

**Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee of Camborne Town Council held in The Council Chamber, Passmore Edwards Building, The Cross, Cross Street, Camborne, TR14 8HA on Thursday 16th May 2024 at 6.30 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Councillor R Weatherburn Chairman

Councillor N Miles Vice Chairman

Councillor J Cosgrove

Councillor V Dalley

Councillor L McDonald

Councillor P Mills

Councillor J Morgan

Councillor D Ragan

Councillor R Tal-E-Bot

IN ATTENDANCE:

**Dave Garwood, Amenities & Projects Officer and Deputy Proper Officer; Sally Williams, Committee Support Officer and Councillor Z Fox.**

A.4495 SAFETY PROCEDURES

The Chairman explained the safety procedures to all present.

**A.4496 TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND ELECT A CHAIR OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2024/2025**

**A.4496.2 RESOLVED: that Councillor R Weatherburn was elected as Chair of the Amenities Committee for the municipal year 2024/2025**

Proposed by Councillor P Mills

 Seconded by Councillor N Miles

 On a vote being taken the matter was approved by a majority.

A.4497 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

A.4497.2 RESOLVED: that the apology from Councillor J Ball for non-attendance of the meeting of the Amenities Committee on the 16th May 2024 was received

Proposed by Councillor P Mills

 Seconded by Councillor V Dalley

 On a vote being taken the matter was approved unanimously.

A.4498 MEMBERS TO DECLARE DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON-REGISTERABLE INTERESTS (INCLUDING THE DETAILS THEREOF) IN RESPECT OF ANY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA INCLUDING ANY GIFTS OR HOSPITALITY EXCEEDING £25

There were no declarations of interests.

A.4499 TO APPROVE WRITTEN REQUEST(S) FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no written dispensation requests.

A.4500 CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

 The new Chair wished to thank the meeting for electing him and he also wished to thank Councillor Mills for her service in the role in the last year.

A.4501 TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND ELECT A VICE CHAIR OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2024/2025

A.4501.2 RESOLVED: that Councillor N Miles was elected as Vice Chair of the Amenities Committee for the municipal year 2024/2025

Proposed by Councillor P Mills

 Seconded by Councillor R Tal-E-Bot

 On a vote being taken the matter was approved unanimously.

A.4502 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 21st MARCH 2024 AND THE CHAIR TO SIGN THEM

A.4502.2 RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 21st March 2024 were received, approved and signed by the Chair

Proposed by Councillor P Mills

 Seconded by Councillor R Tal-E-Bot

 On a vote being taken the matter was approved unanimously of those entitled to vote.

A.4503 MATTERS ARISING, FOR INFORMATION ONLY, WHERE NOT INCLUDED BELOW

 Councillor Cosgrove questioned whether item A.4488 had been followed up. He did note that Mr Rooney had not actually required any action from the Council but that the minutes had stated that he would be contacted anyway. The Amenities & Projects Officer and Deputy Proper Officer explained that this had not happened to date but that it was an outstanding action to be completed shortly.

A.4504 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (SUBJECT TO STANDING ORDER 3E MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE PERMITTED TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS, ANSWER QUESTIONS AND GIVE EVIDENCE IN RESPECT OF ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA, UP TO A MAXIMUM OF FIFTEEN MINUTES)

 Councillor Fox was present, but she did not wish to speak at this juncture.

A.4505 TO RECEIVE AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR THE AMENITIES BUDGETS TO 30TH APRIL 2024, AND AGREE ACTION

 The Amenities & Projects Officer and Deputy Proper Officer explained that as it was early in the financial year there had not been a great deal of expenditure to date. The only large amount that had been spent had been on the Amenities Projects and this had been for works to the Dolcoath Engine House so far.

A.4505.2 RESOLVED: that an Income and Expenditure Report for the Amenities Budgets to 30th April 2024 was received

Proposed by Councillor J Cosgrove

 Seconded by Councillor P Mills

 On a vote being taken the matter was approved unanimously.

A.4506 TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON STREET WEEDING BY THE AMENITIES & PROJECTS OFFICER AND AGREE ACTION

 The Amenities & Projects Officer and Deputy Proper Officer stated that the Amenities Team had been working hard as they only had until the end of May to work on the street weeding. So this would be their focus for the next two weeks and then they would move on to the footpaths.

 In response to a query about the use of the chemical spray treatment that had been agreed at a previous meeting, the Amenities & Projects Officer explained that it had been too wet for this to have been used effectively so far this year. Councillor Miles queried whether glyphosate would be used and it was confirmed that it would once spraying began as this had been agreed before. However, this would only be used as an initial treatment.

 In response to a query from Councillor McDonald about whether there was a street weeding plan, Councillors then went on to discuss how this could be shared with members of the public. The Amenities & Projects Officer confirmed that a plan was in place and that the schedule had been drawn up and agreed so that weeds would be tackled in places where it would make the most impact for the community. He was very happy to share the schedule with Councillors who were new to the Amenities Committee. Councillors all agreed that website updates might be helpful in sharing what had been achieved so that the public were aware of progress.

