

DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

11th MAY, 2010

At a Meeting of the Management Committee held on 11th May, 2010:

PRESENT The Mayor (Councillor S.C. Hosford) and Councillors D.J. Barrett, C.S. Biggs, A.J. Canning (Chairman), A. Harries, L.E. Heath, T. James, E.S. Jones, F.E. Kent-Ledger, A.J. Lyall, P.G. Mann and M.E. Rennie.

APOLOGY for absence was received from Councillor R.B. Potter.

74. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 9th March, 2010, adopted by Council on 23rd March, 2010, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

75. **MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT PANELS**

(a) **Borough Gardens Panel – 26th April, 2010**

The Committee considered the Minutes of the Meeting of the Borough Gardens Panel held on 26th April, 2010 (for Minutes see Appendix I). In respect of possible future uses of the area of the bowling green in the Borough Gardens some Members felt that an outdoor table tennis table would be a good facility.

It was

RESOLVED

That the Minutes be approved so far as this Committee is concerned.

(b) **Grants Panel – 11th May, 2010**

The Committee considered an oral report on the Meeting of the Grants Panel held on 11th May, 2010 (for Minutes see Appendix II) and it was

RESOLVED

That the Minutes be approved so far as this Committee is concerned.

76. **MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

The Committee had before it the schedule of work for the Outdoor Services Team. It was reported that the junior slide in the Borough Gardens Play Area required painting.

Members asked that Dorset County Council be requested to cut the grass areas located around the junction of Prince of Wales Road / South Walks Road / Great Western

Road as soon as possible as the area was unsightly. The Committee also felt that it should be cut again just prior to the Rifles Regiment exercising its Freedom of the Town in June.

It was

RESOLVED

That the schedule of work for the Outdoor Services Team be noted.

77. **ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10**

The Committee considered the draft 2009/10 Annual Report which was require to be published by the end of June 2010.

It was

RESOLVED

That the draft 2009/10 Annual Report be approved so far as this Committee is concerned.

78. **COMMUNITY TENNIS PROGRAMME**

The Committee had before it a proposal for a community tennis programme making use of the Borough Gardens tennis courts. Members supported the idea so long as entrance to the programme was kept at a reasonable cost and that some places should be made available free of charge to those who would not otherwise be able to access such a programme. Members also felt that access to the bowls pavilion should be made available if wet weather interrupted outside coaching and it was not being used for any other purpose.

It was

RESOLVED

That the proposal for a community tennis programme operating from the Borough Gardens tennis courts be agreed subject to entrance to the programme being kept at a reasonable cost and some free places being offered to children who would not otherwise be able to access such a programme.

79. **MONITORING REPORTS**

The Committee received the monitoring reports for the Weymouth Avenue Pavilion, Borough Gardens Community Room and the Municipal Buildings which included additional detail regarding forthcoming projects, scheduled maintenance and urgent repairs.

Members were pleased that the number of bookings was still healthy despite the recession and the fact that the Town Hall and Council Chamber had not been available

whilst the new lift was being installed. In response to a question Members noted that a report on the staffing arrangements for the Municipal Buildings was due to be produced for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee.

It was

RESOLVED

That the Weymouth Avenue Pavilion, Borough Gardens Community Room and Municipal Buildings Monitoring Reports be received.

80. **INFORMATION REPORTS**

The Committee considered the various reports which had been submitted for information. In respect of the Dorchester Festival Steering Group minutes which identified a need for volunteers it was suggested that the Arts Centre be informed that the Festival was the type of project that Dorset V would like to assist with.

It was

RESOLVED

That the various information reports be noted.

81. **PAID INVOICES**

The Committee inspected the cheque list and supporting vouchers in respect of payments made between 1st March, 2010 and 30th April, 2010 totalling £213,636.01 (net) together with direct debits for the same period totalling £109,647.14 (net).

It was

RESOLVED

That the cheque transactions and direct debit payments lists be approved and signed accordingly.

82. **THE DUCHY OF CORNWALL**

A Member informed the Committee of the potentially dangerous state of Long Bridge which the Duchy of Cornwall had previously agreed to repair at the time it developed Red Cow Farm. As this development was now unlikely to proceed for some time the Committee felt that the bridge should be brought back into good repair as a matter of urgency.

It was reported that the Duchy of Cornwall had undertaken a further stone pick of the Great Field and had agreed to undertake further stone picks as and when required. Members agreed that further consideration of the Council managing the pitches on behalf of the Duchy pending formal transfer should be take place at the next meeting.

83. **PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

It was

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 matter the public and representatives of the press be excluded from this meeting during its discussion.

84. **MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS BAR FRANCHISE**

In pursuance of Minute 73 the Deputy Town Clerk tabled a report setting out the outcome of the process undertaken to appoint a new bar franchisee together with details of the offer which had been accepted in principle by the interview panel.

Members agreed the proposals set out in the report which also included the offer of a vending machine which could be accessible at all times to supply non-alcoholic drinks. It was agreed that the most suitable place for the vending machine would be in the lobby where the pay telephone was previously located.

