



Town Hall
East Street
Wareham
Dorset
BH20 4NS

30 March 2023

To: All Members of the Amenities Committee

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ATTEND a meeting of the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** to be held on **TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2023** in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, East Street, Wareham at **7.00pm** for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the agenda below.

All members of the public are welcome to attend.

Nicola Gray
Town Clerk

Please contact the Town Council office on 01929 553006 if you need any further information on this Agenda.

Members of the Amenities Committee

Councillor V Green (Chairman)
Councillor B Ezzard
Councillor S Kemp
Councillor C Turner

Councillor D Budd (Vice Chairman)
Councillor H Goodinge
Councillor L Kirk



AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING A G E N D A

5 April 2023

1. Apologies for absence

To receive, and consider for acceptance, apologies for absence. (LGA1972 s85)

2. Declarations of interest

To declare any interests relating to the business of the meeting and receive any dispensation requests from the Clerk. (Localism Act 2011 s29-34)

3. Public participation time

An opportunity for members of the public to raise issues of concern or interest, ask a question or make a statement or present a petition or be part of a deputation. Public participation time will be conducted in accordance with the Council's 'Protocol for Public Participation Time' which is limited to 15 minutes, with no individual speaker exceeding a maximum of three minutes each. (LGA1972 s100)

4. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting held on 22 February 2023

To confirm, as a correct record, the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee (LGA1972 sch12).

5. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting held on 22 February 2023

To consider any matters arising from the previous minutes of the Committee.

6. Finger Post Repair or Replacement

To consider the repair or replacement of the finger post sign on Church Green.

7. EPC Rating

To note the contents of the EPC Survey carried out on the Town Hall Building and Recreation Ground Pavilion.

8. Town Hall Roof Repair

To consider quotes and select a contractor to repair missing/damaged slates on the Town Hall roof.

9. Tree Survey

To note the recommendations from the Tree Survey Report, and to select a tree surgeon to carry out the work.

10. Wareham Community Growers Purchase Requests

To consider the requests from Wareham Community Growers to purchase items to assist with the Town Planting and Wareham in Bloom competition.

11. Wareham Christmas Market

To formally agree the setting up of the working party to oversee the Christmas Market arrangements.

12. Wareham Stones

To consider the proposed locations for the Wareham Stones.

13. Wareham Mens Shed

To consider the request from Wareham Mens Shed.

14. Hedgehog Highway Project

To consider the request from HedgehogsRUS.

15. Any other items the Chairman deems urgent

For report, information or for the agenda at the next meeting of the Amenities Committee. Councils cannot lawfully decide items of business which are not specified in the summons/agenda (LGA1972 sch 12, paras 10(2)(b) and Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119).

16. Date of next meeting

To note the date of the next meeting, which is scheduled for **17 May 2023 at 7pm.**



Minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Wednesday 22 February 2023 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, East Street, Wareham at 7.00pm.

Committee Members present: Councillors V Green (Chairman), D Budd (Vice Chairman), B Ezzard, H Goodinge, S Kemp, L Kirk.

Officers present: N Gray, Town Clerk & RFO, G Pettifer, Deputy Clerk.

602. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Turner.

603. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

604. Public participation time

There was one member of the public present.

605. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 11 January 2023 were **APPROVED** as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

606. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

There were no matters arising.

607. Quay Toilets Wall

The Deputy Clerk presented the report noting the wall could be finished so as to blend in with its surroundings by painting with a stone-coloured paint which could be done by the Grounds team.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Grounds team to paint the exterior with a grey-coloured masonry paint.

608. Howards Lane Toilets' Wall

The deputy Clerk presented a report which was discussed at length, with particular focus on anti-social behaviour and vandalism which was affecting the public conveniences.

It was **RESOLVED** the Clerk investigate options and quotes to remedy the problem for a future meeting.

609. Update on Play Areas

The Deputy Clerk presented the report noting the progress of the play areas, confirming that all had been completed in time for the half-term break in February.

An official opening was planned for Saturday 25th March, at 11.00am.

The Clerk reported that vandalism to the wet-pour surface and a seating bench at the Recreation Ground had been reported to the police. The Clerk asked all Councillors to urge residents to report all acts of vandalism and anti-social behaviour to the police.

610. Tree Survey

The Deputy Clerk presented a report noting the need to carry out a tree survey of tree stock in Howards Lane car park, Recreation Ground and Northmoor areas. Three anonymised quotes were considered.

It was **RESOLVED** a tree survey be undertaken and Dorset Council, Places Services, was selected to complete the work at a cost of £357.50+vat.

611. Review of the hire charges for the Town Hall and Recreation Ground facilities

The deputy Clerk presented a report noting the comparison to other local facilities, but that it was difficult to find like for like. The Committee considered the number of categories which had prices and felt it was too complicated and required simplification.

It was **RESOLVED** to propose to Policy Resources and Finance Committee the combining of categories Community and Voluntary Groups, which should also include Charities, and using the charges which were current for the voluntary groups in 2022/23. Commercial bookings for the Corn Exchange and Council Chamber, and for the Recreation Ground facilities would remain the same.

612. EPC Rating

The Deputy Clerk presented the report noting the need to have an EPC carried out on the Town Hall Building and Pavilion or lose the ability to rent out the spaces.

The Committee considered three anonymised quotes.

It was **RESOLVED** to instruct Reneweco Supplies to carry out the survey and report at a cost of £620.00+vat.

613. Any other items the Chairman deems urgent

The Clerk noted the staff safety issues in respect of the cleaning of the public toilets and relayed the view of the Health and Safety Advisor as well as the Internal Auditor, who had both agreed it should be raised at the meeting. Both had agreed that outsourcing the toilet cleaning and locking up to a cleaning company was the most responsible option. The Clerk had sought 5 quotes with only one company being willing to quote on a fixed two-year costing, and although no decision could legally be made at the meeting, it was felt that it was an urgent safety issue which could not wait. The matter would return for retrospective approval at the next meeting, with a full report of costings, budgets and arrangements.

614. Date of next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Amenities Committee was scheduled to be held at 7.00pm on 5th April 2023.

Chairman..... Date.....



AMENITIES COMMITTEE – REPORT

Meeting Date: Wednesday 5 April 2023

Agenda Item: 6

Subject:	Finger Post Sign on Church Green
Prepared by:	Deputy Town Clerk – Gale Pettifer
Purpose of Report:	To consider the repair or replacement of the finger post sign on Church Green.
Background:	<p>In December 2022, the tourist finger post sign in Church Green was damaged (see photos below – Appendix 1). A portion of one of the fingers was snapped in half and the severed portion was later recovered. Enquiries with Dorset Council Highways prompted a response that ‘the maintenance is now carried out by the Town Council or parish Council’.</p> <p>As finger post repair/replacement is a specialised undertaking, advice was sought from other councils about possible contractors and Normtec, in Tolpuddle, was recommended.</p> <p>The collar of the signpost, bearing the broken finger, was removed and, together with the broken finger, sent to Normtec for an opinion.</p>
Key Points:	<p>Normtec have recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Option 1: Replace the sign altogether/new – approx. £600.00• Option 2: Repair, with new bracket on existing pole – approx. £320.00 <p>There are further options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Option 3: do nothing and leave the sign as is.• Option 4: remove the sign entirely – (cost to remove the pole not known). <p>If the chosen option is to either replace or repair, the sign could be completed around Easter-time.</p>
Implications:	<p>The implications are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Potential loss of tourism signage• Financial cost to replace/repair
Recommendation:	To choose from option 1-4 regarding the finger post sign on Church Green.

Appendix 1:



Photo 1: finger post sign prior to damage.



Photo 2: Finger post currently



AMENITIES COMMITTEE – REPORT

Meeting Date: 5 April 2023

Agenda Item: 7

Subject:	EPC Rating
Prepared by:	Gale Pettifer - Deputy Clerk
Purpose of Report:	To note the contents of the EPC Survey carried out on the Town Hall Building and Recreation Ground Pavilion.
Background:	At the Amenities Committee meeting on 22 February 2023, members authorised an EPC Survey, which was carried out by Reneweco Solutions (see Appendix 1).
Key Points:	An Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) displays the energy efficiency grade of a commercial building. EPCs are graded on a scale of A-G. The best result that can be achieved is an A grade (most efficient) and the lowest G (least efficient).
Implications:	An Energy Performance Certificate is a legal requirement and failure to comply may lead to a fine for the Council.
Recommendation:	To note the contents of the EPC Survey.

Energy performance certificate (EPC) recommendation report

Wareham Pavillion
Worgret Road
Wareham
BH20 4PW

Report number
0764-3512-9473-7988-0794

Valid until
2 March 2033

Energy rating and EPC

This property's current energy rating is B.

For more information on the property's energy performance, see the EPC for this property.

Contacting the assessor and accreditation scheme

This EPC was created by a qualified energy assessor.

If you are unhappy about your property's energy assessment or certificate, you can complain to the assessor directly.

If you are still unhappy after contacting the assessor, you should contact the assessor's accreditation scheme.

Accreditation schemes are appointed by the government to ensure that assessors are qualified to carry out EPC assessments.

Assessor contact details

Assessor's name	Sara Taylor
Telephone	01202283738
Email	sara.taylor@renewecosolutions.co.uk

Accreditation scheme contact details

Accreditation scheme	Elmhurst Energy Systems Ltd
Assessor ID	EES/025714
Telephone	01455 883 250
Email	enquiries@elmhurstenergy.co.uk

Assessment details

Employer	Reneweco Solutions Ltd
Employer address	Suite 5a Wessex House, St Leonards Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH8 8QS
Assessor's declaration	The assessor is not related to the owner of the property.
Date of assessment	1 March 2023
Date of certificate	8 March 2023

Breakdown of this property's energy performance

Main heating fuel	Grid Supplied Electricity
Building environment	Heating and Natural Ventilation
Assessment level	3
Building emission rate (kgCO ₂ /m ² per year)	22.95
Primary energy use (kWh/m ² per year)	211

Recommendation report

Guidance on improving the energy performance of this property can be found in the [recommendation report \(/energy-certificate/5220-2191-7352-5539-1081\)](#).

Energy performance certificate (EPC)

Wareham Pavillion
Worgret Road
Wareham
BH20 4PW

Energy rating

B

Valid until: **2 March 2033**

Certificate number: **9811-7456-6403-6763-8187**

Property type

General Assembly and Leisure, Night Clubs, and Theatres

Total floor area

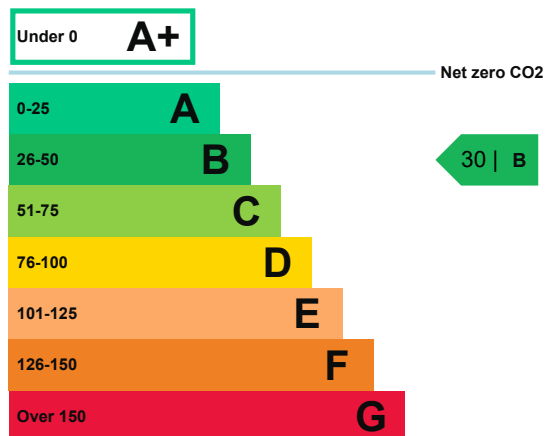
100 square metres

Rules on letting this property

Properties can be let if they have an energy rating from A+ to E.

Energy efficiency rating for this property

This property's current energy rating is B.



Properties are also given a score. The larger the number, the more carbon dioxide (CO2) your property is likely to emit.

How this property compares to others

Properties similar to this one could have ratings:

If newly built

17 | A

If typical of the existing stock

69 | C

Properties are given a rating from A+ (most efficient) to G (least efficient).

Property and report details

Report issued on	8 March 2023
Total useful floor area	359 square metres
Building environment	Heating and Natural Ventilation
Calculation tool	Elmhurst Energy Systems Ltd, SBEM Online, v6.01, SBEM, v6.1.b.0

Assessor's details

Assessor's name	Sara Taylor
Telephone	01202283738
Email	sara.taylor@renewecosolutions.co.uk
Employer's name	Reneweco Solutions Ltd
Employer's address	Suite 5a Wessex House, St Leonards Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH8 8QS
Assessor ID	EES/025714
Assessor's declaration	The assessor is not related to the owner of the property.
Accreditation scheme	Elmhurst Energy Systems Ltd

Breakdown of this property's energy performance

Main heating fuel	Grid Supplied Electricity
Building environment	Heating and Natural Ventilation
Assessment level	3
Building emission rate (kgCO ₂ /m ² per year)	98.91
Primary energy use (kWh/m ² per year)	1057

Recommendation report

Guidance on improving the energy performance of this property can be found in the [recommendation report \(/energy-certificate/0764-3512-9473-7988-0794\)](#).

Energy performance certificate (EPC) recommendation report

Wareham Town Hall
2 North Street
Wareham
BH20 4AU

Report number
5220-2191-7352-5539-1081

Valid until
7 March 2033

Energy rating and EPC

This property's current energy rating is D.

For more information on the property's energy performance, see the EPC for this property.

Recommendations

Make these changes to improve the property's energy efficiency.

Recommended improvements are grouped by the estimated time it would take for the change to pay for itself. The assessor may also make additional recommendations.

Each recommendation is marked as low, medium or high. This shows the potential impact of the change on reducing the property's carbon emissions.

Changes that pay for themselves in more than 7 years

Recommendation	Potential impact
Some glazing is poorly insulated. Replace/improve glazing and/or frames.	Medium
Consider installing an air source heat pump.	High
Consider installing solar water heating.	Low
Consider installing PV.	Low

Contacting the assessor and accreditation scheme

This EPC was created by a qualified energy assessor.

If you are unhappy about your property's energy assessment or certificate, you can complain to the assessor directly.

If you are still unhappy after contacting the assessor, you should contact the assessor's accreditation scheme.

Accreditation schemes are appointed by the government to ensure that assessors are qualified to carry out EPC assessments.

Assessor contact details

Assessor's name	Sara Taylor
Telephone	01202283738
Email	sara.taylor@renewecosolutions.co.uk

Accreditation scheme contact details

Accreditation scheme	Elmhurst Energy Systems Ltd
Assessor ID	EES/025714
Telephone	01455 883 250
Email	enquiries@elmhurstenergy.co.uk

Assessment details

Employer	Reneweco Solutions Ltd
Employer address	Suite 5a Wessex House, St Leonards Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH8 8QS
Assessor's declaration	The assessor is not related to the owner of the property.
Date of assessment	2 March 2023
Date of certificate	3 March 2023

Energy performance certificate (EPC)

Wareham Town Hall
2 North Street
Wareham
BH20 4AU

Energy rating

D

Valid until: **7 March 2033**

Certificate number: **4752-1558-4661-2520-1044**

Property type

Non-residential Institutions: Community/Day Centre

Total floor area

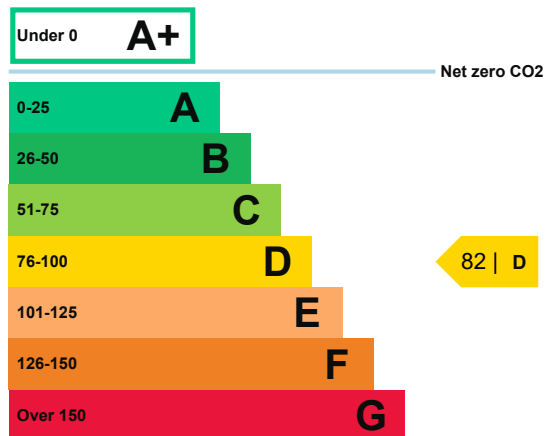
359 square metres

Rules on letting this property

Properties can be let if they have an energy rating from A+ to E.

Energy efficiency rating for this property

This property's current energy rating is D.



Properties are also given a score. The larger the number, the more carbon dioxide (CO2) your property is likely to emit.

How this property compares to others

Properties similar to this one could have ratings:

If newly built

14 | A

If typical of the existing stock

56 | C

Properties are given a rating from A+ (most efficient) to G (least efficient).

Recommendations

Make these changes to improve the property's energy efficiency.

Recommended improvements are grouped by the estimated time it would take for the change to pay for itself. The assessor may also make additional recommendations.

Each recommendation is marked as low, medium or high. This shows the potential impact of the change on reducing the property's carbon emissions.

Changes that pay for themselves within 3 to 7 years

Recommendation	Potential impact
Some walls have uninsulated cavities - introduce cavity wall insulation.	Medium

Changes that pay for themselves in more than 7 years

Recommendation	Potential impact
Consider installing an air source heat pump.	High
Consider installing solar water heating.	Low
Roof is poorly insulated. Install or improve insulation of roof.	Medium
Consider installing PV.	Low

Additional recommendations

Recommendation	Potential impact
Some glazing is poorly insulated. Replace/improve glazing and/or frames.	Medium

Property and report details

Report issued on	3 March 2023
Total useful floor area	100 square metres
Building environment	Heating and Natural Ventilation
Calculation tool	Elmhurst Energy Systems Ltd, SBEM Online, v6.01, SBEM, v6.1.b.0

