



# CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

HOLYROOD LACE MILL, HOLYROOD STREET,  
CHARD, SOMERSET TA20 2YA  
TEL: 01460 260 378 FAX: 01460 260 372  
Mayor: Councillor John Malcolm Town Clerk: Mr John Furze

## COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the **Amenities Committee** meeting of Chard Town Council held on Tuesday 2 January 2007 in the Town Hall at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Cllrs D M Bulmer (Chairman), D R Hill, Mrs C A Morrison, Mrs A Spencer, Mrs S Wyatt, Mrs J Smith and M J Wale

**In Attendance:** Mr J Furze (Town Clerk) Mr A Hensher (Amenities Manager) and Ms S Pittwood (Office Manager)

There were no representatives from the press and one member of the public.

### 34. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Malcolm and Cllr Mrs Wickenden who were both unwell.

**RESOLVED:** to note and approve the reasons given

### 35. Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Mrs Wyatt declared a prejudicial interest in item 5a) as a committee member of the Chard Disability Action Group.

Cllrs Mrs Smith, Bulmer and Wale declared a prejudicial interest in item 5a) as District Councillor Members who may be involved in the decision making for this application.

### 36. Budget Update

**RESOLVED:** to note that all Councillors had received and noted the Year to Date Budget.

### 37. Amenities Manager's Report

**RESOLVED:** to note that all Councillors had received and noted the Amenities Manager's Report.

### 38. Amenities

- a) Letter from Disability Action Group re grant application for swings for children with disabilities.

Cllrs Mrs Smith, Mrs Wyatt, Bulmer and Wale left the room before the following application was discussed.

**RESOLVED:** that Cllr Hill take the chair for this item

**RESOLVED: to accept and support this proposal and if the bid is successful to support the Amenities Manager's recommendation that the swings be installed in Jocelyn Park.**

b) Removal of Play Equipment at Lower Henson Park and Fencing at Jocelyn Park for Health & Safety Reasons.

**RESOLVED: to remove the play equipment at Lower Henson; to remove the fencing at Jocelyn Park and then to replace with suitable fencing as soon as possible when funds become available.**

c) Storage of Christmas Lights

**RESOLVED: that the Town Council will store and insure the lights; discussion on putting together a future policy for Christmas Lights in Chard was adjourned until the first meeting of the Amenities Committee of the new council.**

d) Purchase of tractor

**RESOLVED: to agree to the purchase of a tractor for delivery after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 as per the budget for 2007/08**

### **39. Chard in Bloom**

Working Party – update on progress

Ms Pittwood gave a short progress report together with the date of the next meeting.

**RESOLVED: to note**

### **40. Allotments**

The Town Clerk had received correspondence from the Chairman of the Allotments Association regarding the current water situation.

**RESOLVED: to note**

### **41. Footpaths**

Footpath Maintenance Contract with SSDC

**RESOLVED: to note that as from the 1 April 2007 the maintenance of public rights of way in Chard will revert to the District Council.**

### **42. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 6 March 2007**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9:15pm



Cllr Mrs Morrison proposed to agree to the erection of the security fencing and to accept the terms offered by Somerset County Council. This was seconded by Cllr Wale. Cllr Bulmer proposed and Cllr Malcolm seconded the following amendment: to agree to the erection of the security fencing and to delegate to the Town Clerk the authority to investigate the possibility of an exchange of land.

**RESOLVED: to accept the terms offered by Somerset County Council for the sale of land for the erection of security fencing at Holyrood School and to delegate to the Town Clerk the authority to investigate the possibility of an exchange of land with the County Council.**

#### **48. Chard in Bloom**

a) Entry into Chard in Bloom 2007

**RESOLVED: to enter into the South West in Bloom competition for 2007 at a cost of £85.00**

b) Working Party – update on progress

**RESOLVED: to note**

#### **49. Allotments – update on improved water supply**

The Town Clerk reported there had not been any progress due to the land owner, Mr Sully, being away on holiday and not expected to return until 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007.

