

Dorchester Town Council

Management Committee

12 July 2016

Present: Councillors C. Biggs, A. Canning, F. Kent-Ledger, R. Potter (Chairman) and K. Rice.

In Attendance:

J. Drew, Dorset Wildlife Trust.

Apologies: The Mayor Councillor T. Harries and Councillors G. Duke, J. Hewitt, S. Jones, T. Loakes, A. Lyall, M. Rennie, P. Stein and D. Taylor.

1. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 10 May 2016, adopted by Council on 24 May 2016, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

2. **Community Activities Panel**

The Committee considered the minutes of the Community Activities Panel held on 1 June 2016 (Appendix 1 to the minutes). Members felt that the Queen's 90th birthday event in the Gardens had gone well and were pleased with the arrangements made by Dorchester Arts for the bar.

The Deputy Town Clerk updated Members on progress with the arrangements for the Council's Kut Day later in the month.

Resolved

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

3. **Lubbecke Way / Red Cow Farm – Mill Stream – In River Enhancement Scheme**

The Committee welcomed Jacob Drew from the Dorset Wildlife Trust who explained a proposal for some in river enhancement works in the area of Lubbecke Way and Red Cow Farm which would improve the river habitat. It was noted that consent would be required from the Environment Agency which would not be forthcoming if the works were to increase the chances of flooding. In respect of a reported request about possibly enhancing the old swimming area just to the far side of Greys Bridge it was noted that the DWT project was being funded for habitat and not amenity within the SSSI and the boundary of that designation was Greys Bridge so unfortunately this would not be possible as the swimming area fell on the other side of the bridge outside of the SSSI. The representative agreed that he would speak with the farmer about the possibility of increasing the width of the pathway along the bank of the river.

Resolved

That the project be welcomed and supported.

4. Management Arrangements

The Committee considered a new style report from the Outdoor Services Officer updating it on the work undertaken and the achievements made by the Outdoor Services Team. Members welcomed the new style of report and noted that they could report any issues at any time to Council staff.

Resolved

That the Outdoor Services Team update be noted.

5. Projects Update 2016-17

Members had before them a report by the Deputy Town Clerk which updated them on the projects agreed to be undertaken during 2016-17. The Deputy Town Clerk responded to Members detailed questions and the Committee was pleased with the progress made on the projects to date.

Resolved

That the progress on the projects being undertaken during 2016-17 be welcomed.

6. Borough Gardens – New Tennis Courts

Members considered a report by the Deputy Town Clerk which updated them on the progress being made in respect of building a new set of tennis courts on the old bowling green in the Borough Gardens.

The Committee considered proposed plans for the new courts and whether access to the new courts should be provided after the Gardens were closed at the height of the summer and agreed that this could not be justified based on the number of entries into courts 3 and 4 at 9.00pm the previous summer which was just two. Members also agreed that the tender list for the project only include companies that were Sports and Play Construction Association members.

During consideration of this matter Members asked whether something could be done to improve the bamboo area between the corner of the old bowling green and facilities buildings.

Resolved

(1) That the plans for the new courts be approved.

(2) That the tender list for the project only include companies that are Sports and Play Construction Association members.

7. Borough Gardens – Marie Curie Area of Tranquillity

Members considered a report by the Deputy Town Clerk on a request received from the Chairman of the local branch of Marie Curie who wished to create a small memorial garden with a plaque for Marie Curie in the Borough Gardens. It was noted that the feedback from the recent Green Flag assessment had suggested that the existing area of daffodil planting in the green area just south of the triangle of land that was seen when you entering from Prince's Street would benefit from some more intensive planting of daffodils and the Committee felt that this area could be ideal for the area of tranquillity especially if the bench at the top end could be opened up which provide a nice vista of the daffodils and fountain.

Resolved

That the request for a Marie Curie area of tranquillity in the Borough Gardens be approved as set out above.

8. Football Pitch Allocation in Dorchester 2016-17

The Committee considered a report by the Deputy Town Clerk which set out proposals for football pitch allocation for the 2016-17 season as set out below:-

- That the Council reduces its supply of adult pitches by one at Sandringham Sports Centre.
- That the Council takes the Great Field Pitches out of use for this season (two x Junior Youth pitches).
- That the Council converts the adult pitch at Sandringham Sports Centre to a Junior Youth pitch.
- Thomas Hardye School has agreed to convert one of its adult pitches to a Junior Youth pitch.
- The Council to provide an additional mini pitch at Weymouth Avenue Recreation Ground.

Resolved

That the proposals for football pitch allocation in 2016-17 be agreed.

9. Dorchester Disabled Club – Grant Application

Members considered a grant application from the Dorchester Disabled Club which was seeking a grant of £1,000 towards a new replacement adapted mini bus the total cost of which was £50,000.

The Committee supported the application but felt that the Club could increase its charges to help it become more sustainable in the future and that it should also consider contacting the Fleet Manager at Dorset County Council as that Council was reducing the

number of vehicles it used quite significantly and might be able to offer a suitable second hand vehicle at a much reduced price.

Resolved

That the grant application of £1,000 be agreed and that the Club be informed of this Committee's view that it should consider increasing its charges to help it become more sustainable in the future and that it should also consider contacting the Fleet Manager at Dorset County Council as that Council was reducing the number of vehicles it used quite significantly and might be able to offer a suitable second hand vehicle at a much reduced price.

10. A National Memorial to The County Infantry Regiments of Devon and Dorset

The Committee considered correspondence from The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment seeking support for a project to establish a memorial to the county regiments of Devon and Dorset at the National Memorial Arboretum. The total cost of the project was £140,000.

Members felt that the town had many historic links with the Regiment and the project should be supported. It was also felt that, once unveiled, the memorial could be the basis of a 2017 WW1 commemoration event.

Resolved

That a contribution of £1,000 be made to the proposed National Memorial to The Regiments of Devon and Dorset.

11. Cemetery Matters

(a) **Exclusive Right of Burial and Interments and Burial of Ashes**

The Committee had before it a report with details of the Grants of Exclusive Right of Burial for grave spaces and the number of interments and burials of ashes together with South Chapel usage at Dorchester Cemetery, since the last meeting of the Committee.

Resolved

That the report on the Grants of Exclusive Right of Burial and Interments and Burial of Ashes since the last meeting of the Committee be noted.

(b) **Headstones and Inscriptions**

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

Resolved

That the action of the Town Clerk in approving designs numbered 4168 to 4181 be confirmed and the Register of Memorials be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

12. Buildings Monitoring Report

The Committee received the monitoring reports for the Municipal Buildings, Weymouth Avenue Pavilion and Borough Gardens House. The Deputy Town Clerk gave background detail to the reasons behind differences in the year to year income/session comparator figures.

Members requested that the Council Chamber and Town Hall doors be re-painted in a solid colour.

Resolved

(1) That the Buildings Monitoring Report be noted.

(2) That the Council Chamber and Town Hall doors be re-painted in a solid colour.

13. Dorchester Arts

The Committee received and noted the minutes of the liaison meeting between Dorchester Arts Board and Town Councillors held on 20 June 2016. Members were pleased that the arrangement was generally going well.

Chairman

Dorchester Town Council

Community Activities Panel

1 June 2016

Present: Councillors C. Biggs, T Harries, S. Jones, F. Kent-Ledger, T. Lyall, M.E. Rennie (Chairman) and D. Taylor.

In attendance: Councillor J. Hewitt, Sam Wood (Dorchester Arts).

Apology: Councillor K. Rice.

1. Queen Elizabeth II 90th Birthday Celebrations

The Panel had before it an itinerary for the Picnic Style Street Party to Celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's 90th Birthday to be held at the Borough Gardens on Sunday, 12 June 2016. The Clerk to the Panel confirmed to Members that the final preparations were underway, that plenty of signage for the various attractions would be placed in the Borough Gardens on the day and that extra bins had been ordered. The Panel noted that former Town Councillor and Mayor, Leslie Phillips would be creating a display of commemorative china in the Borough Gardens House prior to the event. Members heard from Sam Wood of Dorchester Arts that a large bar would be available on the day and that it would be well stocked. Members were concerned about staffing arrangements for the event and reiterated the need for extra staff for the bar. The Panel heard that the event had been well promoted on Facebook and that a good number of Members had volunteered to help on the day.

2. WW1 Commemorations

The Panel heard that arrangements for the Kut Day and Battle of the Somme themed event to be held in the Corn Exchange on Tuesday, 26 July were well underway. Members requested that the Clerk to the Panel invite a number of different organisations and faith groups from the town to have an involvement in the event. The Panel requested that activities for children be included in the event.

Recommended

(1) That a number of different organisations and faith groups be invited to have an involvement.

(2) That activities for children be provided at the event.

3. Applications for Financial Assistance

The Panel considered grant applications which had been received.

Recommended

(1) That the application from the Dorset Food and Arts Festival be approved and that £250 be awarded to help with the costs for the Children's Activities that would be provided at the Festival. Members requested that a note be sent to the organisers requesting that when planning future events that consideration be given to other events that would be taking place in the Town when selecting a date.

(2) That a grant of £500 be awarded to Landance CIC for dance workshops for young people to be held in Dorchester in the Summer Holidays.