



MINEHEAD TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2022 AT 7.30 PM

AT THE COMMUNITY BUILDING, IRNHAM ROAD, MINEHEAD TA24 5DW

The Meeting was recorded and broadcast live on the MTC Facebook page

Members are reminded that Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety, Human Rights and Biodiversity

Present: Chair: Cllr P Bolton
Councillors: Cllr T Bloomfield, Cllr J Bonar, Cllr E Jones (Deputy Chair),
Cllr A Lawton, Cllr C Palmer, Cllr M Palmer, Cllr J Rodgers
(* denotes Somerset West and Taunton District "SWaT" Councillor)

Officers in Attendance: Ms S Rawle - Clerk
Mr B Howe – Deputy Clerk

Members of the Press and Public: 0 members of the Press
0 members of the Public

Cllr Bolton welcomed all to the Meeting.

041 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE [LGA 1972 s 85 \(1\)](#)
Apologies had been received from Cllr A Kingston-James.

042 TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND ANY DISPENSATIONS
[54](#)

To receive and record any Declarations of Interest in respect of any matters included on the Agenda for consideration at this Meeting.

Member	Minute	Interest	Time Period	Speak/Vote
Cllr Bolton	10	Personal	2022	Spoke but the item did not require voting
Cllr Bloomfield	10	Personal	2022	Spoke but the item did not require voting
Cllr C Palmer	All	SWaT Councillor	2022	Spoke and voted

DISPENSATIONS

None.

- 043 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8 MARCH 2022
The Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the Meeting by Councillors who had been present.

Proposed by: Cllr Bloomfield **Seconded by:** Cllr Jones
Unanimously agreed by the appropriate Councillors.

- 044 TO ADJOURN THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC INCLUSION [Standing Order No 3e](#)
As there had been no requests to speak at the Meeting, adjournment was not necessary.

- 045 TO RECEIVE THE CHAIR'S VERBAL REPORT
There was nothing to report.

- 046 TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON THE PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS
The Deputy Clerk reported that the weekend had been extremely successful. Cllr Bloomfield reported that events had been well attended in generally good weather and extended personal thanks to those Councillors who had supported and assisted in the success of the celebrations.

The Deputy Clerk continued by thanking all performers and Cllr M Kingston-James for his excellent compering skills.

General public feedback had been positive.

- 047 TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON THE INSTALLATION OF NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT
The Clerk reported that:

- Some new equipment had been installed in Irnham Road Recreation Ground, plus servicing of existing pieces.
- Work was underway to instal new items at Cross Farm Park and then King George Recreation Ground.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) would subsequently inspect the installations before they could be opened to the public – hoped to be during early July.

Graffiti was a problem in some of these community areas, with some equipment being defaced – which was costing thousands of pounds to rectify. The Deputy Clerk stated that consideration was being given to the installation of CCTV cameras at Cross Farm Park as had been down at Irnham Recreation Ground - to cover the tennis courts and Multi-Use Games Area.

The public were urged to report witnessing any such criminal damage anonymously by calling 101 or visiting the Police website.

It was proposed that the Deputy Clerk should be permitted to research CCTV installations for Cross Farm Park, King George and Periton Way Recreation Grounds in addition to Irnham Road Recreation Ground.

Proposed by: Cllr Bloomfield **Seconded by:** Cllr Lawton
Unanimously agreed.

048 TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2022

The Deputy Clerk updated Councillors on progress with installation of lights at The Avenue.

The project had been more complicated as it required permissions from different organisations. Somerset County Council (SCC) owned the pylons to which the lights would run from and Western Power supplied the power. The sockets on 17 pylons needed to be upgraded and the work could only be carried out by a SCC approved contractor. Minehead BID had agreed to the capital cost of the work and MTC would pay for the power. Timers would be installed on the sockets as the Council would be using an unmetered supply; it was envisaged that the cost to MTC would be in the region of £200.00. Final costs on the capital element were awaited.

It was proposed that MTC would be willing to absorb the costs of providing the electricity.

Proposed by: Cllr Bolton **Seconded by:** Cllr Bonar
Unanimously agreed.

049 TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON REPAIRS AND CLEANING OF THE QUEEN ANNE STATUE

The Deputy Clerk reported that the Queen Anne Statue and surrounding structure in Wellington Square had recently been steamed cleaned by a specialist firm, and the graffiti successfully removed. The contractor confirmed that the alabaster statue was sufficiently robust to remain in situ outside if the damaged area were to be repaired but had expressed concern about the wrought iron frame, which was disintegrating. The Deputy Clerk explained that two options were available for consideration by Councillors: either to simply repair the cracked area of the alabaster or to remove the iron frame too and replace with stainless steel.

The Deputy Clerk was awaiting costings and would report back once received.

050 TO NOTE A CHANGE OF DATE OF THE RETURN VISIT OF THE LEIGH DANTER FUNFAIR

Cllr Bloomfield confirmed that the Funfair would return to Minehead from Wednesday 14 September to and including Sunday 18 September 2022.

051 TO RECEIVE A REPORT REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF AN ADDITIONAL RIDE-ON MOWER

The item had been discussed at the Finance and Staffing Meeting the previous evening, but for the benefit of those not in attendance the Deputy Clerk informed Councillors that Gliddons' quotation from 2021 was for an unsuitable domestic variety. Relevant quotations were now being considered.

It was proposed that recommendation of the purchase should be referred for consideration by Full Council.

Proposed by: Cllr Bolton **Seconded by:** Cllr Jones
Unanimously agreed.

The Meeting ended at 8.09 pm.