

11th July 2023

Minutes of the proceedings of the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** meeting held on this day in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, WOKINGHAM** from 7:28 pm to 9:04 pm.

Prior to the meeting Councillors received a 30-minute tour around the Town Hall and its curtilage. Councillors were given an overview of these areas; this included: some of the difficulties managing a Grade II* listed building, managing the shared space on Market Place; and ongoing maintenance issues.

PRESENT

Cllrs: R Bishop-Firth, S Cornish, A Fraser, M Fumagalli, T Lack (Chairman), M Malvern (Vice Chair), A Medhurst, N Nagella and H Richards

IN ATTENDANCE

Amenities Officer (AO) – Fiona Sleaford
Grounds and Bloom Officer (GBO) – Marianna Pentek

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

None

MEMBERS' INTERESTS (Agenda Item 2)

None

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OR PUBLIC (Agenda Item 3)

None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Agenda Item 4)

It was proposed by Cllr Richards and seconded by Cllr Malvern, and it was

**RESOLVED
30664**

that the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 30th May 2023 (pages 16755 to 16757) be received as a true and correct record and they be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

ACTION: AMENITIES OFFICER

AMENITIES SERVICE AREA - WOKINGHAM IN BLOOM (Agenda Item 5)

Cllrs received the Wokingham in Bloom Portfolio 2013-2023, from the Grounds and Bloom Officer.

The GBO gave a verbal summary of information, including:

- Today was the regional judging day for Wokingham in Bloom.
- In 2022 Bloom won Gold, having received Silver Gilt in previous years.
- Bloom has 140-172 volunteers, including 10 project leaders.
- National judging will be held on 25 July 2023.
- The significant impact of Wokingham Borough Council removing support.

E-BIKE EVENT (Agenda Item 6)

Cllrs received the Amenities Officer's Briefing Notes - July 2023, dated 04th July.

- The AO confirmed there is an established budget for this event.
- Cllrs reacted positively and are happy to continue with the e-bike event in 2024.

ACTION: AMENITIES OFFICER

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS _____



GRAFFITI UPDATE (Agenda Item 7)

Cllrs:

- a) Received an update from Cllr Lack regarding graffiti removal.
- a) Noted that commercial graffiti removal was completed on 10th July 2023, and that a further visit by contractors is scheduled for 13th July.

SPENDING PRIORITIES 2024-2025 (Agenda item 8)

- b) Cllrs noted that spending priorities for 2024-2025 need to be brought forward for consideration, prioritised and resolved upon at the September meeting.
- c) Cllrs received a list of Officer suggested projects, discussed, and focused the list for further investigation by the AO, for September's meeting.

Cllrs suggested additional new projects, and the AO requested specific details, for costing purposes, to be received by the end of July 2023.

Cllrs discussed, and focused the list for further investigation by the AO, for September's meeting, on the following areas:

- 1) Uplift for existing budgets, to maintain current provision:
 - a) New grounds maintenance contract
 - b) Graffiti removal budget
 - 2) Parks:
 - a) Park Yoga
 - b) Utility vehicle for staff
 - c) Second footpath in Leslie Sears
 - d) Resurfacing Howard Palmer Gardens for DDA* compliance
 - 3) Buildings:
 - a) Town Hall:
 - Capital expenditure, including:
 - Lift major survey and full refurbishment
 - Window replacement, continuation of works
 - Roof repairs
 - Defibrillator within the town hall
 - b) Woosehill:
 - Capital expenditure, including:
 - Fire doors replacement for compliance
 - Kitchen roller shutter
 - Access control required for DDA* compliance
 - Roof repair
 - Fire alarm upgrade
 - 4) Allotments:
 - a) Waterless toilet cleaning
 - 5) Market:
 - a) Market parking permits
- * = Disability Discrimination Act

ACTION: AMENITIES OFFICER / CLLR NAGELLA / CLLR FUMAGALLI

MONITORING REPORT (Agenda Item 9)

Councillors received and discussed the report dated 04th July 2023:

Item 172: E-bike event, FY2023-2024: Discussed under agenda item 6.

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS _____



A successful event was held on Saturday 01st July 2023.
Item to be removed from the monitoring report.

ACTION: AMENITIES OFFICER

Item 174: Defibrillator for Woosehill Community Hall, FY2023-2024: Installation is expected on 25th July 2023.

ACTION: AMENITIES OFFICER

Item 175: EF trampoline relocation and reinstatement: Installation was completed on 7th July 2023, and opened to the public on Monday 10th July 2023.
Item to be removed from the monitoring report.

ACTION: AMENITIES OFFICER

AMENITIES COMMITTEE INFORMATION (Agenda Item 10)

Cllrs noted the following:

- a) WBC budgets, for graffiti clearing from WBC's building work's hoarding has been cut, and so there is reduced help available to keep their sites free of graffiti.
- b) The new (second phase) footpath and King George V playing field opened 05th June 2023, and we have received positive feedback.
- c) World Refill Day was held on Friday 16th June 2023.
- d) The September Amenities Committee meeting will be held at Woosehill, with arrival at 7pm, to allow for a tour around the building before the meeting begins.

ACTION: AMENITIES OFFICER

MATTERS TO PUBLICISE VIA SOCIAL MEDIA FROM THIS EVENING'S MEETING (Agenda Item 11)

- Wokingham in Bloom, including topics such as:
 - Regional judging
 - National judging, on Tuesday 25th July 2023.

ACTION: AMENITIES OFFICER / GROUNDS & BLOOM OFFICER

Meeting closed at 9:04 pm.

CHAIRMAN

CHAIRMAN'S INITIALS _____

