

# LYDNEY TOWN COUNCIL

## AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING – 2015/11/16 – 11

**MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING** held in the Council Chamber, Claremont House, Lydney on Monday 16 November 2015 at 7.32 pm.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs D Beddis (Chairman), D Biddle, R Christodoulides, H Ives, C Legg, D Pugh and D Street

Cllr C Harris

Mrs J Smailes – Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Miss C Wheeler – Executive Officer (EO)

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It was **proposed by Cllr Biddle, seconded by Cllr Pugh**, that Cllr Beddis would assume the role of Chairman for the duration of the meeting. Unanimous.

Cllr Beddis informed all present that no practice fire evacuation had been scheduled for the duration of the meeting. All attendees were then informed of the locations of the nearest fire exits.

1. **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN**

Members were reminded that the Mayor had requested that consideration be given to amalgamating the role of the Town and Events Committee into the Amenities Committee at the December Full Council meeting. Accordingly, the future of the Town and Events Committee/Amenities Committee Remit and the appointment of a Committee Chairman would be deferred until the next Full Council meeting.

2. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Cllr Berryman.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the Amenities meeting held on 21 September 2015 were confirmed as a true record. **Proposed by Cllr Street, seconded by Cllr Legg.** Unanimous.

Members noted that since the last meeting it has been necessary to repair two Town Council noticeboards on Health and Safety grounds (weight of glass doors/gas piston arms) which were located at the Co-operative site. It was noted that expenditure of £275.00 had been incurred accordingly.

5. **OPEN FORUM**

Cllr C Harris – Questioned a repair of a bench at the bottom of Klondyke Avenue, which she believed to be in the ownership of 2Rivers Housing. Members were advised that the bench was owned by Lydney Town Council and was much used by the community.

6. **ALLOTMENTS**

Members were informed that construction of the raised allotment beds had since been completed which had resulted in an additional four allotment beds. Furthermore, it was the intention to complete the pathway surrounding the raised allotment beds at the beginning of December 2015. Noted.



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It was noted that the allotment waiting list now stood at eleven and it was anticipated that the waiting list would further reduce as a result of the raised allotment beds.

Due to the quantity of surfacing material which would be delivered, the CEO advised that Groundstaff would also fill in any potholes which had arisen on the car park area at Lydney Lake/by new amenity area.

7. **PLAY AREAS**

Members were asked to consider the removal or removal/replacement of the old metal roundabout sited on Primrose Hill Meend. Members were reminded that the need to remove the equipment within a 12 month period had been identified in the Annual Play Inspection Report for the site. A quotation for the removal and replacement of the equipment had been obtained from Monmouthshire County Council at a cost of £7,880.00 plus VAT, which included the installation of Astroturf.

During discussion Members were reminded that the Committee budget currently stood at £8,000 in respect of additional play equipment for the Meend, with further funding held as Earmarked Reserves. It was **proposed by Cllr Biddle, seconded by Cllr Street**, that the quotation from Monmouthshire County Council for £7,880.00 plus VAT would be accepted. Unanimous.

**Action by – the CEO**

8. **THE TACK**

Cllr Street advised that he had taken the matter over from Mr Thomas, following his decision not to stand for re-election. Members were provided with an overview of the discussions which had been undertaken between Cllr Street, Lydney Park Estate and the CEO to date. It was noted that quotations were currently being obtained for the provision and installation of signage and access gates for The Tack, the cost of which would be funded via the grant held by Lydney Town Council in respect of Walkers are Welcome (approximately £1,760.00) with the outstanding amount divided equally between Lydney Town Council and Lydney Park Estate. However, Cllr Street requested that henceforth the grant be referred to as The Tack Initiative as Walkers are Welcome was a separate grant.

Members were advised that the matter would be considered by Full Council following the receipt of quotations. It was anticipated that once agreement had been reached for the expenditure Lydney Park Estate would swiftly grant a licence for a Permissive Path.

9. **BENCHES**

Members noted that the damaged bench located at the bottom of Klondyke Avenue had since been repaired by members of Lydney Town Council's Groundstaff.

10. **COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Cllr Street advised that Wild Boar had once again visited Primrose Hill Meend and questioned if the Council should erect notices warning of feral Wild Boar, as erected on private land by a landowner. It was agreed that the Council would not erect such notices.



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Cllr Biddle advised that funding from Walkers are Welcome should cover the cost of producing a third Lydney Walks book.

11. **MEETING DATES**

Members noted that the next meeting would take place on 22 February 2016.

The meeting closed at 7.57 pm.

Chairman ..........

Date 22.2.16.....