



SHAFTESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee held on
Tuesday 28th May 2013 at 7.00 pm in the Mayors Parlour.

Present: Cllr Hicks (Chairman)
Cllr Dibben (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr Cook
Cllr Pritchard

In attendance: Barbara Carter (Acting Deputy Town Clerk)
Claire Commons (Acting Committee Services Officer)
3 members of the public

Public consultation

A member of the public expressed concern that the Coppice Street /Tesco corner was looking scruffy. It was advised that this was on the agenda for discussion.

01. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Steve due to a conflicting engagement.

02. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were reminded of their obligations under the Localism Act 2011 to declare any interests. Cllr Hicks asked that it be recorded that the applicant for Tree Application 2314 (agenda item 4a) was known to him. Cllr Cook asked that it be recorded that he was a member of the Snowdrop group.

03. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference were reviewed, Cllr Hicks **PROPOSED**, Cllr Dibben **SECONDED** and it was unanimously **AGREED** to continue responsibility for responding to tree works applications and to:

RECOMMEND to Full Council that the Terms of Reference for the Recreation, Open Spaces and Environment Committee be **ADOPTED** subject to minor adjustments.

ACTION: ACTING COMMITTEE SERVICES OFFICER

04. TREE APPLICATIONS

The delegated decision were noted as follows:

- a) 2314, 30 Bell Street - Reduce crown by 1.5m, T1 Cherry
Cut down to 4m, T2 Hazel
Reduce crown by 20%, T3 Ash
Crown clean, T4 Beech
Fell, T5 Cherry

The chairman and vice chairman were in accordance with the response provided by Shaftesbury Tree Group that there were no objections.

The committee made observations as follows:

- b) 2325, Blue Cedar Fell and replace with pleached Hornbeam tree, T107 Box Elder Cllr Hicks **PROPOSED**, Cllr Dibben **SECONDED** and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to object to the application by virtue of the existing tree being of good health and the suggested substitution of a pleached Hornbeam not being of equitable stature.
- c) 2319, Byzant Court Crown reduce by 30%, T1-5 Acer

The committee were in accordance with the comments made by the Shaftesbury Tree Group and objected to the application by virtue of the works being unnecessary and potentially detrimental to the health of the trees.

ACTION: ACTING COMMITTEE SERVICES OFFICER

05. STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN 2013/2014 – ACTIONS FOR MAY AND JUNE 2013.

a) Allotments

- i. It was **AGREED** that the allotment holders meeting would be held at 6pm on Tuesday 9th July 2013 with the ROSE committee meeting following at 7:30pm.
- ii. Cllr Dibben **PROPOSED**, Cllr Pritchard **SECONDED** and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED to adjust plot sizes in accordance with guidance from the National Allotment Holders Association to be no smaller than one half. (*Policy 0513/ROSE/5aii*) (*Statutory Authority – Smallholdings and Allotments Act 1908 s26*) (*Financial Implication – none*) (*Public Sector Equality Duty – Not applicable*)

b) Gold Hill Wall

Cllr Dibben **PROPOSED**, Cllr Hicks **SECONDED** and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED to delegate authority for expenditure on monitoring Gold Hill wall to the Acting Deputy Town Clerk up to the value of £3,000. (*Policy 0513/ROSE/5b*) (*Statutory Authority – Local Government Act 1972 s137*) (*Financial Implication – Capital Replacement Fund – up to £3,000 Gold Hill Wall 2013/14*) (*Public Sector Equality Duty – due consideration of the duty was given*)

c) Castle Hill

A report from the Open Spaces Group had been circulated. Cllr Dibben recalled that he thought the old hedge should have been removed once the beech hedge had grown. John Parker noted that there was an old dry stone wall visible now. Cllr Dibben **PROPOSED**, Cllr Cook **SECONDED** and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED to adopt the management plan as prepared by the Open Spaces Group (*Policy 0513/ROSE/5d*) (*Statutory Authority – OSA 1906 s.10*) (*Financial Implication – none*)(*Public Sector Equality Duty – due consideration of the duty was given*)

ACTION: ACTING DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Members considered whether a BBQ area would be a suitable project for the future and it was agreed to investigate the insurance implications.

ACTION: ACTING COMMITTEE SERVICES OFFICER

d) Grounds Unit

It was reported that request for tenders had been made and were scheduled for opening on Friday 21st June 2013 at 2:15pm.

e) Coppice Street Corner

The design for the corner had previously been circulated. It was reported that the groundsteam were obtaining prices for paving and it was requested that contractor prices were also obtained.

ACTION: ACTING DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Members also discussed the 'Market Cross' canopy which was frequently being used as a carport. It was agreed to raise this at the next meeting with Tesco.

