

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Draft Minutes of the meeting held in the Large Hall of the Town Hall, Calne on
Monday 5 March 2007

PRESENT: Councillor C J Viner – Town Mayor (Ex-officio)
Councillor R Golding - Deputy Town Mayor (Ex-officio)
Councillor Mrs M J Baggs (**Chair**)
Councillor Mrs L E Hammond (**Vice-Chair**)
Councillor D A Bland
Councillor Mrs E M Bland
Councillor Ms H E Canfer

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor P Dolman
Councillor A J Trotman
Ms H Mills – Gazette & Herald

OFFICERS: Mrs A Kingdon – Town Clerk
Mr M Wilkins – Community Development Officer
Mrs A Cawkwell – Committee Clerk

At 6.03 pm the Town Mayor, Councillor C J Viner and the Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor R Golding joined the meeting.

47/06 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor R J Stigwood, Councillor Ms C J Bowyer and Councillor Mrs C O'Gorman.

48/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

49/06 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 8 January 2007, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

50/06 EARMARKED RESERVES

The Earmarked Reserves and Capital Receipt allocations for this Committee were noted.

51/06 BEVERSBROOK PLAYING PITCH PROJECT

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

In response to a question from Councillor Dolman, the Town Clerk informed members that a meeting had been held with The Cricket Club and the Regional Manager of the English Cricket Board, who is based as Stanley Park in Chippenham. There is funding available, however, they are currently awaiting to hear the amount of this funding. Calne Rugby Club have been in contact with the Rugby/Football Foundation and they are able to award an interest free loan of £50,000 and grants of up to £6,000. They are currently waiting to hear if the foundation would breach the maximum funding for a big development like this.

52/06 CLEAN NEIGHBOURHOODS ACT – BANNING OF DOGS FROM CHILDRENS’ PLAY AREAS IN CALNE TOWN COUNCIL OWNED OPEN SPACES

The Town Clerk’s report, which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes, was discussed by members and the following points were raised:

- Councillor Trotman stated, as ward member for Quemerford, he had received a letter of complaint wondering why this area was to ban dogs. He had replied to the resident and would forward a copy of his letter to the Town Clerk.
- It was thought that Wessington Park Play Area was always an area where dogs were banned, however, by siting the dog bin in this area is seemed to encourage owners to bring their dogs into this area.
- This bin has now been sited outside the play area and signs positioned for the safety of children. Even if waste is cleared up there is always a residue left behind.
- There are other fields and by-ways close-by where dogs can be exercised and Councillor Trotman wished to show his support to the residents by taking action to ban dogs from play areas.
- The issue of devolution had been discussed at an Area 5 meeting and it would be a good idea if Steve Boccock and Melanie Scott could talk about how to operate some sort of control over the relevant areas. This talk was very interesting concerning devolving powers of litter dropping and dog fouling.
- The District Council may be able to give funding to provide a warden to enforce this dog ban within the town.
- The dog fouling was happening all over the town, noticeably at the waterside area, where children unknowingly jump down into it. This dog ban was supported and there would be a requirement to provide a warden on site to enforce the ban.
- It was suggested that the Traffic Wardens, and PCSOs could enforce this ban as they walk around the town on duty anyway. This would not necessarily require additional funding.
- It was felt that additional funding from NWDC was doubtful due to dog bins being highlighted as a recent Area 5 meeting as a potential savings to the budget, due to the considerable cost of purchasing and maintaining them.
- The Town Clerk informed members that an £8,000 contribution towards PCSO funding had been left in the budget to be used against such an eventuality as this. This funding could be used to employ someone to enforce this ban around the town. A suggestion could be put to the Policy & Resources Committee or next Full Council meeting for consideration.

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor R Golding, seconded by Councillor Mrs E M Bland and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to

- 1) request North Wiltshire District Council to make an Order under the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2004 to prevent the access of dogs to all equipped Children's Play Areas in the ownership of Calne Town Council
- 2) add this item to the Agenda for discussion at the next Policy & Resources Committee meeting to be held on 19 March 2007.

53/06 BMX SKATE BOWL – STATION ROAD

The first phase of the refurbishment of the bowl is complete. Councillor Dolman confirmed that at the last Area 5 meeting it was agreed to release the £20,000 for this project.

54/06 NORTHEND PLAY AREA

Section 106 funding in North Calne had been allocated for two small separate play areas, however, current investigations are taking place to see if the 106 Agreement could be varied to contribute towards the larger scheme at North end which would provide a play area suitable for all ages.

Councillor Dolman stated that local residents are keen for this to proceed as soon as possible.

55/06 BICYCLE FOR AMENITIES MANAGER

The Deputy Town Clerk's report, which is attached to and forms part of these Minutes, was noted by members and the following comments were made:

- It was confirmed that a substantial lock would be used.
- Signwriting should be included 'Calne Town Council' to deter it from being stolen.
- The Crime Prevention Panel have given bike markers to this shop for free, so a marker should be included with the sale.

It was proposed by the Town Mayor, Councillor C J Viner, seconded by the Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor R Golding and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to approve the procurement of a push bike and protective equipment for the Amenities Manager with the funding to be split between Travel & Subsistence budgets for the Town Hall and Amenities.

56/06 ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor R Golding, seconded by Councillor Mrs E M Bland and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to delegate authority to the Deputy Town Clerk to expend up to an amount of £2,000 from this Committee's Capital Fund to provide a handrail at St Mary's Churchyard.

57/06 CASTLEFIELDS CANAL AND RIVER PARK ASSOCIATION

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 January 2007 were noted.

58/06 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES

The **Confidential Minutes** of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 8 January 2007, having previously been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

The meeting closed at 6.40 pm.

Draft