

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held in Council Chambers,
Claremont House,
Lydney on
Monday 17th July 2023 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors C Harris, R Holmes, S Holmes (Chair) and
T Saunders (Vice Chair).
M Greenfield (Town Clerk)
C Matthews Assistant Clerk (Locum) (Minutes)

OPEN FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs P Johns, W Osborne and E Taylor

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

3. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on the Monday 24th April 2023 were confirmed as a true record, following a Proposal from Cllr C Harris. Seconded by Cllr T Saunders. Unanimously Agreed

4. **ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE**

It was proposed by Cllr C Harris and Seconded by Cllr R Holmes that Cllr T Saunders becomes the Vice-Chair of the Committee. Unanimously Agreed

5. **TOWN CLERKS REPORT**

The report was received and Noted

6. **BUS SHELTER AT TAURUS CRAFTS**

It was noted that the council were awaiting further information from both County Councillor A. Preest and Nathan Choat, County Council Officer of Highways on the installation of a new bus stop outside of Taurus Crafts, Lydney.

7. **DRAFT HEAD OF TERMS – CENTURION ROAD TENANCY OF WILL**

Cllr S Holmes proposed that the Head of Terms- Centurion Road Tenancy of Will be accepted and signed. Unanimously Agreed

It was suggested that fruit trees could be investigated for planting at a future meeting.

S Holmes 15-01-24

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

8. DEFIBRILLATORS

The Chair proposed that the Clerk writes to the owner of The Old Post Office to seek permission to install a Defibrillator on the outside wall of the Old Post Office.

Unanimously Agreed

Cllr C Harris asked whether the Committee would be willing to fund either in part or in full a defibrillator for The Dean Forest Railway.

The Clerk reminded the committee that groups can apply for council grants.

Town location of current defibrillators is needed.

9. COMMUNITY ORCHARDS AND SENSORY GARDEN

- (i) **COMMUNITY ORCHARDS** – Cllr S Holmes updated the Committee with a report that noted that the leases for the Community Orchards have all been agreed, signed and submitted.

The committee discussed the soil sample results. As a result of the discussions the committee resolved to withdraw the proposal of placing a community orchard and allotment site at the ground to the left of the lake and to inform the Lydney Recreational Trust.

Cllr T Saunders commented that £2,500 is available through the Forest of Dean District Council for the Sensory Garden Project and that submission of evidence that the work had commenced was a requirement to gain access to the funding. The clerk is to contact FoDDC regarding the available funding.

The committee thanked Cllr S Holmes for the work she had undertaken on the projects.

SENSORY GARDEN-HEAD GROUNDS MAN REPORT - The grounds team are building raised beds at the moment for the herb plants. They are also making seats in house and sensory paths. They will shortly make flower beds ready for all of the plants ordered. Trying to keep the costs down we will be making as much as possible in house, leaving any mirrors, sensory play equipment, bird bath, Sundial, wild flowers and even a water feature. All very exciting.

Cllr S Holmes suggested that County Council representatives be asked to a future opening event alongside the press, to enable the sensory garden to be further publicised when it is completed.

The Committee resolved that the Heads Groundman gives a further Report for the next meeting.

10. WINTER BEDDING PLANTS

The committee received the quote for the Winter bedding plants. It was Proposed by Cllr S Holmes that the quote be accepted. Unanimously Agreed

11. CHRISTMAS EVENT - DECEMBER FRIDAY 1ST 2023

Cllr T Saunders reported that the planning for the Christmas event will be occurring shortly, after the 22nd July event.

The lighting and safety at Hams Road Car Park was discussed and alternative starting points will be investigated, if necessary.

Stolmes 15-01-24

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

District Council may possibly be approached to enable the parade to start from the Newerne Street Carpark.

Cllr T Saunders sought clarification on the budget for the Christmas event. – It was proposed by Cllr S Holmes that the budget of £3,500 be approved and that the pricing for Father Christmas be placed on the September Agenda of the Council Agenda when costings for the presents/gifts to be purchased will be known. Unanimously Agreed.

12. **HALLOWEEN EVENT**

This event is no longer proceeding, as a result the Proposal was withdrawn.

13. **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND STREET TESTING**

- (i) It was proposed by Cllr S Holmes that the quotes for installation, removal and street testing be accepted from Oakey and Son Ltd Electrical Services and Luke Cole Electrical, subject to the lights being in working order, with the addition of delegated powers to the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee to be able to agree further purchases if required, following vandalism from the previous year. Unanimously Agreed.
- (ii) It was further proposed that the Clerk write to Oakey and Son Ltd requesting that the cost of installing and removing the lights at Claremont House be clarified so that half of this charge can be recovered from the owners of the building. Unanimously Agreed.

It was proposed by Cllr S Holmes to agree the formation of a Christmas Lights Sub-Committee to look at further sites across the Town and the addition of new lights and to further the idea of seeking funding for the purchase. Unanimously Agreed

14. **STIGA REPLACEMENT MOWER.**

- 14.1 It was proposed by Cllr S Holmes to approve that the damaged Stiga Mower be used as part trade-in for a new Stiga Mower, to be purchased from Revill Mowers, at a cost not exceeding £12000.00 Inc. VAT. Unanimously Agreed.
- 14.2 It was proposed by Cllr T Saunders that the quote for the purchase of the Stiga be approved and ordered.
It was proposed by Cllr S Holmes that the funds for the purchase be taken from Budget Codes 4195, 4520 and EMR 330 and any VAT reclaim to be placed back to the EMR 330 Budget Code when completed. Unanimously Agreed.
15. **TREE WORK**
- (i) It was proposed by Cllr S Holmes that the quote from TrunkArb Tree Surgery Ltd for the works to the tree at the edge of the Mesne was accepted. Unanimously Agreed
- (ii) It was proposed by Cllr S Holmes that the quote from TrunkArb Tree Surgery Ltd to address the trees with Ash Die-Back that are on Council Land near the old Iron Bridge (railway) be accepted, subject to confirmation that the trees are on Council land. Unanimously Agreed
- (iii) There are concerns for the safety of four trees near the Cut, which are believed to be on Council land.

S Holmes 15-01-24

LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

It was proposed by Cllr S Holmes that the Clerk can action the work under delegated powers. Unanimously Agreed

16. **COUNCILLOR REPORTS.**

None.

17. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 16th October 2023 at 7.00pm

Meeting ended at 8.17pm

Chair 

Date 15-1-24