

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 2023/04/24

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting held in Council Chambers, Claremont House, Lydney on Monday 24th April 2023 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors C Harris, A Harley, R Holmes, S Holmes (Chair), B Osborne, T Saunders (Vice Chair) and E Taylor.

M Greenfield (Town Clerk)
L Addis (Minutes)

1. **APOLOGIES**

There were none.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 16th January were confirmed as a true record, following a Proposal from Cllr Harris. Seconded by Cllr Saunders. Record of Voting: For – 4, with 3 abstentions.

4. **OPEN FORUM**

There were no members of the public present.

5. **EVENTS**

(i)& The committee discussed this year's Christmas Events.

(ii)

The Committee confirmed that the date of this years Christmas Event as Friday 1st December 2023.

Additional signage is to be provided prior to an on the day of the route, which will remain the same as the previous year, alongside aiming to make the event affordable.

Cllr Harris proposed deferring a decision to the next meeting. Seconded – Cllr Saunders. AGREED with a unanimous vote

(iii) The Committee noted the agreed Halloween budget of £250.00 from the Amenities Committee meeting of 17/10/2022.

A Halloween Event was discussed for this year but the Committee thought that the budget should be moved to the Youth activity budget and more appropriately spent towards youth and half term activities. The Committee AGREED to defer to next Amenities meeting. Proposed from the Chair – Unanimous vote.

6. **LITTER BIN/DOG WASTE BIN REQUESTS**

(i) The Committee considered Dog waste bin requests at Summerleaze Road and Julius Way.

Summerleaze Road was REFUSED as the Committee felt that sufficient bins were available in the locality.

Julius Way was AGREED as the Committee felt that there were insufficient bins in the locality.

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

A councillor reported that the budget for this had been greatly reduced in the last year and that there were only funds available to install and empty one bin. Biffa had been contacted by a councillor to request additional bins for installation and is waiting for a reply, these will be at no extra cost to the Council.

- (ii) It was reported that Lydney Town Council have also bought and received signs to go on all litter bins in the area to show that litter and dog waste can go in these. The Grounds team will be installing these in the next few weeks.

The Committee considered litter bin requests at Lynwood Road, Old Dam Road and Primrose Hill Road.

These were all REFUSED due to the space available for installation, funding and availability of alternative bins that could be used.

Record of voting for the above decisions were as follows: Proposed from the Chair, unanimous vote.

7. **THE MESNE**

- (i) The Committee had a lengthy discussion regarding current wildlife activity at The Mesne.

A councillor suggested that as The Mesne is a Community asset and needs protecting, a collaborative approach was needed to decide on next steps. The Committee AGREED that after the May 2023 elections a meeting is to be organised between Lydney Town Council, Forestry Commission and District Council to find a suitable solution. Proposed from the Chair, unanimous vote.

- (ii) The Committee noted the recent report of damage caused by vandalism to the roundabout. The Grounds Team have cordoned off the area using tape and cones. The Assistant Clerk had contacted Greenfields who were going out to site to assess damage and repairs needed. The Town Clerk suggested contacting local PCSO's to see what help can be given regarding this matter. A councillor will contact the police regarding the vandalism.

- (iii) The Committee considered a suitable site near The Mesne to install a defib point.

Various sites were considered and it was AGREED for Cllr S Holmes to formally approach the local vicar at Primrose Hill Church as a possible site and offer a donation for electricity charges incurred.

Cllr S Holmes will also investigate the costings of triple charges and will provide an update at the next Amenities meeting. Proposed from the Chair – Unanimous Vote.

8. **GRASSED VERGE OUTSIDE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

The Chair gave an update on the ten flowering Cherry Trees that were planted. It was noted that they were healthy and improved the appearance of the verge.

9. **BENCHES ON HIGHFIELD AND BREAM ROAD**

The Committee noted the two benches that have now been installed on Highfield and Bream Road.

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

10. COMMUNITY ORCHARDS

The Chair gave an update on the progress regarding ongoing Community Orchards projects. It was reported that all 3 Primary Schools had been visited by the Chair and Head Groundsman.

At Primrose Hill School, fifteen fruit trees had been proposed with the species of trees yet to be decided.

It was agreed at this visit that residents whose properties bordered the school site be contacted regarding trees which will be planted on the boundary of the school before going ahead with the project.

At Severnbanks School it was agreed that 15 apple, pear and plum trees be requested from GCC.

It was noted that the planting would not be in close proximity to any properties and so would be going ahead as planned.

At Bream Road School it was agreed that 6 pear and plum trees be requested and they are to be planted on a current orchard site at the school.

There had been some progress on the land off Centurion Way with signs installed on site to show planting area and give notice to residents. Letters are to go out to all residents near the site in the next couple of weeks.

Soil testing had been carried out on land near Lydney Lake, the results showed that the land may not be suitable for allotments or orchard use, as yet. It was suggested that further information is sought from the testing company and an understanding of the detailed analysis before deciding next steps. Cllr S Holmes will contact the company and report back to the Committee.

11. COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Osborne commented that the St George's flag was not raised on Sunday 23rd April 2023.

It was suggested that a councillor could raise the necessary flags, if this needs to occur at weekend, in the absence of the office staff.

The council to review the flag dates that Lydney Town Council currently hold at the next Full Council Meeting.

Cllr Taylor raised a previous request for a bus shelter outside of Taurus Crafts. Cllr Harris had discussed this with District and County Cllr A Preest and had been advised to apply to Gloucestershire Highways for funding, she will go ahead with this application.

Cllr Saunders reported that the organising of activities for the Coronation Event were all in hand and going well.

Cllr S Holmes stated that she had enjoyed her time as the Chair of the Amenities Committee and gave thanks to everyone for their contributions, she also welcomed the new Town Clerk and gave thanks to the Assistant Clerk for all her help and support given during her time at Lydney Town Council.

Cllr Osborne welcomed the new Town Clerk and gave thanks to the Assistant Clerk for all her help and support given during her time at Lydney Town Council.

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
Monday 17th July 2023 at 7.00pm

Meeting ended at 8.30pm

Chair S Holmes.....

Date 17-7-23.....