to dispose of the John Deere tractor. Options such as an electric, hybrid and petrol van replacement were considered as well as the logistical issues which would be faced if the tractor was sold.

It was then **AGREED to RECOMMEND** to the Full Town Council that the disposal process is activated and that three quotes are obtained for each of the electric, hybrid and petrol van replacement.

It was further **AGREED to RECOMMEND** to the Full Town Council that it is communicated to contractors that the Town Council would no longer be moving earth for burials.

Signed:

Date:

It was finally **AGREED** to **RECOMMEND** to the Full Town Council that three quotes are received for the sale of the John Deere Tractor, Lift Trailer and Gang Mower to be considered by the Full Town Council for disposal.

Proposed by Cllr. Shipp, seconded by Cllr. Alecock, all in favour.

8. To discuss and recommend to the Establishment and Policy Committee the draft budget for 2023/4 for this committee

The draft budget was discussed and it was **AGREED** to reduce line 2060/1 for Jubilee Field Repair and Maintenance from £8,000 to £7,000, and line 2070/1 for Pavilion Repairs and Maintenance from £6,000 to £5,000.

It was also **AGREED** to reduce line 2030/1 for Agricultural Machinery Maintenance from £3,500 to £1,750 if the Full Council resolved to dispose of the John Deere Tractor.

Regarding income it was agreed to reduce line 210 regarding Grants to £0 and line 215/1 for Pavilion lettings from £4,000 to £3,000.

With these alterations this represented a budget of £76,660 for income and £118,200 for expenditure.

It was then **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** to the Establishment and Policy Committee the draft budget for this committee with the alterations detailed above. Proposed by Cllr. Busuttil, seconded by Cllr. Shipp, all in favour.

9. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

None

10. TO SET THE DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

This next meeting was confirmed as being on Monday 6th February 2023 at 7pm in the Fenland Room of The Pavilion.

The meeting then closed at 8.15pm.