Assessor's details

Assessor's name	Sara Taylor
Telephone	01202283738
Email	sara.taylor@renewecosolutions.co.uk
Employer's name	Reneweco Solutions Ltd
Employer's address	Suite 5a Wessex House, St Leonards Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, BH8 8QS
Assessor ID	EES/025714
Assessor's declaration	The assessor is not related to the owner of the property.
Accreditation scheme	Elmhurst Energy Systems Ltd



AMENITIES COMMITTEE – REPORT

Meeting Date: 5 April 2023

Agenda Item: 8

Subject:	Town Hall Roof Repair
Prepared by:	Gale Pettifer - Deputy Clerk
Purpose of Report:	To consider quotes and select a contractor to repair missing/damaged slates on the Town Hall roof.
Background:	<p>At the end of 2022 strong winds caused slates from the Town Hall roof to become dislodged and damaged. Heavy rains caused water penetration into the building, which was noticeable when water appeared on the north wall in the Corn Exchange.</p> <p>Roofing contractors were invited to survey the building and submit quotes for repairs.</p>
Key Points:	<p>Several contractors were approached for their opinions and costings to repair the Town Hall roof.</p> <p>Two contractors submitted quotes (both include the cost of scaffolding):</p> <p>Contractor A: £1086+vat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gain access to main roof building by means of a working scaffold• Replace missing slates with new to match and replace any damaged slates• Check over accessible section of roof area and report to client• Leave scaffolding up for council survey over existing repairs• Leave site in a clean and tidy manner. <p>Contractor B: £1350.00+vat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two scaffold towers to be erected and missing slates refitted• Water ingress into front hall likely coming from detail where rafters are exposed on the gutter line.• An investigative repair will be undertaken, and the exposed area will be sealed. <p>Both contractors have offered to make a report on the general condition of the roof as part of their work.</p>
Implications:	The roof is leaking through the building and down into the Corn Exchange. Repairs should be made soonest to prevent long term damage to the fabric of the building.
Recommendation:	To select either Contractor A or B to make repairs to the roof of the Town Hall.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE – REPORT

Meeting Date: 5 April 2023



Agenda Item: 9

Subject:	Tree Survey Report
Prepared by:	Gale Pettifer - Deputy Clerk
Purpose of Report:	To note the recommendations from the Tree Survey Report, and to select a tree surgeon to carry out the work.
Background:	<p>At the Amenities Committee meeting on 22 February 2023 a tree survey was authorised for the tree stock in Howards Lane, Northmoor/Hauses Field, and the Recreation Ground.</p> <p>A tree survey was consequently carried out for each location and recommendations were made for work to be carried out (see Appendix 1).</p> <p>Qualified arboriculturists have been invited to quote for the recommended work to the Council's tree stock.</p>
Key Points:	<p>Qualified arboriculturists were invited to quote for carrying out the recommendations contained in the 2023 Tree Survey of Wareham Town Council's tree stock, in Howards Lane Car Park, Northmoor/Hauses Field, and the Recreation Ground.</p> <p>Quotes were received as follows (see Appendix 1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contractor A: £5,840.00 -• Contractor B: £7,548.00+vat• Contractor C: £7,700.00+vat
Implications:	<p>Failure to address issues raised in the tree survey could result in potential injury or death to Wareham Town Council amenity-users from falling branches.</p> <p>There is also a risk from interference with overhead powerlines (such as in Hauses Field), which could result in power-outages; such incidents could have legal ramifications for Wareham Town Council.</p>
Recommendation:	Members should consider the quotes provided and select their preferred contractor and approve the works for completion.

Appendix 1

Contractor 1:

Tree works identified as per Tree Survey:

Howards Lane Car Park

- Three men, tools, and chipper on site for one day. £730.00

Northmoor Park

- Three men, tools, fuel, and chipper on site for five days. £3650.00

Wareham Recreation Ground

- Three men, tools, fuel, and chipper on site for two days. £1460.00

All waste and timber to be disposed of area to be left clean and tidy throughout.

