

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8<sup>th</sup> June 2011 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EAST STREET, WAREHAM AT 7.00 P.M.**

Present: Councillors D Budd (Chairman), K Critchley, D Critchley, Ms D Adkins, and Mrs J Spooner.

Officers present: Mr R Curtis Town Clerk, Mrs K Richardson Administration Officer.

**1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME**

Mr N Townsend of St Martin's House, North Street, Wareham remarked upon the unsatisfactory condition of the football pitch at the Worgret Road Recreation ground, following a recent visit. He asked if there was a maintenance work programme planned for this area. The Town Clerk responded that the Council was about to initiate its annual pitch maintenance programme, the football season having just finished. It was agreed that the members of the Premises Working Party would organise an urgent site visit to investigate the problem and the options available.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mr K Green - prior engagement and Mrs A Selby – prior engagement.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received

**4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 27<sup>th</sup> April 2011 AT 7.00 PM.**

The minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2011 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27<sup>th</sup> April 2011.**

Minute 80 – Line marking Machinery – The Administration Officer reported that there was a delay in purchasing this equipment due to negotiations over the price and staff shortages.

Minute 87 – Hauses Field Oak Trees – The Town Clerk reported that the work had been carried out on the 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Minute 95 – Lengthsman – The Lengthsman had attended the course at Kingston Maurward on weed spraying. He would be able to undertake such work once he had passed the examination, which would be held in the near future, and returned for final assessment.

Minute 98- Cricket Club Nets – Details of the proposed portable nets were circulated and approved by the Committee.

**6. DOG WASTE BIN – WAREHAM COMMON - NEAR WEST MILL LANE**

The Town Clerk reported that following a site meeting with the Environmental Health Officer at Purbeck District Council, it had been agreed to place an additional dog waste bin near West Mill Farm which the District Council would empty at their own cost.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk be authorised to purchase a 35 litre dog bin.

**7. WAREHAM RECREATION GROUND – FACILITIES FOR WAREHAM RANGERS FC**

Before the meeting, members of the Committee had attended a site visit at the Purbeck Sports Centre to see the barriers and covered spectators area that the Wareham Rangers Football Club had proposed for the Worgret Road Recreation Ground. The Committee expressed concern over the need for holes to be placed in the ground to support the barriers, the potential health and safety risk these might pose to other users of the recreation ground and potential problems should the need to change the pitch location arise.

Mr N Townsend was invited to speak on this issue, as a committee member of the Wareham Rangers Football Club. He drew the Committee's attention to an anomaly with regard to the person who had acted on behalf of the Club in proposing the barriers and spectators area and who was not available to attend the meeting.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that this item be deferred until the next meeting when a Wareham Rangers Football Club representative would be able to provide further information regarding alternative types of barriers and spectator area.

**8. CONVERSION OF TOILET AREAS – TOWN HALL**

The Town Clerk reported that the Citizens Advice Bureau was looking for additional storage space as they had been given notice on their existing storage space in West Street. He requested that the Committee consider converting the existing ladies toilets in the Town Hall into a unisex facility and thus free up the existing gentleman's toilets as additional office/storage space.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk consult with Purbeck District Council Environment Health Officer over the number of WCs required for visitors to the building and report his findings to the Premises Working Party with a view to a report being brought back to the Amenities Committee in due course.

**9. PARANORMAL INVESTIGATION –TOWN HALL**

The Town Clerk reported that he had been approached by a group who carry out discreet paranormal investigations enquiring as to whether they could carry out an overnight investigation into paranormal activity in the Town Hall. A list of equipment to be used was given, a discussion arose and there was general agreement that certain areas could be investigated (Council Chamber, Corn Exchange, Clerk's Office) if appropriate supervision could be guaranteed for a maximum number of people and the Council's insurance requirements, if any, could be satisfied.

Councillor Mr D Critchley volunteered to be present during the investigation.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that agreement be given for the investigation subject to satisfactory references, insurance cover and a maximum number of ten people

**10. HAUSES FIELD –PLANTER BOXES/BMX AREA**

The Town Clerk reported that the boxes had been installed and planted up and now clearly delineated the Town Council's boundary. The Committee discussed the lack of grass cutting in this area and the lack of bins within the BMX area.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk investigate the Dorset Works contract to confirm which areas are included in the contract. The Town Clerk to check with Purbeck District Council to confirm if they will allow one of the existing bins at the Railway Station bus stop to be moved onto the sward. The Town Clerk was authorised to purchase two waste bins for Hauses Field and if necessary a further waste bin for the sward.

**11. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED** that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and members of the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting on the grounds that it may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 8 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the said Act.

**12. WAREHAM RECREATION GROUND –TARMAC SURFACING**

The Town Clerk reported that he had received a quotation from Redlynch Leisure to supply and install one Rekord RSS Ltd 'Goal Force' football/basketball rebound unit to match existing – purchased in 2008 - and to resurface the tennis court. He had consulted the other members of the Premises Working Party who had agreed that there was no need to wait for the tarmac surfacing to be laid before the Goal Force unit was installed. Two other companies had been approached to quote for the resurfacing work but no quotations had been received to date.

Quotation:

Redlynch

Supply 1 Record Goal Force	£2,500
Install 1 Record Goal Force	£1,350

Punch holes into existing tarmac surfaces	
Cut chase at perimeter	
Overlay approx. 575m <sup>2</sup> with 30mm porous tarmac	
Apply line marking for Basketball and 5 a side	£10,485
All prices exclude VAT	

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that:

(a) the quotation from Redlynch for the Goal Force Unit be accepted under the Council's Financial Regulation 11.1(a)(v) - for goods or materials proposed to be purchased which are proprietary (i.e. manufactured and marketed under an exclusive right by Rekord RSS Ltd) - subject to negotiation on the final price by the Town Clerk and

(b) that a bid be prepared for submission to Viridor Landfill Communities Fund for grant funding of the tarmac surfacing based upon the quotation from Redlynch in the sum of £10,485.00.

**13. HAUSES FIELD FOOTPATH LIGHTING**

The Town Clerk reported that local residents had verbally requested that lighting be installed along the footpath at Hauses Field as a matter of night-time community safety. It was estimated that 6-7 standard lighting units would be required. The Committee requested the Town Clerk speak to the appropriate Dorset County Council lighting engineer to ascertain if Dorset County Council would be prepared to take over the running costs and maintenance of the lights, if installed.

It was:

**RESOLVED** that subject to a satisfactory response from Dorset County Council an application for grant funding be submitted to Viridor Landfill Communities Fund for the cost of installing lighting along the Hauses Field public footpath.

**14. ANY OTHER or URGENT ITEMS – FOR REPORT OR FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

- a) The Town Clerk reported that Purbeck District council had offered the use of a street sweeper on loan at a cost of £86 per calendar month to cover the service contract. Discussion took place on the suggestion and the Town Clerk was requested to investigate further and report back on any actions taken under delegated authority.

- b) The Town Clerk reported that the Purbeck Sports Centre had submitted a request to place a banner on the Town Hall advertising the Sports Centre swimming pool during the summer months. The Committee advised him to decline the request since it was for an activity regarded as advertising a commercial activity rather than a community activity and the banner would also take up space for at least six weeks during the summer period.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Amenities Committee would be held at **7.00pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2011** in the Council Chamber, Town Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:05 pm.

.....Chairman