ACTION: ACTING DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

f) Cemetery Improvements

- i. A suggestion for a babies and infants area in the cemetery had been circulated. Cllr Pritchard **PROPOSED**, Cllr Cook **SECONDED** and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED to designate an area on the perimeter of the centre circle in the cemetery for babies and infants only. (*Policy 0513/ROSE/5f*) (*Statutory Authority – OSA 1906 s.9*) (*Financial Implication- none*) (*Public Sector Equality Duty – due consideration of the duty was given*)

ACTION: FINANCE AND ADMIN OFFICER

- ii. Members considered the spoil heap at the cemetery and the possibility of screening it with a hedge. It was **AGREED** that the committee make a site visit and discussed further at the next meeting of the committee on the 9th July 2013.

ACTION: ACTING COMMITTEE SERVICES OFFICER

g) Eastern Development, Open Spaces and Recreation

Advice was given that the wording of the indemnity should be adjusted to mitigate against liability. Cllr Dibben **PROPOSED**, Cllr Hicks **SECONDED** and it was **AGREED** to:

REFER to Full Council that the adjusted indemnity documents be signed in relation to commuted sums, developer contributions and s.106 monies.

It was asked to investigate and consider the implications of Policy SB18 in relation to the triangle of land requested for transfer.

ACTION: ACTING DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

h) Transfer of Open Spaces

It was reported that NDDC were undertaking a tree survey of Jeanneau Close and that works for Tout Hill were still to be determined. It was **AGREED** to remove Tout Hill and Jeanneau Close from the transfer documents to allow the remaining areas to be transferred without delay.

i) Community Hall

It was reported that there would be a meeting of Barton Hill Trust the following day and further reporting could be made after this point.

j) Shaftesbury Snowdrops

Members considered the request from Shaftesbury Snowdrops for financial support towards a snowdrop arch. The committee was unable to provide capital funds for such a project and **AGREED** to show support for the project by approaching Trinity Trust on behalf of the group.

ACTION: ACTING DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

k) Enmore Green

There were no matters arising for discussion on this subject.

l) Play Area improvements

It was reported that repairs highlighted from the ROSPA inspection were being carried out and an insurance claim was being investigated for the vandalism which had occurred earlier in the month at Wincombe Recreation Ground.

m) Imminent Actions

- i. Members considered the Lime Trees at Trinity and a request from the Trinity Trust to work in conjunction with the town council to maintain the trees. It was **AGREED** to investigate this further with the Trinity Trust.

ACTION: ACTING DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

- ii. It was noted that Cllrs Hicks and Dibben would review the management of the Donkey Field Community Orchard and report to the committee with any recommendations.

ACTION: CLLRS HICKS AND DIBBEN

- iii. It was noted that identification of all trees within Shaftesbury Town Council ownership be mapped.

ACTION: ACTING DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

06. HOVIS LED DISPLAY

Cllr Dibben reported the idea of an LED display on Gold Hill to generate revenue for the upkeep of the hill and the wall. It was **AGREED** that the Mayor in his capacity as ex-officio member of the Shaftesbury Charitable Trust take the idea to them for consideration.

ACTION: CLLR PRITCHARD

07. PUBLIC LITTER BINS

It was reported that there were damaged bins in need of replacement and a request for a bin on Tout Hill. Cllr Dibben **PROPOSED**, Cllr Pritchard **SECONDED** and it was unanimously:

RESOLVED to request all three bins be replaced and contribution of £233 being the unit cost of one bin be made to Dorset Waste Partnership. (*Policy 0513/ROSE/07*) (*Statutory Authority – Litter Act 1983 s.5*) (*Financial Implication – General Grounds, Refuse Collection*) (*Public Sector Equality Duty – not applicable*)

08. REVIEW OF OPEN SPACES

The report from the Open Spaces Group had been received. It was **AGREED** that all items within the report had been covered by the items already discussed and would be incorporated into the grounds team work. The committee thanked John Parker and Angela King for their work on the review.

ACTION: GROUND TEAM

09. CORRESPONDENCE

The letter from Mr Simon Owens regarding a community litterpick was received and noted. It was agreed to forward his details to Louise Canty and Peter Askins as existing community litterpickers.

ACTION: ACTING COMMITTEE SERVICES OFFICER

10. CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS

It was asked to ensure that the new sycamores on Park Walk were frequently watered.

ACTION: ACTING DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

A request had been received from Shaftesbury Youth Club for an additional seat. It was agreed to identify funds and bring back for consideration.

ACTION: ACTING DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

A request had been received for use of Barton Hill for a vintage car rally in August. It was **AGREED** that this request be granted in accordance with the hire of council land protocol.

ACTION: ACTING COMMITTEE SERVICES OFFICER

11. PUBLIC RELATIONS

It was **AGREED** to contact Blackmore Vale Magazine regarding the vandalism at Wincombe Recreation Ground,

ACTION: CLLR PRITCHARD

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9:15pm

Public Consultation

Mr Askin – spoke regarding the Hilltop Litterpickers advising that there was no cost to join the group. He reported that Coppice Street and Old Boundary Rd were the hardest to pick because the nettles were so high.