

Dorchester Town Council

Management Committee held via the Zoom Video Conferencing Platform

4 May 2020

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

In Attendance

Councillor G. Jones

66. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 9 March 2020, adopted by Council on 23 March 2020, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

67. Management Arrangements – Outdoor Services

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 noted the staff available and the services being undertaken during the Covid-19 pandemic. The arrangements undertaken to keep staff safe were welcomed.

The Outdoor Services Manager responded to Members detailed questions. The Committee agreed that the staff should be thanked for all of their work during this unprecedented time.

The Committee also felt that next year's carpet bed in the Gardens should be a thank you to the NHS. Members also requested that two banners be produced thanking all key and essential workers to be placed on the Borough Gardens and Maumbury Rings fences.

The Deputy Town Clerk agreed to obtain an update from the Duchy of Cornwall in respect of the timescale for the work to be undertaken at the Great Field. It was also requested that a bin be placed close to the footbridge at Lubbecke Way as soon as it was possible.

Resolved

That the Outdoor Services Team update be noted.

68. Maumbury Rings Music Day

Members considered whether to proceed with the August Bank Holiday events at Maumbury Rings. All of those present felt that it was highly unlikely that the Country would be back to normal by the time of the event and agreed that it should be cancelled

for this year. It was noted that Anonymous would also need to be cancelled as well as Love Parks which was due to be held in July.

It was agreed that should the situation improve quicker than anticipated an outdoor cinema event be arranged for the bank holiday weekend.

The Committee also agreed that at some appropriate stage in the future a thank you event should be held for key and essential workers.

Resolved

- (1) That Love Parks and the 2020 August Bank Holiday weekend events be cancelled.
- (2) That should Covid-19 restrictions be lifted sooner than expected Officers look to arrange an outdoor cinema event over the August Bank Holiday.
- (3) That, at some suitable stage in the future, a thank you event for key and essential workers should be arranged.

69. Roman Town House – West Walks

The Committee was informed that Dorset Council was intending to start the next phase of the work on the refurbishment of the Roman Town House which was opening up the wall from West Walks and constructing a ramp in County Hall car park so as to create an improved entry to the Town House.

Members felt that the diversion was not disabled friendly and that Dorset Council be asked to ensure that arrangements were made for a disabled friendly diversion.

Resolved

- (1) That the continued work on the Roman Town House be welcomed.
- (2) That Dorset Council be asked to ensure that arrangements be made for a disabled friendly diversion whilst the work at West Walks was undertaken.

70. Cemetery Matters

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

The report which detailed 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 had been circulated with the agenda.

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 5120 to 5126 be confirmed and the Register of Memorials be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

71. **Buildings Monitoring Reports**

The Committee received the monitoring reports for the Municipal Buildings and Borough Gardens House. Members also had before them a report by the Deputy Town Clerk on the activity of the Town Hall Keepers during the Covid-19 lockdown which had included extensive repairs to the Corn Exchange floor, painting, decorating and cleaning.

Members were pleased with the work being undertaken in the Municipal Buildings and requested that for the future, time be allocated on a weekly basis, to allow a regular clean and polish of the Corn Exchange floor.

Resolved

That the Buildings Monitoring Reports be noted.

Chairman