

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015  
AT GROVE HOUSE**

**Meeting Commenced:** 7.00 pm

**Meeting Concluded:** 8.45 pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors Roger Bailey (Vice-Chairman), Mark Canniford, James Clayton, James Davis, Robert Cleland, Sarah Codling, Clive Darke, Michal Kus, Robert Payne, Alan Peak and Clive Webb.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor Peter Fox, Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk), Sarah Pearce (Responsible Financial Officer), Kevin Lilwall (Senior Youth Work Lead, WSM YMCA) Tricia Brabham (Committee Officer) and Becky Parker (Weston Mercury).

<b>126.</b>	<p><b>Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes</b></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lisa Pilgrim and Councillor Steven Kane.</p> <p>Councillor Lisa Pilgrim was substituted by Councillor Clive Webb.</p> <p><i>Councillor Peter Fox was in attendance to substitute for Councillor Steven Kane. Written notice had not been received from Councillor Steven Kane and therefore under Standing Orders, Councillor Peter Fox was not permitted to substitute for Councillor Steven Kane.</i></p> <p>In the Chairman's absence the Vice-Chairman chaired the meeting.</p>
<b>127.</b>	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b> (<i>Standing Order No:30</i>)</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p>
<b>128.</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015.</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the minutes be approved and signed by the Vice-Chairman.</p> <p><i>Councillor Cleland joined the meeting at 7.05pm</i></p>
<b>129.</b>	<p><b>References from other Committees</b></p> <p><b>129.1 Weston in Bloom Working Party</b></p> <p>The notes of the Weston In Bloom Working Party held on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015 (approved) and 11<sup>th</sup> August 2015 (approved) had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The Vice-Chairman requested that the words '<u>wall</u> memorial' be corrected to '<u>war</u> memorial' in the minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015, minute no: 3a.</p>

	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the notes of the Weston In Bloom Working Party with the above amendment be received and noted.</p> <p><b>129.2 Allotment Management Sub Committee</b></p> <p>The minutes of the Allotment Management Sub Committee held on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015 (approved), and 11<sup>th</sup> August 2015 (unapproved) had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the minutes be received and noted.</p> <p><b>129.3 Museum HLF Working Party</b></p> <p>The notes of the HLF Working Party held on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015 (approved), 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2015 (approved) and 20<sup>th</sup> August 2015 (unapproved) had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>Members thanked Printing.com for their assistance in the HLF Project.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the notes be received and noted.</p> <p><i>Councillor Clayton joined the meeting at 7.09pm</i>  <i>Becky Parker from the Weston Mercury joined the meeting at 7.10pm</i></p>
130.	<p><b>Management Reports</b></p> <p><b>130.1 Youth Services</b></p> <p>The report of the YMCA Senior Youth Work Lead had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The Vice-Chairman thanked the Senior Youth Work Lead for attending today's meeting.</p> <p>The Senior Youth Work Lead reported that a timetable of activities was being developed to promote the Youth Café provision. The Summer Starter event had run for the second year, supported by the Town Council and was well attended which was far greater than the previous year.</p> <p>When questioned the Senior Youth Work Lead advised that Mead Vale Alliance had been supportive but had struggled with some of the compliance issues, and would require support with this in future.</p> <p>The Senior Youth Work Lead and the Town Council's YMCA representative agreed with the Weston Mercury that the Youth Council would have a slot in the paper, written by one of the Youth Council members to report their activities. It was hoped this would encourage new members to join.</p> <p>In response to a request, the Senior Youth Work Lead confirmed that he would add more detail and include numbers attending YMCA events in his next report to the Community Services Committee.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the notes be received and noted.</p>

**130.2 The Blakehay Theatre**

The report of the Theatre Manager had been previously circulated with the agenda.

The Responsible Financial Officer tabled a report clarifying the figures provided. The Theatre Manager had provided figures for gross income over 13 months. The Responsible Financial Officer's report provided net figures for the financial year 2015/16.

Debate ensued. Members were advised that the IT Working Party were looking into contactless card machines for the Blakehay Theatre bar.

Dissatisfaction was expressed by members about the suitability of the bar.

**RESOLVED:** That the report be received and noted.

*The YMCA Senior Youth Lead left the meeting at 7.25 pm.*

**130.3 Grounds: Cemeteries, Allotments and Bus Shelters**

The report of the Grounds Manager was tabled.

The Town Clerk reported that the old strimmer was petrol driven, noisy and shudders so ear protectors and gloves had been provided. An electric strimmer which was quieter and did not shudder had been loaned to the Town Council. The battery length was being monitored and the cost of purchasing a strimmer would be investigated.

Debate ensued. Members agreed that for health and safety reasons the electric strimmer was a sensible option.

The Town Clerk reported that he had met with the Grounds Manager and Weston College to discuss training and work based projects for prisoners at Leyhill Open Prison. The Grounds Manager's report provided members with a list of projects that inmates could work on.

Members discussed the benefits to the Town Council, the community and Weston College in being involved in the initiative, as well as supporting prisoners to learn a trade and help cut down re-offending.

A member raised concerns about group size and security of inmates. The Town Clerk advised that Leyhill Open Prison and Weston College would undertake thorough risk assessments.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1) The initiative of training and work based projects for prisoners at Leyhill Open Prison on Town Council grounds be approved.
- 2) The report of the Grounds Manager be received and noted.

