

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2011 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, EAST STREET, WAREHAM AT 7.00 P.M.**

Present: Councillors D Budd (Chairman), K Green, K Critchley, D Critchley, Mrs A Tighe.

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

**71. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME**

None

**72. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Bowyer-Davis and Mrs Selby .

**73. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Mrs A Tighe declared a personal and prejudicial interest as Chairman of the Wareham Croquet Club regarding any discussion on the club's request for a notice board (Minute 77).

**74. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2011 AT 7.00 PM.**

The minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**75. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2011.**

There were no matters arising.

**76. LENGTHSMAN SCHEME**

The Town Clerk reported that the Human Resources Panel had agreed to increase the hours to 37 per week to gain the maximum funding from Dorset County Council of £10,000 per annum. The Job Description had been confirmed and an advert had been placed with a closing date of the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011. The budget for the post included the salary previously allocated to the Assistant Caretaker's post. The Town Clerk agreed to investigate placing the advert on the Dorset for You website.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

**77. CROQUET CLUB- REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL NOTICE BOARD**

The Town Clerk reported that the Croquet Club had requested an additional notice board for their use at the Wareham Recreation Ground sports pavilion. The notice board to be of a pin board type.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk be authorised to take appropriate action to obtain a suitable noticeboard.

**78. WAREHAM RECREATION GROUND CRICKET NETS REQUEST**

The Town Clerk reported that a site meeting had taken place between the Cricket Club and the Premises Working Party and a suitable location between the tennis courts and the play area had been agreed. The Cricket Club had applied for external funding towards the cost of the nets however planning permission would be required as well as evidence of long term security of tenure.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that should Wareham Cricket Club be successful in obtaining funding for new cricket nets, the Committee agrees in principal to:

- (a) Bear the cost of a planning application for the installation of cricket nets in the name of Wareham Town Council at a cost of £85.
- (b) The drawing up of a suitable ten year licence for the use of the nets at the Recreation Ground.

**79. WAREHAM TOWN HALL – HIRE OF COUNCIL CHAMBER**

The Town Clerk reported that Wareham Court Leet had written to the Town Council requesting that they be allowed to use the Council Chamber free of charge for their annual meeting in return for the Court Leet constables attending the Mayor's official ceremonies.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that Wareham Court Leet be allowed free use of the Council Chamber for their annual November meeting.

**80. WAREHAM RECREATION GROUND – LINE MARKING MACHINERY**

The Town Clerk reported that, after consultation with Dorset Works groundsmen, an investigation had been undertaken into using a spray marker. The current equipment used a paint that is not very resistant to rain and this had resulted in the caretaker having to return to the site to re-mark the pitches after heavy rain. The recommended machine could be purchased for £580.10 plus VAT and would result in time savings for the caretaker. The machine could also be fitted with additional heads to enable line marking to be carried out on different surfaces such as tarmac. There were sufficient monies unspent in the Recreation Ground Maintenance Budget to cover the purchase cost.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk be authorised to:

- (a) purchase a line marking machine at a cost of £580.10, to be deducted from the Recreation Ground Maintenance Budget.
- (b) investigate the purchase of an additional attachment to allow line marking on tarmac surfaces such as Howard's Lane car park and if savings could be made purchase the attachment subject to agreement with the Chairman.

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

The Town Clerk reported that the Town Council had received a request from the Vice Chairman of Wareham Rangers Football Club to consider allowing the football club to erect barriers and a covered area to enable them to play their league matches at the recreation ground. Currently they had these facilities at the Purbeck Sports Centre.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that a site meeting be arranged for the Committee to see the facilities at the Purbeck Sports Centre.

**82. WAREHAM RECREATION GROUND – FAIRGROUND/CIRCUS**

The Town Clerk reported that he had been contacted by Herberts Funfair regarding the use of the Recreation Ground during Carnival Week 2011. They would like to use the Recreation ground from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July until Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2011 and would pay £400 plus a £100 donation to the Carnival Committee. This would unfortunately clash with a Wareham Cricket Club booking on the 16<sup>th</sup> July.

The Town Clerk also reported that he had attended a site meeting with Mathew Wingett of Wingetts Circus who wished to hire the Recreation Ground from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September until Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September and was willing to pay £500.

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that the above bookings be agreed and arrangements be made for access to the Recreation Ground on the dates required under the Council's standard conditions of use.

**83. REVIEW OF SCALE OF CHARGES AT THE TOWN HALL**

The Committee considered the current scale of charges for hire of accommodation at the Town Hall and after discussion made the following changes:-

Weddings

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Council Chamber                | increase to £145 |
| Reception in the Corn Exchange | increase to £145 |

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that:

- a) The increase in charges to £145 for the hire of the Council Chamber or the Corn Exchange for a wedding be noted.
- b) All other rates for the use of the Council Chamber or Corn Exchange be unchanged.

#### 84. **REVIEW OF SCALE OF CHARGES AT THE WAREHAM RECREATION GROUND**

The Committee considered the current scale of charges for the hire of pitches at Wareham Recreation Ground and after discussion made the following changes:-

##### Football pitch (including use of the pavilion)

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| League match 16 and above | £41:00 |
| Under 16 years            | £28:70 |

##### Cricket wicket (including use of the pavilion)

|                   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| Day hire          | £36:00 |
| Evening hire      | £30:60 |
| Junior teams: Day | £25.20 |
| Evening           | £21:60 |

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Youth training | £13:50 |
|----------------|--------|

##### Croquet Area (including use of the pavilion)

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Session including use of the Croquet Set |        |
| Per lawn                                 | £14.30 |
| (plus £50 deposit on equipment)          |        |

It was:

**RESOLVED** that the increased charges for the hire of pitches at the Recreation ground be agreed.

#### 85. **REVIEW OF HOWARD'S LANE CAR PARK CHARGES – PERMITS**

The Committee considered the current charges for car parking permits at Howard's Lane car park and after discussion agreed the following changes:-

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Reserved space permit   | £330 |
| Unreserved space permit | £250 |

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that the revised charges for the car park permits be agreed.

**86. 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.

**87. HAUSES FIELD – OAK TREES/WAREHAM RECREATION GROUND TREES**

The Town Clerk reported on an estimate received following a site meeting that he had attended with the caretaker and Garden Services (Purbeck) Ltd regarding overhanging Oak trees at Hauses Field, following concerns raised by a local resident in Sherford Close. The advice from the contractor was to raise the height of the crown of the trees to leave well-balanced, healthy specimens of these protected species.

A further estimate to remove dead or decaying trees at the Recreation Ground was also considered

The estimate was as follows:-

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Raise the crown of three mature Oaks at Hauses Field                   | £420 plus VAT |
| Fell one Laburnum and one dead Spruce at the Wareham Recreation Ground | £200 plus VAT |

It was:-

**RESOLVED** that the Committee agreed to accept the estimate using funds available from the General Maintenance budget and the Recreation Ground Maintenance budget, with any shortfall to be met from balances.

**88. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Amenities Committee would be held at **7.00pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2011** in the Council Chamber, Town Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:27 pm.

.....Chairman