

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, MARKET PLACE, NEWBURY
ON MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7PM**

PRESENT

Councillors Jeff Beck; Martin Colston; Jo Day; Billy Drummond; Nigel Foot; Chris Foster; Jon Gage; Roger Hunneman; Olivia Lewis; David Marsh; Sarah Slack, Martha Vickers.

In Attendance

David Ingram, Community Services Manager
Caroline Edmunds, Community Services Officer

17. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

The Community Services Manager declared that Councillors Jeff Beck, Billy Drummond, David Marsh and Martha Vickers are also Members of West Berkshire Council, which is declared as a general interest on their behalf and a dispensation is in place to allow them to partake in discussions relating to West Berkshire Council business.

19. MINUTES

PROPOSED: Councillor Olivia Lewis

SECONDED: Councillor Jo Day

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 17 June 2019, be approved.

20. ALLOTMENT AWARDS

The 2019 Allotment Awards as attached at Appendix 2 of the Agenda were noted and the presentations to the winning tenants and allotment site were carried out.

21. QUESTION AND PETITIONS MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were none.

22. MEMBERS QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

There were none.

Note: Item 11 on the Agenda 'Skylings Play Area' was moved up the Agenda to this point

23. SKYLLINGS PLAY AREA

PROPOSED: Councillor Olivia Lewis

SECONDED: Councillor Martha Vickers

The meeting considered the report of the Community Services Manager. The Chairperson invited Mr. David Burgess to address the meeting and answer questions on the concerns of the residents.

RESOLVED: To remove the current MUGA play equipment and, having a full consultation with residents to look at options and budgets going forward.

The Community Services Manager to prepare an action plan with timescales that are realistic and achievable for the next CS Committee meeting in 16 December 2019.

24. COMMUNITY SERVICES MANAGERS REPORT

The Community Services Managers report was noted.

The Community Services Manager confirmed to Members that all of NTC's buildings were being surveyed for the suitability to install solar panels. This would be reported at the next meeting of the Committee, when budgetary proposals are considered.

25. NEWBURY IN BLOOM

The minutes of the Newbury in Bloom Working Group of 20 June, 11 July, 8 August and 13 September 2019 were noted.

26. WORKING GROUPS & SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT**25.1 Market Working Group**

PROPOSED: Councillor Olivia Lewis

SECONDED: Councillor Billy Drummond

RESOLVED: That Council's Officers with Members support, work with interested parties to develop a Newbury-wide Market strategy to support the Council's vision of Newbury Markets.

25.2 Environmental Working Group

PROPOSED: Councillor Oliva Lewis

SECONDED: Councillor Martin Colston

RESOLVED: To approve the setting up of an 'Environmental Working Group' to incorporate Ecology, Nature Horticulture & Arboriculture issues, advise, co-ordinate and lead on associated events such as Green Flag, Newbury in Bloom, Chiltern in Bloom and others that would meet the Newbury Town Council strategy. The name of this Working Group will be decided by the members.

Members were nominated as follows:

Cllrs David Marsh; Billy Drummond; Jon Gage, Martha Vickers; Chris Foster, Sarah Slack, Jeff Beck.

It was agreed that the Working Group can co-opt other parties.

27. HOMELESSNESS STRATEGY GROUP

PROPOSED: Councillor Olivia Lewis

SECONDED: Councillor Jo Day

RESOLVED: To approve the nomination of Cllr Martha Vickers to represent Newbury Town Council on the West Berkshire Council Homelessness Strategy Group.

It was agreed that Cllr Martha Vickers would provide ongoing written updates to be included in the Community Services Committee agendas in the future.

28. PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME

PROPOSED: Councillor Martin Colston

SECONDED: Councillor Jeff Beck

RESOLVED: To approve the Council preparing a 10-year investment strategy for Playgrounds and Open Spaces indicating the investment needs year on year. This would be reported at the next meeting of the Committee, when budgetary proposals are considered.

29. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE 2019/20

The Forward Work Programme was noted.

It was requested that the following is added for the December 2019 Committee Meeting:

Update on refurbishing the water fountain at the Town Hall
Update on the Victoria Park Café development

30. CITY RECREATION GROUND CONSULTATION

PROPOSED: Councillor Martin Colston

SECONDED: Councillor Jeff Beck

RESOLVED: To approve in principle, pending further budget discussions, the proposal for investment into City Recreation Ground subject to further Public Consultation on the proposal and future funding provision. This would be reported at the next meeting of the Committee, when budgetary proposals are considered.

31. CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

PROPOSED: Councillor Martin Colston

SECONDED: Councillor Chris foster

RESOLVED: To approve the use of the Council Chamber and ancillary Council facilities to enable the Climate Change Working Group to hold an information workshop on Saturday 28 September 2019.

32. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

PROPOSED: Councillor Olivia Lewis

SECONDED: Councillor Jon Gage

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.

33. VICTORIA PARK SUBCOMMITTEE

33.1 The minutes from the Victoria Park sub-committee meeting of 8 July, 12 August & 17 September 2019 were noted.

33.2 The Committee received an update on the current plans for the proposed community Café from the Community Services Manager.

33.3

PROPOSED: Councillor Roger Hunneman

SECONDED: Councillor Jon Gage

RESOLVED: To approve the final design, subject to minor internal only changes and as might be directed by the Victoria Park subcommittee.

PROPOSED: Councillor Olivia Lewis

SECONDED: Councillor Roger Hunneman

RESOLVED: That a full Planning Application be prepared and submitted to West Berkshire Council for this facility by Michael Pagliarioli Architects as set out in their fee bid.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRPERSON THANKED ALL THOSE IN ATTENDANCE AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:45pm.

CHAIRPERSON