

WALLINGFORD TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the

Parks, Gardens, Allotments and Open Spaces Committee
Meeting held in the Town Hall, Wallingford
on Monday 10th July 2017

P R E S E N T

The Mayor, Councillor Kidley

Councillors Cockman, Davidson, Lester, Upcraft,
In Attendance – Mrs Tracey Collins (Officer) and Mrs Helen Savery (for the purpose
of taking minutes)

131. ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN

It was Proposed by Councillor Cockman, Seconded by Councillor Upcraft and

RESOLVED:

THAT Councillor Lester is elected Chairman of the
Parks, Gardens, Allotments and Open Spaces
Committee for the 2017/2018 Municipal Year.

132. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors McGregor and Hughes.

133. ADMISSION OF THE PUBLIC

There were no admissions to the Public

Here Councillor Davidson arrived at 7.05pm

134. IMPROMPTU PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (15 MINUTES IN TOTAL)

Christopher Burrows from Style Acre addressed the meeting with a request to be allowed to hold the Santa Dash again this year and mentioned the following. They would like to hold it on the same day as the Christmas Fair which is on 3rd December. They would like to run it in a similar manner to last year, with the run starting from Wallingford School, however it was hoped that the finish line could be in the Town Centre. Chris to liaise with Elaine Hornsby with regards to this.

They would like to increase the number of entrants from 200 to 400 this year and feel that these could be accommodated. Start would still be at 11.00am as

this would allow a staggered start but allow it to be finished by the start of the Christmas Fair.

Last year, The Old Post Office sold hot drinks but this resulted in long queues down the road so it has been suggested that other cafes be asked if they would assist.

Councillor Lester thanked Mr Burrows for attending the meeting and confirmed that the Committee would be in touch with the outcome later.

135. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Lester reminded Members that information was available on the table for each Councillor to read.

136. MINUTES

i) To sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Parks, Gardens, Allotments and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on the 24th April 2017 as set out on pages 280 - 284 of the Minute Book.

It was Proposed by Councillor Lester, Seconded by Councillor Dolton and

RESOLVED:

THAT the Minutes of the Parks, Gardens, Allotments and Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on the 24th April 2017 as set out on pages 280 - 284 of the Minute Book, copies circulated to Councillors, be signed as a correct record.

The Mayor confirmed that minute 721b had now been dealt with.

137. TO REVIEW AND ADOPT THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee reviewed the Terms of Reference. It was proposed by Councillor Upcraft, Seconded by Councillor Cockman and

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Committee would present at a future Full Council Meeting regarding having a budget for the Committee before adopting the same.

An agenda item for the next meeting was to be added regarding how much and what a budget would be used for to be discussed.

138. ALLOTMENTS

- a) **Waiting List** – Mrs Collins reported that there were 5 people on the waiting list. Two of these people were already existing allotment owners who want an extra plot in a specific area.

- b) **Annual Skip Delivery** – It was reported that the skips which are delivered annually are often filled with non-allotment rubbish which the Council then have to pay to dispose of.

It was Proposed by Councillor Upcraft, Seconded by Councillor Cockman and

RESOLVED:

THAT skips will not be provided to the Allotments in May 2018.

- c) **Security** – The PCSOs have been asked to attend the next meeting on 11 September to discuss the same with the allotment owners. It was decided that no decision regarding a combination lock on the gate and no dogs signs on the gate could not be agreed until after the full Council Meeting on Monday.

139. BULL CROFT PARK

- a) **Bowls Club** – The Mayor updated the Committee on the Bowls Club. The football club have tried to tidy it up. The Mayor and Bryan Gilbey will continue to work with them.
- b) **SODC have requested to hold Family Orienteering Events** – it was agreed that the initial event could take place in September. If this works in terms of signage and Health and Safety, the other events can go ahead. A Bullcroft Trustee should attend the set up.

140. KINECROFT

Bunkfest was noted as an upcoming event on the Kinicroft.

141. OPEN SPACES

It was noted that the flowers in the town were lovely and it was wondered whether anything could be planted over the winter.

- a) **Discuss the continued rubbish problem in the Market Place** – The car which is illegally parked has been fined but the owner has not paid the fines. The Mayor will be meeting with Elaine Hornsby, Imran Khan and the local Inspector on 26th July. Councillor Upcraft will look into whether the Council could bring in bylaws which the Town Council could then enforce. CCTV to be reviewed to see if it could be directed to see who is doing the fly-tipping.
- b) **Discuss if the two benches that are bolted down on the Market Place could be moved** - A long discussion took place. Councillor Lester confirmed that the decision to bolt them down was discussed in many Town Council meetings and the stall holder who has asked if they can be moved never attended any meeting although was invited. Councillor Upcraft suggested having a third party to come and move the benches and replace them before Friday markets and any other events. Councillor Upcraft will look into the cost of this. The grout round the flag stones appears to have been done incorrectly. The Mayor is chasing whether the contractors should come back and rectify the mistake.

- c) **Style Acre Santa Dash** – It was Proposed by Councillor Cockman, Seconded by Councillor Upcraft and

RESOLVED:

THAT The Style Acre Santa Dash should be allowed to be held in December 2017

- d) **Request for a Memorial Tree in Wallingford** – The committee discussed this. It was agreed that this would be difficult to maintain in terms of both upkeep of the tree and gardening around it. The Mayor suggested that it could possibly be placed in the small plot between New Road Junction and Wood Street, which would be mowed with the small mower in any event. Tracey Collins to discuss this with Bryan Gilbey.
- e) **The Farmers Market have asked what will happen if the Regal was to close** – Nothing will be known until after the Town Council Meeting on Monday and this will be deferred until the next meeting.

142. CASTLE GARDENS

- a) **Volunteers required to help at scheduled band concerts** – there are volunteers for the next Band Concert. Next year, a rota will be put in place in advance.
- b) **A request has been received from a new band to play in the gardens** – There is no budget to allow this for this year. However, if budget can be made available, they could possibly have a date for next year. In the meantime, if they would like to play for free, they could play in the Market Square on a Sunday, providing that they do not ask for money.
- c) **An offer has been received to help obtain a licence and provide alcoholic refreshments at Band Concerts** - a long discussion took place. It was decided that this should be discussed at a full Town Council Meeting.

The forthcoming events on Castle Gardens were noted.

143. KNOTWEED IN CASTLE GARDENS AND THE KINECROFT

Mrs Collins updated the Committee that the preventative treatment has been carried out for this year and will need doing again next year.

144. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Budget for committee – Councillor Lester
PCSO's attendance re Allotment Security
Band Concert Refreshments – Councillor Lester

Meeting closed at approximately 8.50pm