

Swaffham Town Council

Minutes of the **Recreation & Community Services Committee Meeting** held on **Monday 23rd September 2019** at **6.30pm** in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Swaffham

Committee Members: Cllrs J Anscombe, W Bensley, L Beech, K Sandle, J Skinner (from 6.47pm)

Non-Voting Advisory Representatives: Mrs S Palmer (YAB), Mrs K Fullilove (Family Action/ESCAPE)

Town Clerk: Mr R Bishop
Admin Assistant: Ms K Furnass

1. **Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr I Pilcher – annual holiday
Cllr B Holmes – unavoidable traffic delay

2. **Declarations of interest.**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **To elect a Chairman for the forthcoming year 2019-20**

Cllr K Sandle was agreed as Chairman for the forthcoming year 2019-20

4. **To elect a Vice chairman for the forthcoming year 2019-2**

Cllr J Anscombe was agreed as Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year 2019-20.

5. **To elect Non-Voting Advisory Representative's and/or invitees:**

A discussion followed on what groups could be invited, what were the expectations of these meetings and which groups would be interested in sending a representative. It was also suggested to invite representatives to alternate meetings so as not to overload the agenda.

It was proposed for Cllr Anscombe to formulate a draft strategic plan to cover all the raised questions with the intention of interested parties being asked to nominate a representative.

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Two nominations were agreed at the meeting.

It was agreed for Mrs C Peak as the representative for Family Action.

It was agreed for Cllr Edwards as the representative for SCALGA

6. **Minutes**

The minutes of the Open Spaces Committee held on 29th July 2019 were agreed and signed as an accurate record by the Chairman.

7. **To receive and consider Recreation and Community Service Issues from non-member Councillors (at the Chairman's discretion, prior notification must be given).**

No prior notifications received.

8. **To receive and consider urgent items at the discretion of the Chairman (prior notification must be given).**

No prior notifications received.

Initials: _____

9. **To consider Ducks in the Town Centre and review the pest control contract .**

The current pest control contract runs until the end of January, the details of the contract had been circulated earlier within the Town Clerks meeting guide.

The Committee were asked if they wished to extend the general pest control contract to include the removal of the Town Centre ducks.

During discussions it was suggested that in the first instance the public should be given the opportunity to understand, and to make them aware, of the consequences of feeding the ducks in the Town Centre and other areas of the Town. It was suggested to put an article in the Swaffham Newsletter and use social media.

It was agreed to put an article in the Swaffham Newsletter and use social media to make the public aware of the consequences of feeding ducks in the Town Centre and other areas of the Town

It was also suggested for the Town Clerk to contact Pest Control to discuss egg control options.

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10. **To consider a request for a Dog and Litter bin in Sandringham Way and on the new Abel Homes housing estate**

Unfortunately, the request for the litter bin location at Sandringham Way is not clear enough for a decision today. The Town Clerk suggested that the Works Manager should go and visit the site and find exactly where the footpath is.

The Town Clerk is awaiting a reply from Abel Homes on whether any litter or dog bins are to be located on the Swans Nest site. The Town Clerk had been informed during a meeting with Mr S Hitchman from Breckland that joint dog & litter bins may be made available, these would be an ideal option for these areas.

This request will be deferred until further information has been received.

Cllr Anscombe informed the meeting that within the Transport Committee a re-cycling project is being looked at for new estates, a greener and cleaner project. The Town Clerk suggested that when all information had been received this may be something that could be passed to the Transport Committee.

It was agreed to pass the issue to the Transport Committee.

11. **To consider a request for two memorial seats commemorating Terry and Monika Wilding from Mrs Thackeray (nee Wilding)**

This matter had been deferred from the Full Council. It is recommended that agreement is granted in principle for two new benches/seats with dedicated plaques. An appropriate position in the Town to be agreed after consulting with the family, and then to seek ratification in due course.

It was agreed in principle to allow two new benches/seats with dedicated plaques.

12. **To consider reports and/or issues relating to the following:-**

a. Recreation Ground

When the electrical certification has been received the toilets can be re-opened.

Cllr Skinner asked if it was possible to have some form of plaque put in place on the building. After a brief conversation on what was to be inscribed it was proposed to arrange a general plaque, with no names dedicated.

It was agreed for a general plaque to be put in place on the building, with no names dedicated.

A date for a re-opening event would be arranged later.

- b. Allotments
189 allotments managed (including 2 Town Council plots) 168 are occupied = 88.89% occupation.

Allotment Checks:

Shouldham Lane 2 letters sent out, 2 to tidy up, 1 to take back.
Tumbler Hill 1 letter sent as confirmation of giving up an allotment

Vacancies:

Tumbler Hill 1 half plot and 1 full plot
Shouldham Lane 8 half plots and 2 full plots
Magazine Field 1 full plot
Four Acres 1 half plot and 4 full plots

Update on actions;

Strimming on vacant plots – completed
Strimming on tracks – completed
All annual Invoices are ready to be posted out of Friday 27th September

As usual there is a lot of movement this time of year. In most cases these plots have already been allocated, but if vacant they have been halved where possible.

Escape:

Katy Fullilove gave a brief report -

- Upwards of 70 regular patrons
- Well attended events and workshops
- 10 City & Guilds achieved this year
- Gold at the Chelsea Flower Show
- New group started in Kings Lynn
- Funding for the next 18 months

- c. Churchyard & cemetery
The Town Clerk is awaiting information in respect of an improved lighting scheme for Church walk.
- d. The Oaklands
The new picnic benches are to be installed shortly at the Oaklands Play area. An additional budget had been agreed to allow for disabled access to these benches.
- e. Merryweather Road
Nothing to report
It was asked if any funding could be sort for the Orford Road play area? The Town Clerk thought there could be opportunities at some point in the future with any new builds approved.
- f. Campingland
A request had been received from Mr J Dean to provide a bench dedicated to his late wife. This would only be required in the event that the PCC do not give permission for his preferred choice of the Churchyard.
Cllr Skinner asked that the Antinghams be kept on the agenda please.
- g. The Shambles
No progress to report in respect of the registration of the Shambles at the Land Registry. It was suggested that this would be a good inclusion area for any possible Heritage money that may be awarded.

13. To agree date for the next meeting:

The date of the next meeting was 25th November 2019.

Meeting Closed at 7.35pm.

Chairman.....

DRAFT

Initials: ____