

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF AMENITIES COMMITTEE OF BOURNE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020, 7.00PM VIA REMOTE LINK USING 'ZOOM'**

(Recorded by Town Clerk)

0 Member of the Public

<b>Present</b>	<b>Chairman</b>	<b>C Pattison</b>			
	<b>Councillors</b>	P Fellows	H Crawford	B Johnson	A Kelly
		J Kingman	P Knowles	D Mapp	R McKinney
		J Reid	J Smith	R Reid	B Russell

**1773A To receive/approve reasons for Apologies for Absence**

Proposed by Cllr B Johnson, seconded by Cllr J Kingman, and unanimously.

**RESOLVED: to receive/approve reasons for Apologies for Absence from Cllr M Overland**

**1774A To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011**

*Non – Pecuniary C Pattison Item 1788A Lives close to area concerned*

**1775A To consider requests for Dispensation**

*C Pattison with regard to Agenda item 1788A*

**1776A To ask if members of the public, resident or employed within the Parish, had any Intention to speak under any Agenda Item of this meeting (this will be to a maximum of 3 minutes)**

*There were none present*

**1777A To adopt the Notes of the Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020 as a true record and to resolve For the Chairman to sign them.**

Proposed by Cllr J Reid, seconded by Cllr B Johnson, and unanimously.

**RESOLVED: To adopt the Notes of the Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020 as a true Record and to resolve for the Chairman to sign them**

**1778A To receive reports, if any, by District/County Councillors or Representatives on other organisations**

*Cllr R Reid – LCC – reported that the works scheduled to be completed on the junction of the A151/A6121 at the top of Stamford Hill in 2021/22 could be moved up the schedule to Feb 21.*

*Cllr Reid – SKDC -continued on another point that he was dealing with an issue regarding non-compliance surrounding record keeping on its housing stock within the district.*

*Cllr Knowles- SKDC- reported that he had attended a scrutiny meeting which was dealing with Special expense areas. A recommendation had been put forward to relieve the Deepings of their Special expense area. As a result a recommendation that all special expense areas should be reviewed which included Bourne*

**1779A To answer questions from Councillors**

There were none

**1780A To receive a report on the town's allotments and Cemetery**

*The chair reported that he had made an inspection of the allotments and that apart from some rubbish beginning to accumulate in the bin area all was in order. He continued that The growing season had come to an end and that most of the allotments were laying fallow.*

*The chair had also visited the cemetery and reported that although it could possibly do with one final grass cut, all was in order also*

**1781A To Discuss/Consider the Amenities draft budget for the year 2021/2022**

*The clerk had already distributed the budget to the members before the meeting.*

*The budget showed a slight decrease on last year from £62K TO £59K*

Proposed by Cllr P Knowles, seconded by Cllr J Reid, and unanimously.

**RESOLVED: To approve the draft budget and to recommend its adoption to the Finance And General Purposes Committee**

**1782A To discuss Cemetery Charges for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

*The clerk had already distributed the Charge schedule to the members before the meeting.*

*The clerk explained to the members that he had not increased the charges substantially as They had been increased significantly in the current year.*

Proposed by Cllr B Johnson, seconded by Cllr A Kelly, and unanimously.

**RESOLVED: To approve the schedule of charges and recommend their adoption to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.**

**1783A To receive information prior to the Town Council meeting with Michael Cross SKDC With regard to the proposed 'Night Lights'.**

The clerk ran a video clip of the Spilsby Light Nights initiative from early last year to ensure that the members were aware of the actual event.

The proposal from SKDC would involve a similar event taking place in Bourne sometime next year (COVID allowing).

The members in general agreement that the festival should be supported although their was concern that the Town Council should be consulted as to exactly what the town really wanted and needed as opposed to having ideas thrust upon them.

Proposed by Cllr B Johnson, seconded by Cllr J Reid, and unanimously.

**RESOLVED: To receive the above information.**

**1784A To discuss the South Street Toilet Block and the possible transfer from SKDC**

The clerk informed members that this matter had been outstanding for some time now and wished the members to debate the matter again.

The toilets had been operated under licence during the summer months but had been locked down following the COVID pandemic. The clerk was of the opinion that it was important for the town to have good functioning public toilet facilities.

The clerk continued that SKDC operated toilets in all of the major settlements Stamford, Market Deeping and Grantham, but not Bourne.

Members were of the opinion that once again Bourne were being short-changed with regard to such facilities but that they were an important asset to the Town and can assist in improving

the local high street economy and would certainly be important when events are being run in the town.

Cllr J Reid commented that SKDC should bring up to an acceptable standard before they could be taken on by the Town Council.

Cllr Knowles backed this up by stating that they had been abandoned by SKDC and it was up to them to reinstate them in good order. Cllr Knowles continued that once this had been done he would be happy to support a campaign to re-open them.

Proposed by Cllr P Knowles, seconded by Cllr B Russell, and unanimously.

