



**Minutes of Community Wellbeing Committee meeting
held on Tuesday 12 February 2019 at 7:00pm
the Hayridge Centre, Cullompton**

Present: Councillors: Eileen Andrews (Chair), Iain Emmett, Lloyd Knight, Janet Johns,
Liza Oxford-Booth & Jordann Barge
Also in Attendance: Nick Savage (Footpath Warden)
Clerk: Maria Weston (Deputy Town Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES:** None received.
 2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT:** Cllr. Barge declared a personal interest as she lives in close proximity to a Public Right of Way.
 3. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** No members of the public were present at the meeting.
 4. **MINUTES:**
The Minutes of the last meeting on 17 January 2019 were approved and signed as a correct record. **Proposed:** Cllr. Emmett **Seconded:** Cllr. Johns.
 5. **RESOLUTIONS:** Noted.
 6. **FINANCE:** To accept Committee Income & Expenditure Report.
Proposed: Cllr. Andrews **Seconded:** Cllr. Oxford-Booth
 7. **PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY:**
 - i) **To receive report from Footpath Warden (Nick Savage):** Mr. Savage gave a verbal update.
Mr. Savage:
 - Informed the Committee that he had supplied the Town Clerk with a list of the key items of maintenance work that is required (for the Annual P3 Report)
 - Asked the Committee if they could consider the work required at the Leat Path where the gap between the path and barge fence needs filling;
 - Suggested that the Committee records what work it wishes to carry out.
- The Clerk:
- Advised the Committee that a hand-rail is required at the Station Road end of the Leat path as there is a potential health & safety issue due to the sloping path and no barrier between the path and Leat and distributed a photograph of this part of the Leat;

- Informed members that a local contractor had quoted £825.00 + VAT to fabricate a suitable bespoke handrail/barrier.

RESOLVED: That the Council accept the quotation of £825.00 + VAT for a bespoke handrail and that the Town Clerk should submit an application for funding from the Communities Together Fund.

Proposed: Cllr. Emmett **Seconded:** Cllr. Knight

NOTE: Cllr. Barge exited the room.

The Footpath Warden:

- Stated that the finger posts (three finger posts need attention - at Colebrooke Lane, Ponsford & St. Georges Well leading into Bluebell Lane) and Finger Post Packs which have been requested from Devon County Council had not yet been supplied and that he would chase these up with the Warden at Devon County Council.
- Asked whether the Council could establish what the situation was with the footpath diversion at Culm Lea. The tarmac had been finished but an opening is now required in the fence. A footpath order is required for the diversion to the route as it is a Public right of Way. Could the Council chase the matter up by contacting Devon County Council?

NOTE: Cllr. Barge re-entered the room.

- The Footpath Warden also asked for the Council to consider whether a bridge would be feasible near the houses at Saxon Way which is a Public Right of Way, using a standard 'bridge kit'. Mr. Savage had spoken with the Devon County Council Warden whose view was this would be an appropriate use of Section 106 monies.

RESOLVED: The Council are happy to install a bridge (using a standard 'bridge kit') on the Public Right of Way at Saxon Way subject to the agreement of the Devon County Council Warden.

Proposed: Cllr. Oxford-Booth **Seconded:** Cllr. Knight

ii) **To receive update on the Leat path and associated works.**

The Clerk updated the Committee on the current position with the Leat:

- A local contractor had assessed the Leat with a view to carrying out the works required to 'shore up' the banks but had declined to quote, stating that the works would require a contractor with the necessary 'skill-set' and equipment to work from within the water itself;
- The (above) contractor had recommended two contractors who should be able to undertake the works;
- Following research, it had been established that the Environmental Agency did not, as was previously understood to be the case by the Committee, hold a register of approved contractors (able to work in/at water source);
- The Environmental Agency said they would be happy to approve a schematic for the Leat works if the Council wished to send this in.

Associated Works:

The Clerk:

Informed the Committee that the Town Clerk, in conjunction with the Footpath Warden had completed the P3 Annual Return paperwork which has been sent off to Devon County Council;

Asked the Committee to consider paying for the grass cutting by the Leat and advised that Devon County Council will only cut the grass once per annum for free (as the Leat path is a Public Right of Way). Additional costs would be as follows:

Bankside behind Tesco supermarket	£18.09 per visit
Area between the Leat and the Leat path	£36.19 per visit

The Clerk informed the Committee:

- The Maintenance Supervisor had cut the grass in the past and as it had taken quite a while, the costs quoted were considered 'good value for money';
- The Committee had previously spoken about allowing the grassed area between the Leat and the Leat path to naturalise. This option would mean no immediate financial outlay as this area would require no maintenance for a while.

RESOLVED: That the Council accept Mid-Devon District Council's quotation to cut the grass (as and when required) bankside of the Leat (behind Tesco car park) for the sum of £18.09 per visit;

That the Council are happy for the grass between the Leat and the Leat path to be allowed to naturalise.

Proposed: Cllr. Emmett **Seconded:** Cllr. Barge

iii. Any other Public Rights of Way matters.

Cllr. Emmett raised the issue of the Old Mill remains (chimney stack) located just before Middle Mill Lane that has a tree on top – this is on private land but the owner is currently unknown. Devon County Council do have a responsibility for this area as it overlooks their footpath. The Footpath Warden advised that the Committee look towards a practical way forward and said this was a similar situation to one at Kia-ora Farm & Gardens - There is a wall there which could be potentially dangerous and that having spoken to Devon County's Warden was advised that if rubble started to fall down, that this would be taken seriously and dealt with relatively quickly. The Footpath Warden stated that if this was the case with the Old Mill's remains, it would be considered a safety issue particularly as on a Public Right of Way.

The Chair, Cllr. Andrews, thanked the Footpath Warden for his dedication and for all of his hard work stating that she was extremely grateful as was the Committee. The Committee expressed their thanks also.

NOTE: Mr. Savage left the meeting.

8. COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT:

- i) To receive Update Report with regard to floral decoration in the Town. Noted –

Discussion ensued about the number and location of the floral tubs, containers and beds in Cullompton and also whose responsibility it was to maintain them. It was agreed that using colourful perennials and shrubs inside the Town's centre and lower maintenance shrubs and plants on the outskirts would be practical.

RESOLVED: That the Committee are happy for Council staff to decide on which plants and shrubs should be used in the Town's flower beds and tubs and that if necessary, quotations should be sought (and that these should be supplied to the Committee).

Proposed: Cllr. Oxford-Booth **Seconded:** Cllr. Andrews

NOTE: Cllr. Emmett, having already advised (at the start of the meeting) that he would need to leave the meeting at this time, exited the room.

- ii. To receive update with regard to the French Twinning Association and to consider venue options.

The Clerk informed the Committee that the Twinning Association had expressed a preference of venue (The Walronds) for the Council's coffee morning as this is where they would be having their lunch. Following a long discussion about the arrangements and venues available it was:

RESOLVED: The Council would be happy to receive the Twinning Association and to welcome the French party at a coffee and cake morning at the Town Hall on Saturday 1st June 2019 at 11:00am.

Proposed: Cllr. Oxford-Booth **Seconded:** Cllr. Johns

NOTE: Cllr. Knight wished the Clerk to Minute that he had abstained from this vote.

- iii. Events Update: To receive report with regard to Town events including the Christmas Lights Event. Noted and questions contained within answered by the following Committee resolutions:

RESOLVED:

- That the Committee would like the Town Hall to be made available during the SpringFest for stalls e.g. craft stalls;
- The SpringFest programme should be on a loose centre page 'pull-out' (therefore allocating four full pages) inside the Crier publication and that aside from a note on the front page which highlights that there is a centre page 'pull-out', there will be no SpringFest material inside the Crier itself;
- All advertisements for SpringFest will be contained within the Crier itself and any income generated from these adverts will be used to 'off-set' the chargeback costs for any staff time.

Proposed: Cllr. Knight **Seconded:** Cllr. Oxford-Booth

9. To receive Play Area Update Report. Noted –

The Clerk:

Explained that the Play Area Inspection Report had highlighted a number of items that needed attention in the Culm Lea Play Area but that not all of these issues were applicable now (e.g. The 'Monkey Bars' were to be removed) and only the backing board of the Multi-play unit (as highlighted in Appendix F) remains to be fixed;

Advised that the supplier of the Multi-play piece of equipment had quoted £476.00 + VAT to supply & deliver a new backing board however, the Committee felt this to be an excessive amount of money and:

RESOLVED: That the Maintenance Supervisor should visit Culm Lea to assess the Multi-play piece of equipment with a view to determining whether it would be possible for the Council to rejuvenate/replace the board, thus making it health & safety compliant. If this would not be possible, the Clerk should investigate options e.g. approaching another play area provider to see if they could provide an appropriate board at a lower cost than had been quoted.

Proposed: Cllr. Johns **Seconded:** Cllr. Oxford-Booth

The clerk highlighted the fact that it would be both preferable and sensible to rejuvenate the existing pieces of play equipment at Culm Lea Play Area (which will remain in-situ) before the new play

equipment was installed – otherwise half the play area would be ‘brand new’ and the rest shabby and worn with paint peeling etc.

RESOLVED: The Committee are happy for Council staff to determine what rejuvenation is required on the existing pieces of play equipment in Culm Lea Play Area and that where necessary, the appropriate work is undertaken to rectify any problems e.g. treating rust, painting.

Proposed: Cllr. Andrews **Seconded:** Cllr. Oxford-Booth

- 10. **TREE AND HEDGE WORK: TIVERTON ROAD ALLOTMENTS/UPCOTT RECREATION FIELD:** To receive an update on the tree and hedge works.

The Clerk informed members:

The preferred Contractor would start the tree and hedge works on 18th February when they will concentrate on the hedge between the Allotment Site and the Upcott Recreation Field; That whilst there is no issue with the traffic lights (as the 171 Notice had been completed), the works required on the hedge facing Tiverton Road could not be started until the Order allowing the use of the Highway, is received from Devon County Council;

- 11. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Any correspondence received after the date of this Agenda. None.
- 12. **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** Agreed as **Tuesday 12th March 2019** at **7:00pm** at the Hayridge Centre.

It is certified that these Minutes are a true and accurate reflection of the meeting:

Signed

Name.....

Date..... /...../.....