In considering this matter Members felt that hirers should pay a deposit of £100 which would not be returned should the hirer fail to comply with the terms and conditions of their hiring by bringing their own alcohol into the building.

The Committee also re-affirmed its view that there should be no franchise of any form of catering operation.

It was

RESOLVED

- (1) That the offer from the Best Western Kings Arms, Dorchester to run the Corn Exchange Bar on a franchise basis from 1st July, 2010 be agreed on the terms set out in the report.
- (2) That the offer of a vending machine which could be accessible at all times to supply non-alcoholic drinks be accepted.
- (3) That hirers be required to pay a deposit of £100 which would not be returned should the hirer fail to comply with the terms and conditions of their hiring by bringing their own alcohol into the building, a detailed implementation report to be presented to the next meeting of the Committee.

Chairman

DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

BOROUGH GARDENS PANEL

26th APRIL, 2010

At a Meeting of the Borough Gardens Panel held on 26th April, 2010:

PRESENT The Mayor (Councillor S.C. Hosford) and Councillors D.J. Barrett, A.J. Canning, A. Harries, C.M. Hebditch and E.S. Jones (Chairman).

In attendance:

Councillor A.J. Lyall

Mrs. F. McLaren – Friends of the Borough Gardens

2. **BOROUGH GARDENS BOWLING GREEN – FUTURE USE**

The Committee considered the report of the Compliance Manager on possible future uses of the area of the bowling green in the Borough Gardens following the decision of The Gardens Bowling Club to wind up. The Panel was reminded of the stance taken by the Management Committee at Minute 34 where concern had been expressed about the low level of usage of the green relative to the costs involved in its upkeep.

Following discussion it was

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That the use of the area as a bowling green be maintained for Summer 2010 only and that it be permanently withdrawn from use for this purpose at the end of the current bowls season.
- (2) That the collapsed sewer beneath the bowling green be re-laid during the Autumn and Winter.
- (3) That public consultation take place during the Summer on the Panel's preferred alternative uses of either a mini-golf facility similar to that provided at Lyme Regis or a sensory/arid garden, in either case incorporating facilities for the display of further public art, and seeking suggestions for other possible alternative uses to enable bids to be made for the necessary funding in the Estimates for 2011-12.
- (4) That this public consultation be extended to include the proposal to convert the building

presently used as the bowls pavilion to additional public toilets.

3. **LOVE PARKS WEEK**

The Panel received and noted the proposed programme of events to celebrate Love Parks Week which this year would be from 24th July to 1st August. In particular the Panel supported the proposal to concentrate events on Wednesday 28th July rather than having individual events across the whole week. Members suggested that the Dorchester Tennis and Squash Club should be approached with a view to them arranging an open tennis tournament during the Week and that discussions should take place with Dorchester Arts Centre and Dorchester Library to explore the possibilities of them arranging other events in support of the celebrations.

4. **MEMORIALS POLICY**

The Panel considered the need for a formal policy on accepting memorial plantings or seats in the Borough Gardens. At present the informal approach was to redirect such requests to other areas of the town unless a proposed planting was in accordance with the overall Management Plan for the Borough Gardens to avoid a proliferation of commemorative inscriptions which might distract from the enjoyment and appearance of the Gardens.

Following discussion it was

RECOMMENDED

That the present approach to requests for memorial planting or seats be formalised and that no individual inscriptions be permitted in the Gardens save in commemoration of national figures.

DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

GRANTS PANEL

11th MAY, 2010

At a Meeting of the Grants Panel held on 11th May, 2010:

PRESENT Councillors C.S. Biggs (Chairman), F.E. Kent-Ledger, P.G. Mann and M.E. Rennie.

APOLOGIES for absence were received from The Mayor (Councillor S.C. Hosford) and Councillor T.C.N. Harries.

7. **APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The Panel considered applications for financial assistance received since the last meeting of the Panel and it was

RECOMMENDED

- (1) That the application from the Dorchester Horticultural Society be not approved.
- (2) That the application from the Dorset Community Opera be not approved.
- (3) That the application from Dorchester Music Events Listing be not approved.
- (4) That the application from Dorchester Amateur Boxing Club be approved in the sum of £250.
- (5) That the application from St Peter's Society of Change Ringers be approved in the sum of £197.40.
- (6) That the application from Womens Action Network be approved in the sum of £100.
- (7) That the application from The You Trust be approved in the sum of £200.
- (8) That the application from the Rotary Club Dorchester be not approved.
- (9) That the application from Dorchester RNA Branch be approved in the sum of £430.

- (10) That the application from Community Sound System Dorchester in conjunction with Amnesty International be approved in the sum of £200.

(Councillor F.E. Kent-Ledger declared a personal interest in the application from the Womens Action Network as she was a member of the organisation.)

In considering the applications Members agreed that the grant application process and criteria be reviewed again at the next meeting of the Panel.

It was also

RECOMMENDED

- (11) That the grant application process and criteria be reviewed again at the next meeting of the Panel.