

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Large Hall of the Town Hall, Calne on Monday 31 October 2005

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs M J Baggs - **Chair**
Councillor Mrs L E Hammond – **Vice-Chair**
Councillor D A Bland
Councillors Mrs E M Bland
Councillor R J Stigwood
Councillor A J Trotman

OFFICERS: Mrs L Wakefield – Deputy Town Clerk
Mrs A Cawkwell – Committee Clerk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor R Golding had been asked by a number of youths in the town to state that they thank the Council for the youth shelter, however, they feel it is rather small and not very weather friendly. The youths raised the issue of the refurbishment of the skate bowl and asked what was happening with this. Councillor Golding requested an update on the situation with the bowl – what, whom, when and how and requested consultation with whoever provided the shelter to include something to make it more weather friendly.

The Chair, Councillor Mrs M J Baggs stated that the Deputy Town Clerk was currently dealing with the refurbishment of the skate bowl and that an update would be provided, and that she had received mixed views about the shelter. She thanked Councillor Golding for his comments which had been noted.

25/05 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from the Town Mayor, Councillor Mrs C J Bowyer, Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor C J Viner, Councillor Mrs C O’Gorman and Councillor L F Jones.

26/05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

27/05 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 5 September 2005, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

28/05 EARMARKED RESERVES

The earmarked reserves, which are attached to and form part of these Minutes, were noted by members.

Councillor A J Trotman took the opportunity of asking for an update on the skatepark. The Deputy Town Clerk informed that she was currently negotiating with the solicitor concerning the draft lease, and had been working very hard on this project and had secured £15,000 of grant funding.

29/05 DRAFT BUDGET 2006/2007

The draft budget, which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes, was discussed by members and the following points were raised:

- Councillor Trotman questioned the allocation of £5,000 for cost code 4042, Emergency Repairs, and stated that this could possibly be removed as this expense would come from balances.
- Councillor Stigwood informed that this had been discussed at the Finance Sub-Committee meeting and it had been agreed that due to the problems experienced with the drainage and to allow for boiler replacement, a budget of £9,000-£10,000 should be put aside for this purpose. Currently there is £5,000, if this fund is not spent it will provide a budget of £10,000 next time whereby nothing more will need to be added.
- Councillor Trotman also questioned cost code 1029, Income Showground, and stated that future hiring charges should be looked at to bring funding back to the Council, such as the Country and Western Music Festival, although this event raises a huge amount of money for charity perhaps more funding should return to the Town Council through a hiring fee.
- It was pointed out that the Country & Western Music Festival had no toilet facilities at the showground and this cost a great deal, and they were also charged heavily for a bar. They provided free stalls for local charities and gave a large donation to the community.
- The Town Council up to now have resolved each year to grant free use of the showground to the Country Music Festival as a community group. This event does not cost the Council anything. For any commercial organisation the council would make a charge.
- The Country Music Festival donates money to the Calne Area Transport which is necessary for the upkeep and replacement of vehicles and should be given free use of the showground. Commercial groups would have to pay.

It was proposed by Councillor R J Stigwood, seconded by Councillor Mrs L E Hammond and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to approve the draft Budget for 2006/2007 for this Committee.

30/05 THE DEPOT

The Deputy Town Clerk's report, which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes, was noted.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs E M Bland, seconded by Councillor D A Bland and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to proceed with the modification of the depot and to spend up to £1,200 from the Amenities Capital Fund.

31/05 CURZON STREET CEMETERY

The Burials Officer's report, which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes, was noted by members.

It was proposed by Councillor R Stigwood, seconded by Councillor Mrs E M Bland and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to proceed with the change of layout as specified, with costs of up to £250 + VAT allocated to the Cleaning/Equipment Maintenance Repairs budget for the Cemetery.

32/05 CASTLEFIELDS CANAL AND RIVER PARK ASSOCIATION

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2005 and the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 May 2005 were noted by members.

33/05 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

It was

RESOLVED that in view of the Confidential Nature of the business about to be transacted, concerning financial and legal matters, that the public and press be excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.