

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2013/14 – AM01

Minutes of the meeting of the AMENITIES COMMITTEE held on Monday 10th June 2013 at 7.00 pm in the Pump Rooms, Teme Street, Tenbury Wells.

PRESENT: Cllr J. Da Costa (Chairman), Cllr D. Ingram (Deputy Chair), Cllrs A. Rigby, E. Weston
IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk, Mr N. Ferguson & Mr A. Horsfall (Tenbury Round Table), Mrs C. Palethorpe, 15 Users of the Skate Park
APOLOGIES: Cllr M. Brennan, Cllr M. Drummond,

1.1 To elect a Chairman

Cllr da Costa was nominated as Chairman by Cllr Ingram, seconded by Cllr Rigby. Cllr da Costa agreed he was willing to stand.

RESOLVED that Cllr da Costa be elected as Chairman.

1.2 Apologies. To consider the acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors

Apologies had been received from Cllr Brennan and Cllr Drummond.

RESOLVED that apologies be accepted.

1.3 Declarations of Interest

None

1.4 To elect a Deputy Chairman

Cllr Ingram was nominated as Deputy Chairman by Cllr da Costa, seconded by Cllr Weston. Cllr Ingram agreed he was willing to stand.

RESOLVED that Cllr Ingram be elected as Deputy Chairman.

1.5 To approve as a true and accurate record the resolutions and Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 22nd April 2013.

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 22nd April 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of proceedings.

1.6 To hear representation from Tenbury Round Table in relation to their bonfire in November 2013 and to formalise agreements to be made with regard to the use of the Burgage and any making good required to the site.

Mr Nick Ferguson and Mr Andy Horsfall of Tenbury Round Table said that recent replacement of turf on the Burgage had regrettably eaten into the funds raised by the Bonfire which were to go to charity and hoped that an alternative solution could be agreed 2013.

All noted that 2012 had been an exceptionally wet year which had meant that the usual practice of lifting and replacing turf on the site of the bonfire had proved impossible. It had been agreed to let the grass overwinter to allow regrowth but the exceptionally late spring had meant that re-turfing was the only option.

It was agreed that in 2013 the plan would be to lift the turf and replace the day after the bonfire. Photographs of the condition of the site would be taken before the turf was lifted and after it had been replaced. If weather conditions were more favourable this should work well as it had before. If any alternative approach proved necessary it was agreed that members of the Round Table and the Amenities Committee would meet on site in mid-March 2014, to agree what needed to be done. If the spring proved mild reseedling would be considered first. Returfing of the site would only be considered again as a final option if no other solution could be found.

Round Table also requested that the toilets in the MHDC car park be kept open during the bonfire. The Clerk explained that these toilets were looked after by MHDC rather than the Council and that permission would need to be sought from MHDC. The Clerk would pass on contact details for the relevant manager at MHDC and the Town Council would also request that the toilets be kept open for the event.

1.7 To hear representation from users of the Skate Park regarding ideas for improvement.

A large group users explained that the skate park was very important to them and very well used. They had some worries over the surface which was beginning to degrade and was not smooth enough for good skating. The area had been flooded in 2007 and subsequently power washed which they believed had begun to loosen the surface which had deteriorated since then. They had also found with use that some of the ramps were not ideally placed and would like to have the layout altered to make better use of the site. Preliminary estimates for such work were in the region of £15K. The preferred option would be to refloat the surface in concrete which would be

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easier and safer to keep clean. The group had been heavily involved with previous fundraising for the skate park and would want to be very involved again but hoped for Council support with possible match funding.

A request was also made to look at finding a non-reflective paint for the main half-pipe ramp which has become highly polished with use and gives off high glare.

Councillors were concerned to know whether the surface remained useable from health and safety and were informed that it was not yet unusable but was definitely heading that way.

The Chairman said he was pleased to see the skate park was so very well used and supported. It had been great to have the group come along and give their input. He was sure that the Full Council would be happy to help to get improvements made with the fundraising support of the users. He suggested the group draw up their plans for presentation to Full Council in September. Caroline Palethorpe agreed to act as the contact for the group. Members very much looked forward to seeing the plans in September.

1.8 To review Actuals v. Budget to date

Members reviewed their budget to date and felt it was generally on target. (Appendix A)

RESOLVED that the budget position be accepted.

1.9 Premises Reports

- Tennis Courts – Cllr Drummond - none
- Palmers Meadow – Cllr Da Costa – none OK Tenbury Town
- Cemetery – Cllr Weston – Tidy and clean Ryan to trim path. Chase church on their path
- Burgage – Cllr Rigby – tree growth on bank starting to block view
- Bowling Green – Cllr Ingram – bowling green well kept/well maintained positive reports from visiting clubs
- Skate Park – Cllr Brennan none

1.10 To consider a request from Tenbury WI to site a commemorative plaque by a tree in the Burgage.

Tenbury WI wished to install a plaque in front of a tree near the entrance to the Burgage. The tree stands behind the fence so the plaque would not pose any trip hazard.