TOTAL: £5840.00

Contractor 2:

Tree works identified as per Tree Survey:

Howards Lane Car Park

- 6 months – medium term £360.00

Northmoor Park

- 3 months – medium term £45.00
- 6 months – medium term £3998.00
- G1 mixed broadleaves Willow re coppice £1800.00
- 24 months – recommended £745.00

Wareham Recreation Ground

- 6 months – medium term £600.00

TOTAL: £7548.00

Contractor 3:

Tree works identified as per Tree Survey:

Wareham Recreation Ground

- T2, T4 and T13

Howards Lane Car Park

- T6, T5, T4 and T3 £700+vat

Northmoor Park

- G1, T12,11,10,6,2,3,62,47,44,41,61,33,30,29,27,25,22,20,19,55,17,16,15,14 and 53 £7000+vat

▪ **TOTAL: £7,700.00**



AMENITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Meeting Date: 5 April 2023

Agenda Item: 10

Subject:	Wareham Community Growers Purchase Requests								
Prepared by:	Nicola Gray, Town Clerk & RFO								
Purpose of Report:	To consider the requests from Wareham Community Growers to purchase items to assist with the Town Planting and Wareham in Bloom Competition.								
Background:	<p>Reserve monies of £8386.96 have been held for several years which may only be spent for the purposes of Wareham in Bloom, as they are made up of donations specifically for the cause.</p> <p>With the decision to give the Town planting back to Wareham Community Growers, who are the community group which have replaced Wareham in Bloom, it is imperative that the funds are spent wisely to assist the group in its entry to Britain in Bloom.</p> <p>Once the funds are spent, all donations will be redirected to Wareham Community Growers, with no involvement of the Town Council, to avoid the build up of donations going unspent. Those who do donate will be asked to resubmit their donations to Wareham Community Growers direct in future.</p>								
Key Points:	<p>Wareham Community Growers is working with the Council to ensure its Britain in Bloom entry is of the highest standard possible, giving Wareham the best opportunity to win.</p> <p>The Town Council will still provide some local businesses with sponsored planters, and the planting and aftercare of these will be the responsibility of the Town Council. The rest of the town planting and aftercare will be done by Wareham Community Growers, with the support and assistance of the Town Council Grounds Team.</p> <p>To facilitate this, Wareham Community Growers has requested the purchase of a mobile watering trolley, to make the watering of plants in the town much easier, safer and quicker. The details are as follows:</p> <table><tr><td>Utility Cart</td><td>£804</td></tr><tr><td>Battery</td><td>£309.60</td></tr><tr><td>Battery Charger</td><td>£145.20</td></tr><tr><td>TOTAL:</td><td>£1258.80</td></tr></table> <p>There is the possibility that an additional battery, free of charge, would be included in the package.</p> <p>There has been an audit of the planters carried out and 5 of the 9 planters situated in the St Johns Hill and Church Green areas are rotten and broken and need replacing. Wareham Community Growers have requested to replace them all with self-watering planters made from 100% recycled plastic, which would prolong the life of the planters whilst still looking like traditional barrels, and to move the 4 wooden barrels to other locations in the town. The following has therefore been requested:</p>	Utility Cart	£804	Battery	£309.60	Battery Charger	£145.20	TOTAL:	£1258.80
Utility Cart	£804								
Battery	£309.60								
Battery Charger	£145.20								
TOTAL:	£1258.80								



	1 x large heritage barrel planer £205.80 +VAT 9 x small heritage barrel planters £907.20 +VAT TOTAL £1113.00 +VAT
	<p>There would also be a delivery charge on the above figures which is not known at this stage.</p> <p>These purchases would reduce the earmarked reserve to £6015.16 before delivery charges are deducted.</p>
Implications	<p>Holding reserves without an intention to spend is not in accordance with financial regulations for Councils.</p> <p>To not support Wareham Community Growers could result in reputational damage to the Council and result in failing to obtain an award in the Britain in Bloom competition.</p>
Recommendation	<p>To consider the request for purchasing items for Wareham Community Growers from the Wareham in Bloom earmarked reserve.</p>



AMENITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Meeting Date: 5 April 2023

