

Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on 10th November September 2021 at 7.00pm at Sedbury & Beachley Village Hall, King Alfred's Road, Sedbury.

Present: Councillors: Bollen, Edwards, Koning, McBride, Swambo (chairman), Tullett and Wall.
Officers: David Stevens (Clerk's Assistant).

1. APOLOGIES

- a. **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend from Councillor Molyneux.
- b. **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillor Molyneux.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members. None received.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. **Resolved to approve** as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 8th September 2021. There was one typo on page 4 item 6, last sentence 'a' should be 'at'.
- b. **To consider** any questions arising from those minutes. There were no questions.

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Mr Purcell attended the meeting to support the need for an additional dog bin in the Elm Road area (item 7e) and also to relocate the dog bin on Elm Road near Gloucester Road back to its original location (item 7f). Mr Purcell advised that the current dog bins on Elm Road were often full and have dog waste bags being placed on top or at the base of the dog bin. It was also reported that local residents use these dog bins for household dog waste and people have been seen driving up to dog bins to deposit dog waste. Mr Purcell stated the contractor has emptied the bins twice a week which he understood was not contract. The Clerk's Assistant advised he had received feedback from the contractor that the dog bins on Elm Road are well used and often overflowing and an additional bin is required, he has also discussed increasing emptying to twice a week.

5. CLERK'S ASSISTANT REPORT

- a. **Resolved to note and accept** the Amenities budget sheet.
- b. **Resolved to note** new batteries for the Tutshill and Sedbury Defibrillators were purchased at a cost of £276 including Vat each.
- c. **Resolved to note** the Tutshill and Woodcroft Defibrillator have both been accessed since last reported. It was also noted that the Woodcroft defibrillator was used on Friday 5th November and helped save the life of a rambler who is recovering in hospital. The defibrillator was promptly returned to the Council by the police and following cleaning and new probes being attached reinstated in Woodcroft.
- d. **Resolved to note** GCC Highways confirmed they are responsible for the quadrant of land with the broken and undergrowth hidden bench on the junction of B4228 Tidenham Chase and Boughspring Lane, the land has had the undergrowth cut back. As this bench was a memorial to Clay Jones Councillors suggested the Gardeners Club might like to refurbish which can be discussed at a future meeting.

6. TO CONSIDER CHURCHYARD WORKS AND ISSUES

None

7. TO CONSIDER OPEN SPACE ISSUES

- a. Councillors resolved to accept the cost of new defibrillator battery packs and proposed replacement gauze pads be considered separately for the already installed Rescue Ready Packs.
 - i. **Resolved to accept** Defib Store Ltd – 2 x battery packs at £220 + delivery £10.00 + Vat.

£460.00 + Vat = £552.00.

- ii. **Resolved not to accept** Passion First Aid Ltd – 2 x battery packs at £304 + delivery £5.95 + Vat.
£619.90 + Vat = £743.88.
- iii. **Resolved not to accept** Defib Store Ltd – 4 x Rescue Ready Pack at £19.99 + delivery £10.00 + Vat.
£89.96 + Vat = £107.95.
- iv. **Resolved not to accept** Passion First Aid Ltd – 4 x Rescue Ready Pack at £31.10 + delivery £5.95 + Vat.
£130.35 + Vat = £156.42.

