



CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard, Somerset TA20 1PP

01460 239567 www.chard.gov.uk

Mayor: Cllr Garry Shortland Town Clerk: Gareth Hughes

All Council & Committee Meetings are open to the Public and Press

AMENITIES & EVENTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Amenities & Events Committee meeting held on Tuesday 12th March 2024 commencing at 19:00 hours in the Auditorium, The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP.

PRESENT: Cllr Bates (left 20.45), Cllr Hussey, Cllr Baker, Cllr Williams, Cllr J Kenton, Cllr A Kenton, Cllr G Shortland (Ex Officio), Cllr Crook (Chair) and Cllr Richter.

ALSO PRESENT: Town Clerk: Gareth Hughes, Operations Manager: Kevin Dyer, Events Officer: Tim Bickman

Public Participation Time

1 member of the public was present.

2024/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from: Cllr Watson and Cllr Bulmer (both Personal)

2024/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Baker – Chair of Carnival Committee and Unitary Councillor
Cllr Williams – member of the Carnival Committee
Cllr J Kenton – Unitary Councillor

2024/09 TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

For item 2024/13

Proposed: Cllr Bates Seconded: Cllr Shortland
Unanimous

2024/10 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes from the Amenities and Events meeting on Tuesday 9th January 2024 be accepted as an accurate account of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

Proposed: Cllr Williams
For: 5

Seconded: Cllr Hussey
Abstain: 3

2024/11 **MANAGER REPORTS**

- a) **Town Clerk** - Committee agreed to note the contents of the Town Clerk's report.

The following recommendations were **RESOLVED**:

- **Item 2 Bath Street Toilets**

Recommended to full council that the Town Council funds the cleaning and opening and closing of the toilets for 12 months on the current contract operated by Somerset Council. This will need to be funded from the Devolution of Assets EMR budget.

That a task and finish group is set up to look at what to do with the toilets in the long term. Kevin Dyer Operations Manager was the nominated officer for this task and finish group.

Proposed: Cllr J Kenton Seconded: Cllr Baker
For: 6 Abstain: 2

b) **Operations Manager's Report**

Committee agreed to note the contents of the Operations Manger's Report. The following discussions were made and for item 1.3 Allotments and Parks a resolution was agreed.

Operations

- 1.1 Ingrid Edgington to present to council at Annual Town Meeting, plans for Wills Meade
- 1.2 Plans noted for additional trees in the parks
- 1.3 Discussion on the Chard Trough – further information sort before bringing back to council for a resolution
- 1.4 To monitor the situation at all our parks regarding boundary protection and for the item to come back to council if a persistent problem occurs

Cemetery

- 1.1 Discussion from feedback from task and finish group. Operations Manager to come back with more information before a resolution can be considered

Allotments

1.1 Noted

1.2 Discussion on development of play park at Holcombe. No resolution needed at this time

1.3 Resolved:

That the committee recommends to full council that the Operations Manager has delegated authority to purchase and have installed new swings for Halcombe Park and that money is taken from the budget for playground maintenance.

Proposed: Cllr J Kenton
Unanimous

Seconded: Cllr Bates

c) **Events** – Committee agreed to note the contents of the report.

Notes

4 – Agreed that Events Officer to coordinate with Carnival regarding stewards for St. Georges Day

5. – D-Day celebration preparation – Noted the ongoing preparations for the 80th anniversary

6. Agreed that the Events Officer would include Councillors in the Guildhall Newsletter email

The following recommendations were **RESOLVED:**

8. Resolved

That the present bar franchise agreement be continued for a further 12 months and to have discussions with the present franchisee

Proposed: Cllr Baker
Unanimous

Seconded: Cllr Bates

d) Market Plan Development

Discussion held on the points made by the Market Development Task and Finish group.

It was agreed that the Events Officer, with the Operations Manager, would look at other local markets and bring back a proposal for resolution for the next meeting.

2024/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Committee noted that the next meeting of the Amenities & Events Committee would be held on Tuesday 14th May 2024 in the Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP commencing at 19.00.

There being no other business the Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 21:40

2024/13 Confidential

TENDERS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE SOLAR PANEL AND BATTERY STORAGE PROJECT To consider the tenders and information in the attached report and make a proposal for a preferred contractor to undertake this work

Having considered the tenders the committee resolved;

To recommend to full Council that the Solar Panel tender from I J Cannings & Son Ltd be accepted and that funds be taken from the Climate Change EMR and that the remaining funds in the EMR to be used as a sinking fund for the long term future of the Solar Panels

Proposed Cllr A Kenton Seconded Cllr Shortland
For 7 against 1

CHAIR / VICE CHAIR:

DATE: