

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment, Property & Health Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2013** in the Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham at 7:00pm.

**Present:** Cllr. T. Bloomfield  
 Cllr. H. Cadd  
 Cllr. P. Hirons  
 Cllr. D. Isham  
 Cllr. Ms. R. Newell - Mayor  
 Cllr. M. Smith - Chairman  
 Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark  
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury  
 Cllr. W. Whyte

**In attendance:** Mr. L. Phillips - Green Spaces Manager  
 Mrs. C. Bolton – Committee Clerk

**851/12 Apologies for Absence**

**RESOLVED** to receive and accept apologies from Cllrs Harvey, Mahi and Collins

**852/12 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**853/12 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on 11th February 2013, which had been ratified at Full Council on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

**854/12 Action Reports**

Members noted the information. The Green Spaces Manager reported that the Chandos Park footpath tender would be re-visited in September 2013; works at the East Chapel at the cemetery were still being assessed by the loss adjuster; and the location of an additional salt bin would be confirmed following a meeting with David Smith, the new technician for Transport for Bucks. The Green Spaces Manager also reported that he would continue to research the Parks for People initiative, as lottery funding may be available. Councillors raised queries on the progress of the Circular Walk repairs (211/11), Public Toilets (474/12) and AVDC Dog Waste Service (741/12). The Green Spaces Manager would progress the queries raised.

**ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER/TOWN CLERK**

**855/12 Budgets**

Members received the latest budget figures and commented that the income from Devolved Services was low. The GSM reported there had been a delay over the winter and the funds were expected to come in shortly.

Councillors asked that earmarked funds for projects be included in the budget sheets for discussion at the next meeting.

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**856/12 War Memorial Fee Proposals**

(733/12) The GSM explained the tender proposal submitted and recommended replacing the bollards and base. Councillors agreed not to replace the chains.

Councillors requested that the GSM ensured some additional information be gained from the supplier before going ahead including drawing specifics, payment terms, retention and warranty details.

The GSM confirmed he would also consult with local conservation officers and the Planning Department at AVDC to ensure compliance; the GSM would also contact the War Graves Commission to enquire about assistance with cost.

Proposed by Cllr Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr Newell and **AGREED** that the GSM proceed, following some specification detailing, to replace both the bollards and base at the war memorial with Company A, specification 2.

**ACTION: GREEN SPACES MANAGER**

**857/12 Maintenance Issues found at Cemetery Lodge**

Councillors briefly discussed the report for remedial works and **AGREED** to go ahead with the works as per the GSM's summary provided.

Members also suggested that an annual inspection and maintenance schedule be carried out to help to prevent major remedial works in the future.

**858/12 Flood Issues**

858.1 Cllr Stuchbury reported he had attended site with Ivan Crome from AVDC and was encouraged that Mr Crome had taken the issue on board, investigated and progressed it; whilst it had seemed very difficult to ascertain ownership of the land, it was believed to be the responsibility of BCC. It appeared that the flooding had come about due to lack of drainage and scheduled maintenance to the culvert.

Councillors **AGREED** that the Town Clerk should write to BCC, enclosing correspondence to date and requesting follow up information from the relevant department.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

858.2 Received.

858.3 Councillors discussed the request for financial assistance to attend the proposed workshop run by the Environment Agency. Councillors **AGREED** that £30 be provided for a representative from Flood Action 4 Buckingham to attend, Budget code to be advised by the Town Clerk.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**859/12 Property Check**

(735/12) Councillors discussed when to carry out check of the parks and properties, and it was agreed that the Chairman would circulate proposed dates for Councillors to attend – probably on Saturday afternoons.

**860/12 Buckingham Community Wildlife Project**

Councillors had previously received the minutes. The Mayor reported on the recent works to assist local wildlife, specifically hedgehogs; an upcoming schedule of events to celebrate the ecology centenary would be advised; and

bird boxes to be positioned in Bourton Park. Cllr Bloomfield informed Members of a Bat and Frog Walk to take place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

**861/12 Bulky Waste Collection**

Councillors were disappointed to note that the service had been discontinued by AVDC, and that they had not been advised or consulted on the withdrawal. Councillors also considered that although skip arrangements may be suitable for small villages, a single location would certainly not be so for a town as large as Buckingham. Councillors **AGREED** that the Town Clerk write to AVDC to seek an explanation.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**862/12 Request for litter bin**

Councillors received the request and noted that a litter bin does already exist at the location – namely at the bus stop at Tesco. Councillors **AGREED** that the Town Clerk respond accordingly.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**863/12 Correspondence**

None

**864/12 News releases**

None

**865/12 Chair’s Announcements**

1. The Chairman informed members of proposed children’s activities to take place in Bourton Park run by Aylesbury Youth Action. The GSM had been in contact with Sarah Butler about possible activities including a mural on the underpass, and wood working sculpture. Details would be confirmed as soon as more information became available.
2. A bench on the junction of Mitre St/Hunter St and Lenborough Rd had been removed by the Green Spaces team following a traffic accident at the site. It would be replaced as soon as ownership of the bench could be confirmed and a replacement obtained. Cllr Isham reported that this was AVDC’s responsibility.
3. Cllr Stuchbury asked for members’ support for the Tennis Club bid to get a 3<sup>rd</sup> court floodlit. AVDC had not responded to several requests.

**866/12 Date of Next Meeting.**

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

Meeting closed at: 8pm

Chairman..... Date.....

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