- b. **Resolved not to accept** the cost of a cut and collect grass cut on the playing fields at Tutshill recreation ground. Councillors discussed the adverse growing season and agreed to monitor future grass cuts.
 - i. Glebe Contractors. **£420 + Vat = £504.00.**
- c. Councillors considered the quotes for the two-year tree maintenance as suggested in the 2020 arborist report.
 - i. **Resolved to accept** Greenfields. **£1,205 + Vat = £1,446.**
 - ii. **Resolved not to accept** Celtic Roots Tree Services. **£1,680 no Vat.**
 - iii. **Resolved not to accept** Trunk Arb Ltd. **£2,360 + Vat = £2,832.**
- d. **Resolved not to accept** the installation of a new waste bin at the Skate Park in Sedbury. Due to previous vandalism at this location Councillors agreed to monitor and if required consider at a future meeting.
 - i. Forest Equipment Services – contract emptying fee to apply. **£520.74 + Vat = £624.89.**
Plus, additional contract emptying fee. **£4.81 + Vat = £5.77 a week / £300.04 a year.**
- e. Councillors resolved to accept there is a need for an additional dog bin instead of twice weekly emptying in the Elm Road and Gloucester Road area of Tutshill. Councillors also suggested the Clerk's Assistant should inquire about signs to encourage users to take dog waste home if dog bins are full. The Clerk's Assistant to contact the developer's agent for permission to erect a dog bin.
 - i. **Resolved to accept** Forest Equipment Services – additional dog bin. **£318.00 + Vat = £381.60.**
Plus, additional contract emptying fee. **£4.81 + Vat = £5.77 a week / £300.04 a year.**
 - ii. **Resolved not to accept** Forest Equipment Services – a second weekly visit up to 7 bins in Tutshill. **£33.67 + Vat = £40.40 a week / £2,101.00 a year.**
- f. **Resolved to accept** relocating the dog bin on Elm Road, near the Gloucester Road junction, back to its original position by the footpath.
 - i. Forest Equipment Services. **£40.00 + Vat = £48.00.**
- g. **Resolved not to accept** request received for an additional dog bin near the scout hut in Sedbury. Councillors suggested this location be monitored given the close proximity of the dog bin already located on the Grahamstown Road and Edmond Road junction.
 - i. Forest Equipment Services – additional dog bin. **£318.00 + Vat = £381.60.**
Plus, additional contract emptying fee. **£4.81 + Vat = £5.77 a week / £300.04 a year.**

8. TO CONSIDER PLAY AREA ISSUES

Resolved to note the annual play area inspection report and summary of the various playground equipment. Councillors discussed the focus on youth engagement projects and concluded to wait for a future meeting to consider playground equipment.

9. TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Resolved to note there is no objection from either GCC Highways or the Waring family for the refurbishment of the Lady Winnifred Waring memorial bench on Coleford Road, Woodcroft. Councillors asked if the local resident who originally contacted the Council could be contacted to propose refurbishment details.

10. TO CONSIDER THE AMENITIES BUDGET FOR YEAR 2022/23

The Clerk's Assistant presented a proposal for the Amenities budget for 2022/23.

Resolved to accept the proposal and forward to Full Council and Finance Committee.

11. TO RECEIVE COUNCILLOR'S LOCAL REPORTS AND MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Council Wall – asked for an update on the Chat Bench project. The Clerk's Assistant advised the Lawful Development Certificate for GCC Highways approval has been drafted and emailed to committee members for comment. Councillor Swambo advised he has no comments or changes.

Councillor Wall – asked if the Committee knows what happens with developer's contributions received and gave education and air quality contribution as examples. Councillors asked if the Clerk's Assistant could investigate further.

Council Koning – asked if there was any news on a handyperson to take over from H.Bynon. The Clerk's Assistant advised that an advert will be in the next newsletter.

Councillor Swambo – advised following a meeting with Revd David Treharne and others they understood the maintenance of closed churchyards is not contractual. However, as the church is investigating a possible new consecrated graveyard in the Parish there might be an opportunity to fund closed graveyard repairs.

Councillor Swambo – suggested that the dog bin service being provided would be better funded via a dog licence scheme. Councillors discussed further investigation is required.

Councillor Swambo – commented that some of the Council projects should be funded by means other than the precept for example the build back better fund, events, the church, etc.

Councillor Swambo – advised that additional storage is required at the Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall for various activities and organisations i.e., litter picking equipment, Rainbows, etc. To be considered at a future meeting.

12. TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Next meeting 12th December 2021.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9:03pm.