

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, MARKET PLACE, NEWBURY
ON MONDAY 11 MARCH 2019 AT 7.30PM**

PRESENT

Councillors Howard Bairstow; Miles Evans; David Fenn; David Fish; John Gardner; Sarah Greenall (Chairperson); Margo Payne; Kuldip Singh Kang; Martha Vickers.

In Attendance

David Ingram, Community Services Manager
Hugh Peacocke, Chief Executive Officer
Jo Lempriere, Community Services Officer

55. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors: Adrian Edwards, Arthur Johnson
Absent: Councillor James Frederickson

56. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

The Community Services Manager declared that Councillor Howard Bairstow is also a Member of West Berkshire Council, which is declared as a general interest on his behalf and a dispensation is in place to allow him to partake in discussions relating to West Berkshire Council business.

57. MINUTES

PROPOSED: Councillor Margo Payne
SECONDED: Councillor Howard Bairstow

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 10 December 2018, be approved and signed by the Chairperson.

58. QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were none.

59. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS**Question from Cllr Martha Vickers:**

"In view of reports of increasing vandalism in Victoria Park will the Town Council consider creating the role of Park Warden as a step towards preventing such acts?"

Response from Chairperson:

"Thank you for your proposal; public safety is paramount. That's why we have invested heavily in leisure facilities and CCTV.

Tackling crime is for the Police. Crimes in Victoria Park have been carried out in the early hours, outside the times we would expect wardens to work.

Following the vandalism in November 2018, CCTV captured by Newbury Town Council's cameras was sent to the Police, which helped in their investigation.

We'll continue to work with partners to help keep the park safe, and will keep safety measures under constant review."

Councillor Vickers added a follow up response:

"A Park Warden would be a friendly face in the park, and a good step in the right direction, prevention and building relationships within the park rather than Policing.

Community Services Manager David Ingram response:

"Records over the past 2 and a half years show that the 13 incidents have occurred after dark, the new buildings will give us an opportunity to install greater CCTV coverage and manage the anti-social behaviour going forward.

60. NEWBURY IN BLOOM

The minutes of the Newbury in Bloom Working Group of 20 December 2018, 24 January and 21 February 2019 as attached at Appendices 2a & 2b of the agenda were noted.

Cllr Sarah Greenall reminder members that there is a Shrub planting event on Saturday, 16 March starting in Victoria Park 10:30am and then moving on to Lock Island after that.

61. ALLOTMENT COUNCILLOR VISITS 2019

It was agreed to defer the Annual Councillor visits to later summer / early autumn, the annual prize giving to Newbury Town Council Allotments for 2019 would now be incorporated in to the Newbury in Bloom judging, tenants will be encouraged to enter the event.

Officers will advise the tenants of this at the Annual tenants meeting, which is to be held in the Town Hall, Council Chamber on Tuesday, 16 April 2019 at 6.30pm.

62. VICTORIA PARK FAMILY DAY 2019

After a brief discussion, it was agreed that holding the event on the 16th June, was not a good idea as it was Father's Day, but Councillors were happy to agree any of the other 4 Sundays in June 2019.

A new date has been arranged for Sunday, 23rd June 2019.

63. MARKET WORKING PARTY

The minutes of the Market Working Party held on 28 January 2019 as attached at Appendix 3 of the agenda were noted.

Councillor Martha Vickers reminder Councillors that they have all been sent Posters to display and promote the market.

64. COMMUNITY SERVICES MANAGERS REPORT

The report from the Community Services Manager was noted.

The Committee congratulated Officers on the re-decoration works that had taken place in the Council Chamber.

65. CITY RECREATION GROUND CONSULTATION

The report on the outcome of the public consultation in respect of City Recreation Ground, as attached at appendix 5, was noted.

Officers are to prepare a long-term plan for the future of the City Recreation Ground, having regard to the outcome of the public consultation.

66. DICKENS WALK PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

PROPOSED: Councillor Kuldip Singh Kang

SECONDED: Councillor Howard Bairstow

RESOLVED: To allocate S106 funds of £2,300 towards the installation of new play equipment at Dickens Walk, the bulk of the moneys £5,921 will be coming from Playgrounds 2018/19 R&M Budget.

67. DEFIBRILLATOR AT THE TOWN HALL

Following a brief discussion, it was agreed a defibrillator should be provided by Newbury Town Council to be located externally. Further investigations needed to be carried out to find an external location for the defibrillator. Officers to investigate.

68. VICTORIA PARK ICE RINK

The report on the viability of an ice-rink at the pond in Victoria Park was received.

Officers were instructed not to pursue this opportunity of the installation of an Ice Rink in Victoria Park due to the significant investment needed, showing an uncertain return on the suggested investment.

69. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

There were no amendments, additions or deletions to the forward work programme for the Community Services Meetings.

70. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

PROPOSED: Councillor Margo Payne

SECONDED: Councillor Howard Bairstow

RESOLVED: That under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business (agenda item 17) because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

71. NEW CAFÉ AND SPORTS CHANGING ROOMS FOR VICTORIA PARK

An update was received from the Community Services Manager on the proposals for the construction of a new café and sports changing rooms for Victoria Park.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRPERSON THANKED ALL THOSE IN ATTENDANCE AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.20PM.

CHAIRPERSON

DRAFT