A.4506.2 RESOLVED: that a verbal update from the Amenities & Projects Officer on Street Weeding was received

Proposed by Councillor R Weatherburn

 Seconded by Councillor J Cosgrove

 On a vote being taken the matter was approved unanimously.

A.4507 TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING THE PASSMORE EDWARDS BUILDING HANDRAIL AND AGREE ACTION

 Councillors discussed the correspondence and agreed that this was a perfectly reasonable request and that as a Health and Safety issue it should be addressed as soon as possible. The Amenities & Projects Officer explained that the builders would be working in the Passmore Edwards Building over the next week. He would request that they quote for the work so that it could be completed in as short a timescale as possible.

A.4507.2 RESOLVED: that correspondence regarding the Passmore Edwards Building handrail was received and that a quote be sought so that the work could be done, was approved, with expenditure authorised

Proposed by Councillor J Cosgrove

 Seconded by Councillor V Dalley

 On a vote being taken the matter was approved unanimously.

A.4508 TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE FROM THE AMENITIES & PROJECTS OFFICER REGARDING AMENITIES TASKING AND PRIORITIES, AGREE ACTION AND AUTHORISE EXPENDITURE

 The Amenities & Projects Officer explained that the Amenities team had been busy through ‘No Mow May’ as they had moved their focus to the recreation ground and other green spaces, tending to flower beds and other aspects of the parks.

 He stated that generally vandalism had tailed off a little bit. The toilets were still prone to be being broken into, with toilet roll holders still being targeted, but even this was less than previously.

 The team were finding that the electric tools were all working well, and the electric mower was extremely beneficial.

 The next task would be the floral displays in the town. Kehelland had been growing on plug plants which would be ready for more sustainable displays and there would be more perennial planting. Councillor Dalley reported that the flower bed outside the Co-op Funeral Care was looking quite messy and so this would be looked at straight away. Councillor Fox asked whether there could be a lot of publicity regarding the new flower beds and planting scheme to make people aware of the reasoning behind the change of scheme. She also said that Redruth had incorporated a great deal of ‘Incredible Edible’ in the town. The Amenities & Projects Officer responded that this was not something that had really been considered previously but that it could certainly be incorporated in the future, especially in more permanent planters. Councillor Miles therefore suggested that a representative from ‘Incredible Edible’ be invited to a future meeting to provide some more information about the possibilities of the scheme.

A.4508.2 RESOLVED: that a verbal update from the Amenities & Projects Officer regarding Amenities tasking and priorities was received and that a representative from Incredible Edible be invited to a future meeting, was approved

Proposed by Councillor N Miles

 Seconded by Councillor R Weatherburn

 On a vote being taken the matter was approved unanimously.

A.4509 TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK REGARDING THE ANNUAL SURVEY 2023 AND UPDATING THE STRATEGIC PLAN, AND AGREE ACTION

 The Amenities & Projects Officer explained that the information that had been provided was for Councillors to consider and for them to respond with their own ideas and comments by Full Council in July.

Councillor Fox wished to express congratulations for the amount that had been achieved in the time since that report. Councillor Cosgrove also wished to congratulate the Town Council team for getting the survey out. He did also suggest that when it went out again it might be beneficial to focus on a ‘what we do’ section as this might prevent people’s misunderstandings of the differences between Cornwall Council and Town Council provision. It was explained that his had been included but that it could potentially be emphasised even more next time. Councillor Mills suggested that the delivery of the survey be booked as soon as possible and that she looked forward to the next survey. She also enquired whether the Home Library Service was advertised. This was confirmed but she requested that it be advertised and promoted more, and to include hard copy advertising for those who do not have any internet access.

Other suggestions were that devolution possibilities needed to be expanded, especially with a focus on allotments and community gardens. The Amenities & Projects Officer explained that these opportunities were checked constantly, however, they were currently unaffordable. Councillor Dalley also felt that with three major projects currently in hand it might be better not to expand too much too soon.

**A.4509.2 RESOLVED: that the report from the Town Clerk and Senior Management Team on Council Priorities and the Annual Survey 2023 was received**

Proposed by Councillor R Weatherburn

 Seconded by Councillor L McDonald

 On a vote being taken the matter was approved unanimously.

A.4509.3 RESOLVED: that the current live work and priorities were given precedence and that any projects or new pieces of work be investigated first, with a written report showing capacity and cost, before any agreement by Council is made to proceed, and that this process stays in place for two years, subject to review, was approved

Proposed by Councillor V Dalley

 Seconded by Councillor P Mills

 On a vote being taken the matter was approved unanimously.

A.4509.4 RESOLVED: that a HR review of tasking and future resource needs, working with the Town Clerk, SMT and appropriate staff, to be brought back to the Staffing Committee with recommendations, was approved, and that the associated expenditure to support that work, was authorised

Proposed by Councillor R Weatherburn

 Seconded by Councillor P Mills

 On a vote being taken the matter was approved unanimously.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 19:07pm.

SIGNED BY THE CHAIRMAN…………………………………

 DATE ………………………………………………………