

# **Dorchester Town Council**

## **Management Committee held via the Zoom Video Conferencing Platform**

**10 January 2022**

**Present:** The Mayor (Councillor G. Jones) and Councillors S. Biles, A. Canning, L. Fry, S. Jones, F. Kent-Ledger (Chairman), D. Leaper, R. Major, R. Potter, M. Rennie, R. Ricardo and D. Taylor.

**Apologies:** Councillor A. Lyall.

In Attendance

Councillors J. Hewitt and F. Hogwood.

**40. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 8 November 2021, adopted by Council on 22 November 2021, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**41. Management Arrangements**

The Committee considered a report from the Outdoor Services Manager updating it on the work undertaken and the achievements made by the Outdoor Services Team since the last meeting of the Committee.

Members were pleased with the progress being made on the new play area at the Great Field. It was felt that there was likely to be demand on the toilets at the Pavilion in the Park and the Committee felt it would be useful to understand the arrangement for when the toilets would be open.

It was noted that arrangements were being made for a community planting event at King's Road to be held on Monday 31 January 2022.

The Committee felt that it would be beneficial to ask a representative of the Friends of the Borough Gardens to attend the next meeting so that they may report back on the activities of the group and their plans for the future.

**Recommended**

That the Outdoor Services Team update be noted.

**42. Outside Gym**

In pursuance of Minute No. 27 the Committee considered a report by the Deputy Town Clerk which set out information regarding the two lowest tenderers and the outcome of the consultation into the type of equipment to be installed.

### **Recommended**

That a final scheme, to include a mix of cardio, core and strength equipment, be worked up with the lowest tenderer and that an order for the equipment be placed following the approval of the scheme by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

#### **43. 2022-23 Estimates, Special Items and Fees and Charges**

The Committee considered a report by the Financial Controller which incorporated draft Estimates for 2022-23 in respect of Allotments, Cemeteries, Cultural and Twinning, Municipal Buildings and Parks Gardens and Open Spaces. The report also included details regarding Reserves and the main changes which affected the proposed budget. The Deputy Town Clerk responded to Members detailed questions. It was requested that Max Gate roundabout be replanted, if necessary, as a part of the contract to prevent flooding at the A35/A352 junction. The Deputy Town Clerk to check whether this had been included in the works contract.

Members noted that special items had been removed as a separate budget line but an equivalent sum of £18,500 had been included within the budget as follows:-

- |                                       |        |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| • Parks Repairs & Maintenance         | £7,000 |
| • Heritage Events                     | £8,500 |
| • Dorchester Heritage Joint Committee | £3,000 |

The report also set out proposals for Cemetery fees and hire charges for the Borough Gardens House and the Tennis Courts.

### **Recommended**

- (1) That the Policy Committee be informed that the draft Estimates for 2022-23 be approved so far as this Committee is concerned.
- (2) That the charges for hire of the Borough Gardens House not be increased in 2022-23.
- (3) That, with effect from 1 April 2022, the Tennis Court membership fee be increased to £40 per year with a discount of £10 to those members that live in the town.
- (4) That, with effect from 1 April 2022, the charges in respect of Dorchester, Fordington and Poundbury Cemeteries be as set out in Appendix 1.

#### **44. Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Anti-Social Behaviour Consultation**

Members were informed that Dorset Council was consulting on new PSPO 's one of which would cover Dorchester and would replace the existing West Dorset PSPO. As well as continuing the prohibition of alcohol in and around the town centre, the new PSPO aimed to tackle anti-social behaviour and proposed a dispersal order, which would mean that

people engaging in anti-social behaviour could be fined if they failed to move on when asked. The Order also included a prohibition on the intentional feeding of gulls.

The Committee supported the proposed new PSPO. In respect of homeless people in the town Members were advised to contact Street Link.

In respect of anti-social behaviour generally it was felt that it would be worthwhile inviting a representative from the town's safer neighbourhood team to a future appropriate meeting.

**Recommended**

That the proposed new Public Spaces Protection Order – Anti-Social Behaviour, be supported.

**45. Grant Applications**

The Committee considered various requests for financial assistance.

**Recommended**

- (1) That the grant application from Parkinson Singing in the sum of £140, be agreed.
- (2) That the grant application from Read Easy in the sum of £699, be agreed.
- (3) That the grant application from the Volunteer Centre, in the sum of £500, be agreed.
- (4) That the grant application from Window Wanderland be delegated to the Deputy Town Clerk following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman following receipt of further information in respect of the costs of the project.

**46. Cemetery Matters**

The Committee received and noted applications for the design of headstones and inscriptions.

**Recommended**

That the action of the Town Clerk in approving designs numbered 5249 to 5253 be confirmed and the Register of Memorials be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**47. Municipal Buildings Monitoring Reports**

The Committee received the Municipal Buildings monitoring report which included a report by the Deputy Town Clerk on the activity of the Town Hall Keepers over the past two months together with the re-roofing and biomass installation project.

**Recommended**

That the Buildings Monitoring Reports be noted.

**48. Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960**

**Resolved**

That in view of the fact that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the following matters the public and press representatives be excluded from this meeting during their discussion.

**49. Sandringham Sports Centre**

In pursuance of Minute No. 38 the Committee considered a report by the Deputy Town Clerk on potential access arrangements to Fordington Farmyard.

**Recommended**

That access be agreed based on the indicative scheme provided and subject to conditions in respect of a Registered Housing Provider and a minimum capital receipt as set out in the report.

Chairman.....

**CEMETERIES FEES**

**Interments**

1 Apr 22

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| a) An infant under 2 years or stillborn | Nil  |
| b) A person aged 2 years or older       | £715 |
| c) A casket of ashes                    | £195 |

**Scattering of ashes**

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| a) In a previously used plot or in the Poundbury Pavilion chamber | £64 |
| b) In the Garden of Remembrance                                   | £32 |

**Exclusive rights of burial in earthen graves**

For an exclusive right for 50 years, including Memorial Rights in an earthen grave:

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| a) Full Sized Plot                      | £980 |
| End of term Renewal for 25 years        | £830 |
| b) Ashes plots and infant under 2 years | £650 |
| End of term Renewal for 25 years        | £510 |

Additional Interment, Scattering and Exclusive Rights fees will be charged for

- Non-residents – fee doubled. Residence is defined as living in Dorchester or Winterborne Herrington within previous 10 years or previously resident for at least 25 years.
- Non-standard grave sizes – additional fee to be agreed with the Funeral Director

**Monuments, gravestones, tablets and monumental inscriptions**

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|---|------|
| Right to erect or place a headstone, footstone, tablet, flat stone, plaque or monument in any other form at any site not subject to Exclusive Right of Burial | £225 |
| Additional inscription on a gravestone or other memorial (for each deceased)  | £108 |