RESOLVED that permission be given to install the plaque. The Mayor to attend and the Groundsman to be on hand to assist.

1.11 To consider a request made at the Annual Town Meeting by Mr R. Thirlby, Secretary of the West Midlands Lawn Mower Racing Association as to granting of permission to hold a mower race at the far end of the Palmers at a future date to be advised.

Councillors felt this would be a good event and if held at the right time would allow the site to recover to fit in with playing seasons on Palmers. It was agreed that the late May bank holiday weekend 2014 be suggested, Saturday May 24th.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write to the WMLMRA proposing the date of Saturday 24th May 2014.

Further discussion would then be needed to agree whether the Council wished to take part in organisation of any other events around the race and the question of a nominal fee/ contribution would also be discussed. Cllrs Ingram and da Costa agreed to visit the next WMLMRA event on 22nd June to gain further insight.

1.12 To be updated on progress with the path to the Tennis Court.

Cllr Weston offered 20 slabs for use in the path.

RESOLVED that the Clerk be delegated to liaise with a contractor to design the path and have it installed within the agreed budget.

1.13 Correspondence for Information

Members were informed that two panes of glass had recently been broken at the Pavilion. Blood had been left at the scene and police forensics had identified an individual who had admitted the offence and had been referred to the youth offending team. The Clerk was awaiting further contact from the police.

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1.14 Clerk's report including any Urgent Decisions since the last meeting

None

1.15 Groundsman's Report

The Groundsman reported that over the weekend a group of young people had lit fires on the grass in the Burgage by the picnic tables. Pictures had been posted on facebook. Clerk to report this to police.

1.16 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

- U8 Playground update
- Honeycomb matting at Burgage entrance
- Tennis Club Lease & progress with grant application.
- Children getting out of cars on MHDC car park to go to play area - safety in MHDC car park

Meeting Closed at 8:40pm

Signed

Dated

AMENITIES								AMENITIES						
EXPENDITURE	BUDGET	Carried over From RESERVES	Total Budgeted Spend	Actual	Actual	Actual	% of Budget Reached TO DATE	INCOME	BUDGET		Actual	Actual	Actual	% of Budget Reached TO DATE
Property Running Costs	2013/14	2013/14	2013/14	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13			2013/14		Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	
Bowling Green														
Treatment & Scarifying	1500		1500					Bowling Club	550					
								Bowling League	550					
								Pay per Use Fees						
	1,500.00	-	1,500.00	-	-	-			1100		-	-	-	
Tennis Courts														
Repair & Upkeep	1000		1000					Tennis Club Fees	939					
Tennis Court Path	500	250.00	750					Pay per Use Fees	250					
	1,500.00	250.00	1,750.00	-	-	-			1189		-	-	-	
Burgage														
Grass Cutting	1900		1900					Bonfire	120					
Kyre Bank Strimming	800		800											
Play Area	500		500					Car Boot Sales	600		400.00	400.00	400.00	67%
Shrubs & Flowers	500		500					Hanging Baskets	1000				387.00	39%
Japanese Knotweed	500		500											
Premises License	100		100											
Honeycomb Grid for Access	2000		2000											
New Play Area Fund	2000		2000											
	8,300.00	-	8,300.00	-	-	-			1720		-	400.00	787.00	46%
Palmers														
Grass Cutting	1900		1900					Football Club	967					
Hedge Cutting	100		100					Rugby Club	600					
Car Park Rates	4300		4300	414.00	830.00	1246.00	29%	May Fair	735		735.00	735.00	735.00	100%
Repainting of Carpark Lines	1000		1000					Scout Hut	5					
	7,300.00	-	7,300.00	414.00	830.00	1,246.00	17%	Skip Rent, annual.						
General Costs									2307		735.00	735.00	735.00	32%
Groundsman Tools	300	100	400											
Petrol/Diesel	300		300		31.75	45.50	15%	Cemetery charges	200			30.00	30.00	15%
Maintenance of Equipment	600		600			49.54	8%							
Maintenance Costs	1000		1000		128.00	152.12	15%							
Tree Work	2000	3000	5000											
Groundsman Training	700		700											
	4,900.00	3,100.00	8,000.00	-	159.75	247.16	3%		200		-	30.00	30.00	15%
	23,500.00	3,350.00	26,850.00	414.00	989.75	1,493.16	20%		6516		735.00	1,165.00	1,552.00	24%
Contingency Fund	1000		1000		70.00	70.00	7%							
AMENITIES TOTAL	24,500.00	3,350.00	27,850.00	414.00	1,059.75	1,563.16	6%	AMENITIES TOTAL	6516		735.00	1,165.00	1,552.00	24%