

Dorchester Town Council

Management Committee held via the Zoom Video Conferencing Platform

13 July 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. Major, R. Potter, M. Rennie, R. Ricardo and D. Taylor

In Attendance

Councillor F. Hogwood.

1. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 4 May 2020, adopted by Council on 18 May 2020, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

2. **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 that following a tree inspection six trees would need to be felled in the Borough Gardens. It was requested that the Clerk to Whetstones be informed when the work was to be undertaken. It was reported that the new gate was still not open into the Gardens and that the lifebelt had been removed from the Local Nature Reserve.

The Outdoor Services Manager also responded to Members other detailed questions The Committee agreed that the staff should be thanked for all of their work over the past few months.

Resolved

That the Outdoor Services Team update be noted.

3. **Salisbury Fields**

The Committee considered a report by the Deputy Town Clerk on a proposed community project to undertake some perimeter planting at the southern end of Salisbury Fields.

Resolved

That the community project to undertake some perimeter planting at the southern end of Salisbury Fields be supported.

4. **Municipal Buildings Roof Work**

Members had before them a report by the Deputy Town Clerk which proposed that the already agreed roof works to the Corn Exchange be brought forward and suggesting that the re-roof of the Council Chamber also be undertaken at the same time. It was noted that this would mean that the Building would remain closed until around March 2021. It was reported that the cost of the works was estimated at £490,000 plus fees of up to £74,000.

The Committee supported undertaking the work to both roofs and requested that any insulation or carbon reduction works that could be incorporated at the time also be undertaken.

Resolved

- (1) That the Buildings remain closed until around March 2021 so as to allow the roof works to go ahead.
- (2) That the Policy Committee be requested to consider allocating the additional funding required so as to enable the works to both the Corn Exchange and Council Chamber roofs to be undertaken as soon as possible.

5. **Tree Planting at King's Road and Commemoration**

The Committee considered a report by the Town Clerk which informed it of a proposal to plant trees at King's Road. Some of the trees would be funded via Dorset County Hospital to mitigate works it was undertaking on its site in relation to a proposed Multi-Storey Car Park. The Town Council had also reserved £5,000 in its budget for the purchase of new trees.

The report also proposed that a suitable tree planting event be developed at Kings Road Playing Field to commemorate the community response to the Covid 19 outbreak. It was hoped that this could be undertaken at the start of tree planting season in December 2020.

Resolved

That the proposed tree planting be supported and that a suitable event be developed at Kings Road Playing Field to commemorate the community response to the Covid 19 outbreak.

6. **BBQ's on Council Owned Land**

Members considered a report by the Deputy Town Clerk which informed them that the Council had byelaws in place which banned the lighting of fires or anything else that might cause a fire, including BBQ's, on all of the Council's land.

Resolved

That the report be noted and that the no BBQ's, sky lanterns or helium balloon message be promoted through the Council's social media and other publicity.

7. 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 5127 to 5135 be confirmed and the Register of Memorials be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

8. Buildings Monitoring Reports

The Committee received the Municipal Buildings monitoring reports which included a report by the Deputy Town Clerk on the activity of the Town Hall Keepers during the Covid-19 lockdown.

Members were pleased with the good work being undertaken in the Municipal Buildings and in particular the recent work to the Corn Exchange floor. The Committee wished to pass on their thanks to the Town Hall Keepers and also suggested a formal public re-open at the appropriate time.

Resolved

That the Buildings Monitoring Reports be noted.

Chairman