**RESOLVED: to note the Town Clerk's update.**

#### **50. Cemetery - to review Cemetery Charges in Chard**

Members reviewed the Cemetery charges and compared them with a number of similar Councils using a spreadsheet. The Town Clerk and staff were thanked for their work in putting together the report. Cllr Mrs Smith proposed accepting the proposed charges and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Wyatt.

**RESOLVED: to accept the new charges for implementation on 1 April 2007 and to review them again in two years time.**

#### **51. Date of next meeting**

**RESOLVED: to call a meeting if necessary**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:50pm

# COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the **Amenities Committee** meeting of Chard Town Council held on Tuesday 3 July 2007 in the Town Hall at 7.30pm.

**Present:**            **Councillors:**  
                         M J Wale -            Mayor,  
                         Mrs C Morrison - Deputy Mayor  
                         J Armstrong  
                         D M Bulmer  
                         S Dowell  
                         D R Hill  
                         Mrs J Kenton  
                         A Kenton  
                         D M Mears  
                         D J E Orchard  
                         Mrs R T Wickenden  
                         Mrs J Smith

**In Attendance:** Mr J Furze (Town Clerk) and Ms S Pittwood (Office Manager)

There was 1 representative from the press and 28 members of the public

## **52. Election of Chairman**

Cllr Mrs Wickenden proposed Cllr Bulmer, this was seconded by Cllr Hill. Cllr Mrs Smith proposed Cllr Mrs Kenton, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Morrison. There were 3 votes for and 8 votes against Cllr Bulmer and 6 votes for, 3 against and 2 abstentions for Cllr Mrs Kenton.

**RESOLVED:** that Cllr Mrs J Kenton be appointed Chairman of the Amenities Committee until such time as a new Chairman is elected.

## **53. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.**

There were no apologies for absence

## **54. Declarations of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest

## **55. Budget Update**

**RESOLVED:** to note that all Councillors had received and noted the Year to Date Budget.

## **56. Amenities Manager's Report**

Cllr Mrs Morrison thanked the Amenities Manager and his team for all their hard work. Cllr Bulmer said he would support a survey of the Cemetery buildings. Cllrs in general expressed support for the newly formed Bampton Avenue Residents Association. Cllr Bulmer raised the issue of weed spraying in the town and Cllr Armstrong commented on the problem of householders using litter bins for household waste. Cllr Wale proposed that the survey for the cemetery should go ahead, this was seconded by Cllr Orchard.

**RESOLVED: to note the Amenities Manager's Report; to appoint SPS Surveyors to carry out a survey of the Cemetery Chapels and the Old Mortuary building to be dealt with under the Town Clerk's delegated powers.**

## **56. Amenities matters**

- a. **Adoption of Chard Skate Park by Chard Town Council.** To discuss the implications raised in a letter from Adrian Moore – SSDC Play & Youth Facilities Officer.

**RESOLVED: to defer to the Town Clerk in conjunction with the Committee Chairman**

- b. **Review of Charges** for use of Football Pitches at Jocelyn Park

Following some discussion Cllr Kenton proposed that the current fees be frozen for 2 years. Cllr Hill amended this by proposing that there be no change to the current system of an annual 3% increase. The amendment was seconded by Cllr Mrs Wickenden.

**RESOLVED: that there be no change to the current system of charging – 7 votes for and 1 against.**

- c. **Inspectors Report** concerning the condition of the fencing at Jocelyn Park

**RESOLVED: to agree to the purchase of bowtop fencing from Steelway Fensecure at a cost of £4506.19 from New Facilities AE019 (formerly A10)**

- d. **Chard in Bloom** – progress report from Association Secretary.

Following a short report from the secretary Cllr Wale thanked everyone involved.

**RESOLVED: to note the report from the Chard in Bloom secretary; the Town Clerk to write a letter of thanks from the Town Council to Oscar Mayer.**

## **57. Allotments**

- a. **Update on Water Supply to Allotments**

The Town Clerk gave a short update and advised that one quote had been received. He thought it advisable to hold this over until the October meeting.