131.	<p><i>In order for Councillor Darke, Chairman of the Allotment Management Sub-Committee, to be present for agenda item 8, variation of order of business was proposed by the Chairman. There were no objections and agenda item 8 was brought forward.</i></p> <p><b>Hutton Moor and Bournville Allotments</b></p> <p>The report of the Town Clerk had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>Applications for an access route for Hutton Moor Allotments had been submitted for planning permission and for the Internal Drainage Board running concurrently with the procurement process to save time. It was anticipated that work would start in October and be completed in time for the growing season. The Chairman of the Allotment Management Sub-Committee expressed frustration at how long the process had taken.</p> <p>The Chairman of the Allotment Management Sub-Committee advised Councillors that following an arson attack at the Bournville allotments, he and the Town Clerk had contacted Network Rail to discuss the fencing at the site. Network Rail originally gave a two year time frame for the work to be completed but had now reduced the time frame to one year.</p> <p>The Town Clerk advised members that the asbestos pollution had been cleared from Hutton Moor Allotments. The Allotment Club had agreed to contribute £5,000 to the cost. The Town Clerk was seeking to clarify responsibilities between the Allotment Club and the Town Council and would report back to a future Allotment Management Sub-Committee meeting.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the report of the Town Clerk be received and noted.</p>
132.	<p><b>Management Reports</b> (continued)</p> <p><b>132.1 Weston Museum</b></p> <p>The report of the Museum Supervisor had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the report of the Museum Supervisor be received and noted.</p>
133.	<p><b>Community Events</b></p> <p>The report of the Community and Grounds Administrator had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The Events' Budget for the financial year had £1000 remaining which could be used to host Weston's Got Talent or another event. The format of Weston's Got Talent and the possibility of making it a youth event with heats held in schools and the Blakehay Theatre for the final was debated. The possibility of sponsorship from local business was raised.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That Councillor Sarah Codling and Councillor Clive Darke discuss sponsorship opportunities with the Community and Grounds Administrator in order to enable a youth based Weston's Got Talent event to take place in June of next year.</p> <p><i>Councillor Darke left the meeting at 8.10pm</i></p>

134.	<p><b>Dog Bins</b></p> <p>The report of the Secretary to the Town Clerk had been previously circulated with the minutes.</p> <p>Since the previous meeting, ward councillors had investigated requests to relocate dog bins numbers 45 and 47, and no objections had been raised following the requests.</p> <p>Debate ensued. The possibility of replacing all dog bins with litter bins was raised but was not supported by the committee.</p> <p>A member reminded the Committee that he had been promised a new dog bin for Totterdown Lane. The Town Clerk advised that the Committee's request for extra funding for the cost of emptying several relocated bins had been rejected by the Policy and Finance Committee in the financial year 2014/15.</p> <p><b>PROPOSED BY:</b> Councillor Michal Kus  <b>SECONDED BY:</b> Councillor Clive Webb</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That dog bins numbers 45 and 47 be relocated as proposed at the previous meeting and that a new dog bin for Totterdown Lane be included in budget considerations for 2016/17.</p>
135.	<p><b>Bus Shelters</b></p> <p>The Responsible Financial Officer advised that the Town Council were still in the process of receiving quotes for repairs to bus shelters from the manufacturers.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That bus shelter repair costings be brought forward to a future meeting.</p>
136.	<p><b>Hildesheim Exchange</b></p> <p>The Town Clerk reported that Debbie Stone had taken over the running of the Hildesheim Exchange. The Town Clerk and the YMCA Senior Youth Lead had met Debbie Stone to discuss what support could be offered in terms of help with accounts, safeguarding and publicity for the exchange.</p> <p>Debate ensued. A member questioned whether the exchange system was the best way of using the budget to support youth.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To support the exchange for this year.</p>
137.	<p><b>CCTV and Alarm Quotations for Public Conveniences</b></p> <p>The report of the Town Clerk had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The Town Clerk informed that this report had been brought at the request of a member. The Responsible Financial Officer advised that the quotes were from October 2014 so were only indicative.</p> <p>The Responsible Financial Officer advised that anti-social behaviour had increased in Grove Park since last year and there were also issues in Clarence Park.</p>

	<p>Debate ensued. The Committee felt that CCTV cameras were not an effective deterrent to vandals as they would just cover their faces.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the Town Council do not install CCTV cameras at public toilets and the item be dropped from the agenda.</p> <p><i>Councillor Clayton left the meeting at 8.35pm and rejoined the meeting at 8.37pm.</i></p>
138.	<p><b>CCTV Provision</b></p> <p>The report of the CCTV Manager had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The committee had previously expressed dissatisfaction with the data and, following discussions with the CCTV provider, were hoping to receive the data in a better format for future meetings. Members felt that the current format gave no useful information.</p> <p>In answer to a question, the Town Clerk advised that the police were unable to provide information on prosecutions relating to CCTV.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the Committee no longer wish to receive the summary report of CCTV incidents until the current format is improved.</p>
139.	<p><b>Budget considerations.</b></p> <p>The Vice-Chairman asked members for suggestions for items to discuss under budget considerations. The Town Clerk advised members that he had received external feedback that some of the play areas were looking tired, and that the RAFA band had made suggestions on improving the studio at the Blakehay Theatre including the wooden flooring.</p> <p>Debate ensued in which the following suggestions for funding were made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hildesheim exchange</li> <li>• Dog bins and/or litter bins</li> <li>• Maintenance and repair of bus shelters</li> <li>• A regular street market</li> <li>• Community events</li> <li>• Blakehay studio flooring and curtains</li> </ul> <p>The need to review all spending in light of future budget cuts from North Somerset Council was raised as was the need for more rigour around funding decisions.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the above requests be noted and that budget discussions be continued at a future meeting.</p>
	<p>There being no further business, the Vice-Chairman closed the meeting at 8.53 pm</p> <p>Signed: ..... Dated: .....</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Chairman</p>