**RESOLVED: To progress the matter by allowing the clerk to obtain costings for the Facilities refurbishment**

#### **1785A To discuss the parcels of land at the end of Coggles Causeway and the possible Transfer from SKDC**

The clerk introduced the item by explaining to the members that the land situated at the top of Coggles Causeway at the intersection with South Road was under consideration for transfer by SKDC to the Town Council for the sum of £1.00. It is proposed that the land on the Northern side, which contains a large cement and brick planter, would have constructed on it a memorial to 'BRM' in the form of a metal silhouette. This memorial would be funded by the 'Len Pick Trust' and maintained by them.

Heads of terms had been received from SKDC but they stated BTC legal costs were to be Borne by themselves and that they required a contribution to their own legal costs of £150.00.

The clerk continued that having negotiated with SKDC they had retracted their request for a contribution to their own legal costs.

Cllr J Reid suggested that perhaps the Town Council could raise sponsorship from local businesses to help pay for the cost of the planter upkeep. Cllr Reid continued that it would certainly improve the entrance to the town.

Cllr Crawford proposed that we accept what the clerk has stated and enter into an Agreement with SKDC to purchase the parcels of land for the sum of £1.00 but that SKDC should bear not only their own legal costs but also BTC's.

Cllr D Mapp wished to point out the following to the members:

- a) If BTC take on the flower bed this will be a responsibility of the Town Council for ever.
- b) The transfer of the liability is at our cost which could be in the region of £700.00.
- c) SKDC state that it costs them £2,000.0 per year to plant up.
- d) The silhouette will have a limited life expectancy and an ongoing maintenance cost at some stage the Town Council will become responsible for the entire flower bed.
- e) Residents will see no saving from SKDC it will be swallowed up elsewhere and BTC may have to increase its precept sometime in the future to cover future maintenance costs.

Cllr Mapp was of the opinion that surely the silhouette could be located elsewhere in the Town with no liability to the Town Council.

Cllr Crawford commented that she fully understood and appreciated what Cllr Mapp had Stated but felt if the Len Pick Trust were prepared to sponsor the planter for a period of time Other sponsors could be found should they be needed.

Cllr Fellows also appreciated the comments made by Cllr Mapp but was fully supportive of the motion to purchase the land.

Cllr R Reid stated that he had listened closely to the reservations put forward by Cllr Mapp and wondered why the structure could not be placed on the planter with the permission of SKDC without the transfer of liability to BTC.

Cllr Knowles was mindful of all the members comments but was supportive of the motion And pointed out that the Council should have a fall-back position should SKDC not agree To pay the Town Council legal costs

Proposed by Cllr H Crawford, seconded by Cllr B Johnson

**RESOLVED: To proceed with the transfer of the parcels of land at a cost of £1.00  
From SKDC to BTC with BTC's legal costs being paid by SKDC**

**Cllr's Mapp and Kelly voted against this proposal**

#### **1786A To receive a debrief on Remembrance Sunday**

The clerk informed members that the small ceremony organised for Remembrance Sunday Had taken place without issue. Approximately 20 organisations laid wreaths at the war Memorial. Around 150 members of the public were also in attendance but were socially Distanced. Members of the Police force were also present and were pleased with the proceedings

Proposed by Cllr H Crawford, seconded by Cllr J Reid, and unanimously.

**RESOLVED: To receive the above information**

#### **1787A To receive information with regard to the Town Council toilets at the Corn Exchange, Bourne**

The clerk had raised this item following a complaint received from the local MP Gareth Davies. The complaint had emanated from a resident with regard to the closure of the Public toilets. The clerk had responded that this was due to the fact that they were not COVID secure.

Proposed by Cllr D Mapp, seconded by Cllr R McKinney, and unanimously.

**RESOLVED: For the clerk to progress the matter through the above action**

#### **1788A To receive further information with regard to SKDC's rewilding project**

As members were aware various options had been consulted on but no agreement had yet been reached on a suitable area for the rewilding project.

The latest area for consideration was Oak Crescent. Cllr Knowles informed members that he had not been included in the meeting on this particular site but felt that the site was not appropriate.

Cllr Crawford responded that the meeting had been organised by Dr Peter Moseley (SKDC). Cllr Crawford continued that she had distributed a consultation document to the local residents that looked on to the Green.

Cllr Kingman agreed with Cllr Knowles that she did not believe that the area was correct for Rewilding as children in the vicinity use it has a play area.

Proposed by Cllr P Knowles, seconded by Cllr C Pattison

**RESOLVED: To inform SKDC that the Town Council did not consider Oak Crescent a suitable location for the rewilding project.**

**Cllr Crawford wished it to be recorded that she voted against the proposal**

#### **1789A To discuss the Town Council's response to SKDC's Local Plan Review**

SKDC are reviewing the recently adopted Local Plan for the period to 2036 and extending it by 5 years to the period to 2041.

It was discussed by the members present and it was agreed that a small working party would Be formed to respond to the consultation.

Proposed by Cllr D Mapp, seconded by Cllr H Crawford, and unanimously.

**RESOLVED: For agreed members of Cllr's R McKinney, J Reid, A Kelly and D Mapp to formulate a response to the consultation.**

**1790A** To discuss any information which the Chairman may legally bring to the Council's Attention

Cllr Pattison wished to thank members for the support they had showed for his charitable Walk that he completed on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

*Due to their being no further items to discuss the chairman brought the meeting to a close at 21:17hrs*