**RESOLVED: to defer this item until the next meeting in October**

- b. **To Review and Fix Allotment Rents**

After discussion Cllr Bulmer proposed the rent remained at £10.00 per annum, this was seconded by Cllr Dowell. An amendment was proposed by Cllr Wale that rent should be increased to £11.00 for the year 2008/9. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Morrison.

**RESOLVED: that allotment rents be increased to £11.00 for the year 2008/09**

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.00pm

## **COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting of Chard Town Council held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2007 at 7.30pm**

**Present:        Councillors:**  
**M J Wale -            Mayor,**  
**Mrs C Morrison - Deputy Mayor**  
**J Armstrong**  
**D R Hill**  
**D M Mears**

**In Attendance: Mr J Furze (Town Clerk) and Ms S Pittwood (Office Manager) and Mr Andrew Hensher (Amenities Manager).**

**There was 1 representative from the press and 13 members of the public**

The Mayor took the chair for the meeting in the absence of the Chairman.

### **58. Apologies for absence and to consider whether to approve reasons given.**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs J Kenton – holiday, Cllr A Kenton – holiday, Cllr D Bulmer – conflicting engagement, Cllr S Dowell detained at work, Cllr Mrs Wickenden – unwell and Cllr Orchard – detained at work.

**RESOLVED: to note and approve the reasons given**

### **59. Declarations of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest

**60. Exclusion of the press and public** - To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded under Standing Order 41.

**RESOLVED: that agenda item 9, Proposed Amenities Budget for 2008/09, be treated as confidential after the public (including the press) have been excluded under Standing Order 41.**

### **61. Amenities Manager's Report**

Cllr Mrs Morrison congratulated the Amenities Manager, his team and those residents of Chard who took part, for their achievements in the South West in Bloom competition.

**RESOLVED: to note the Amenities Manager's Report**

### **62. Amenities matters**

- a) Chard in Bloom - Results of South West in Bloom 2007 & entry into South West in Bloom 2008.

It was proposed by Cllr Morrison and seconded by Cllr Mears that Chard Town Council should enter into South West in Bloom 2008

**RESOLVED: that Chard Town Council enter into South West in Bloom 2008**

- b) To vire £510.00 from AE014 Town Amenities to AE011 Plant to purchase a rotary mower.

**RESOLVED: to vire £510 from AEO14 Town Amenities to AEO11 Plant to purchase a rotary mower.**

- c) Adoption of Chard Skate Park from South Somerset District Council.

**RESOLVED: to delegate to the Town Clerk to sign the documents for the adoption of Chard Skate Park.**

- d) Lights and improvements to Chard Skate Park– proposal received from Chard Detached Youth Work Project

It was proposed by Cllr Hill and seconded by Cllr Armstrong to accept this proposal in principle

**RESOLVED: to accept in principle at no cost to the Council other than maintenance and electricity but subject to a full impact assessment by the Group together with detailed costings and funding proposals. 3 votes for and 1 abstention.**

- e) Annual Playground Inspection 2008

**RESOLVED: to agree for the annual inspection to be carried out by SSDC at a cost of £39.50 per playground.**

**63. Council responsibilities to the closed churchyard at St Mary's Church.**

**RESOLVED: to set up a sinking fund in preparation of anticipated expenditure.**

**64. Allotments**

- a) Report of Annual Meeting of Allotment Holders and Discussion of Matters Arising

**RESOLVED: to note**

- b) Update on Water Supply to Allotments

**RESOLVED: To note that due to the short-term lease available on the allotment site, no Chard Town Council funds could properly be used on improving the water supply at this time.**

**65. Budget Update**

**RESOLVED: ; that all Councillors had noted the Year to Date Budget.**

**66. Proposed Amenities Budget for 2008/09**

Following lengthy discussion it was proposed by Cllr Mrs Morrison and seconded by Cllr Hill that a proposed budget be accepted and forwarded to the Finance and Personnel Committee

**RESOLVED: that the proposed budget goes forward for consideration by the Finance and Personnel Committee on Tuesday 27 November 2007**

The meeting closed at 9.23pm