



CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

THE GUILDHALL FORE STREET CHARD TA20 1PP

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Mayor: Councillor Mrs. Cath Morrison Town Clerk: Sarah Robson MILCM

COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the **Amenities Committee** meeting of Chard Town Council held on Monday 31st October 2011 in the Town Hall at 7.30pm.

Present:

Councillors:

G Shortland – Chair

Mrs. T Aherne

D Bulmer

M Dowell

Mrs. S Dowell

G Forsyth

A Kenton

Mrs. J Kenton

Mrs. C Morrison (Mayor)

A Prior

Mrs. S Wyatt

In Attendance: Sarah Robson -Town Clerk, Terry Powell – Operations Manager and Mr. Paul Thresher - Amenities Supervisor. There were 8 members of the public present.

32. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Councillor Ms. Pittwood – away on holiday

RESOLVED - to note the apologies and approve the reasons given.

33. Declarations of Interest.

Councillor Forsyth declared a Personal Interest in item #38 on the basis that he is an allotment holder.

Councillor Bulmer declared a Personal & Prejudicial Interest in item #42 due to his membership of Chard in Bloom-Chard 2000.

Councillor Mrs. Morrison declared a Personal Interest in item #43 as a family member lives at Lyddons Mead

Councillor Shortland declared a Personal Interest in item #43 as his property is adjacent to Lyddons Mead

34. Exclusion of the press and public - To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted [Public Bodies \[Admission to Meetings\] Act 1960](#)

A recorded vote was called for not to exclude the press and public to discuss the budget

Proposed: Councillor Prior

Seconded: Councillor Bulmer

G Shortland – Chair	Abstain
Mrs. T Aherne	Abstain
D Bulmer	For
M Dowell	For
Mrs. S Dowell	Abstain
G Forsyth	For
A Kenton	Abstain
Mrs. J Kenton	Abstain
Mrs. C Morrison (Mayor)	Against
A Prior	For
Mrs. S Wyatt	Abstain

The motion was carried;

For: 4 Against: 1 Abstention: 6

RESOLVED – not to exclude the public and press for the budget item unless an individual employee or salaries was discussed.

35. To receive and sign the minutes of the Allotments Sub Committee meeting held on Friday 9th September 2011. [LGA 1972, Sch 12 para41 \(1\)](#).

It was agreed to alter the wording in minute # 5 to reflect no increase in rent to the allotment holders.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Allotments Sub Committee meeting held on Friday 9th September 2011 be signed as a correct record.

At the Chairman’s request item #39 was brought forward and Standing Orders were suspended to allow the Secretary of the Allotment Holder’s Association to address Council

39. To receive report and consider recommendations from the Allotment Holders Association regarding proposed Jubilee Allotment Garden project.

The Secretary of the Allotment Holders Association addressed Members and updated them on the proposed Garden Project and the involvement of local primary schools with a design competition.

Standing Orders were re-instated

Proposed: Councillor Bulmer
Unanimous

Seconded: Councillor Mrs. Morrison

RESOLVED – to accept the recommendation of the Allotment Holder’s Association that Plot no. 47/04 be made available for a Jubilee Garden on a free of charge basis.

At the Chairman's request item #43 was brought forward

43. Correspondence –

i) Members to consider a request from resident at Lyddons Mead for Grit Bin

Members were in agreement that Lyddons Mead would be a suitable location to site a grit bin.

Proposed: Councillor Bulmer
Unanimous

Seconded: Councillor Mrs. Morrison

RESOLVED – to purchase a grit bin for Lyddons Mead for installation with approval from the Highways Authority. The expenditure to come from the Street Furniture Budget

36. Amenities Supervisor's Report

The Amenities Supervisor was thanked for his report.

RESOLVED – to receive and note the report

37. Action Review Summary – To receive and review Outstanding Actions Summary

Outstanding Actions were reviewed.

It was agreed that Councillors Mrs Dowell, Bulmer and Shortland would arrange to set up a meeting with representatives from the Town's football clubs to progress matters of changing facilities at Jocelyn Park.

RESOLVED – to receive and note the report

38. Chard Allotments - To receive report of Annual Meeting of Allotment Holders and discussion of Matters Arising.

The Town Clerk updated Members regarding the Allotment Holders meeting. Thanks was given to the Council for their efforts over the last year with the new 'light touch' approach. Two specific issues were raised in relation to rutting on the main track through the allotment site and the proposed Jubilee Garden. It was agreed that the Allotment Holders Association would inform plot holders of issues through their newsletter.

The members of the public left the meeting.

40. To confirm expenditure for improvements to the Cemetery Yard from the Capital Budget – 'Property Development – Cemetery Yard '

It was reported to Members that some improvements to the stores in the cemetery yard had already begun but that in order to secure the yard further work would be necessary, such as new fencing and gates.

Proposed: Councillor Mrs. Morrison
Unanimous

Seconded: Councillor Mrs. Dowell

RESOLVED – to delegate authority to the Town Clerk in conjunction with the chairs of the Amenities and Finance & Guildhall committees to approve expenditure within the agreed budget providing estimates are sought within the guidelines of the Financial Regulations.

- 41. Notice of Motion received from Councillor Mrs. Kenton received on 1st August 2011 that** 'this Council will only consider future requests for Council funded grit bins if the residents are willing to share the cost of providing the bin by at least 50%, as with the residents of Laurel Gardens'.

Members debated the merits of having a policy to identify priority areas. It was agreed that a report with recommendations would be prepared by officers for further consideration.

8.25pm Councillor Bulmer leaves the meeting

- 42. Notice of Motion received from Councillor Prior received on 28th September 2011 that** ' this Committee enters Chard into the South West/Britain in Bloom competition and will work with Chard in Bloom/Chard 2000 committee to enhance the visual profile of the town locally and elsewhere'.

After some debate regarding the merit of joining the scheme it was agreed that further information and thought should be given to the proposal.

An amended proposal was tabled;

Proposed: Councillor Mrs. Wyatt **Seconded: Councillor Forsyth**
For: 8 Against: 1 Abstention: 1

RESOLVED – to form a Working Group to look at the feasibility of South West in Bloom with a view to entering in 2013

8.40 pm Councillor Bulmer returns to the meeting

8.40pm Members adjourned for a five minute recess

8.45pm The meeting was re-convened

- 44. Amenities Budget for 2012/13**

Members considered the draft budget that had been circulated.

Proposed: Councillor Prior **Seconded: Councillor Bulmer**
Unanimous

RESOLVED – to recommend draft budget to Finance & Guildhall Committee for approval

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.04pm