Agenda Item: 11

Subject:	Wareham Christmas Market
Prepared by:	Nicola Gray, Town Clerk & RFO
Purpose of Report:	To formally agree the setting up of the working party to oversee the Christmas Market arrangements.
Background:	<p>A Christmas market in Wareham has been mooted a number of times but has yet to be set up or take place. It was agreed at Amenities Committee on 19 October 2022:</p> <p>371. Christmas Market Members discussed the possibility of holding a Christmas Market in the town. It was considered that this would be an enjoyable occasion with stalls lining the main streets of the town.</p> <p>It was felt that it would be too late to organise a Christmas Market in 2022, but a working party should be set up in early spring of 2023, with various interested parties and local organisations, and the Deputy Clerk to take the matter forward and return with suggestions and proposals to the Amenities Committee.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to set up a working party in early 2023 to facilitate a Christmas Market in 2023.</p>
Key Points:	<p>The Committee needs to formally approve the setting up of the working party to oversee the arrangements. It's not for the Amenities Committee to discuss the arrangements, merely to agree the working party.</p> <p>It is recommended that the Chair and Vice Chair of Amenities be Council representatives on the working party, with the Deputy Clerk to manage the meetings and deal with the practical arrangements such as road closures, bookings etc.</p> <p>The remainder of the working party should be 1 or 2 individuals from local organisations and businesses to work together to achieve a united group which benefits the Town in facilitating a Christmas Market. It is imperative that the groups who organise the Christmas festivities in the town be included on the working party to bring their organisational knowledge and skill set, and with the aim of achieving a "Christmas in Wareham" weekend.</p> <p>The event should aim to be self-funding, however, there has been a budget of £2000 set in the 2023/24 budget for the Christmas Market for Road Closures, advertising, and insurance.</p>
Implications	<p>Failure to engage the local community of businesses and organisations could lead to a fragmented and unsuccessful market.</p> <p>The first event would be a tester event to see if a Christmas Market would be supported and well attended, to establish whether to make it an annual event.</p>
Recommendation	To approve the setting up a Christmas Market working party.



AMENITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Meeting Date: 5 April 2023

Agenda Item: 12

Subject:	Wareham Stones
Prepared by:	Nicola Gray, Town Clerk & RFO
Purpose of Report:	To consider the proposed locations for the Wareham Stones.
Background:	<p>The developer of the development at Worgret Road, Bloor Homes, donated 2 stones which were each inscribed with “Welcome to Wareham” and “Wareham”. There have been many reports and discussions over the years around the siting of the stones to provide best effect, but there were issues with Dorset Highways approval for each location.</p>
Key Points:	<p>In a bid to solve the problem and to get the stones sited to everyone’s satisfaction, the Clerk met with Dorset Highways at a number of locations in Wareham for locations to be considered.</p> <p>The sites which provide the best viewing of the stones and were approved by Dorset Highways are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) On the approach into the town from the Worgret roundabout, on the development side, just off the footpath. This site would prevent members of the public from cutting the corner off the pathway and the subsequent killing of the grass verge.2) On the approach into Wareham from Sandford, on the opposite side of the road from the golf club set back from the junction. <p>Pictures of the locations can be seen below.</p> <p>Mr Peter Andrews has offered his services to put the stone in the agreed locations once approved by Amenities Committee. It is unknown if a charge will be made to do this, however, there is a budget of £3,000 in the 2023/24 financial year to have the stones installed if required.</p>
Implications	<p>The stones are currently sited at Mr Andrews quarry site and are covered in green algae. Although happy to house them, he has expressed a wish to have them moved off his property and there are no other sites to adequately store them.</p>
Recommendation	<p>To consider the locations for the stones, as recommended and agreed with Dorset Highways, and approve their installation, with delegation to approve any installation costs up to the value of £3,000 to the Chair of Amenities and the Town Clerk.</p>







AMENITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

Meeting Date: 5 April 2023

Agenda Item: 13

Subject:	Wareham Mens Shed
Prepared by:	Nicola Gray, Town Clerk & RFO
Purpose of Report:	To consider the request received from Wareham Mens Shed.
Background:	The Clerk received the attached communication from Wareham Mens Shed in February 2023.
Key Points:	<p>Members should consider the request to carefully determine whether there are any Council resources available and, if appropriate, make recommendation to Full Council for consideration.</p> <p>Members should be mindful that the Council has future earmarked the garages at the Recreation Ground for storage of Council equipment should the depot be relinquished at the end of its term.</p>
Implications	Any land assigned should be done by way of lease with the appropriate rent payable.
Recommendation	To consider the request.

A REQUEST TO WAREHAM TOWN COUNCIL FROM THE WAREHAM AREA MEN'S SHED (WAMS)

What we are asking for

A site in Wareham where we can build our own Men's Shed rather than renting space from a landlord, with all the restrictions and limitations this involves. Or, alternatively, a building or space in a building that can be converted into a permanent base for the Men's Shed.

Who we are

The Wareham Area Men's Shed, hereafter referred to as the Shed, was founded five years ago with a dual purpose. As a workshop where men, both skilled and unskilled, could voluntarily design and make wooden objects large and small for the benefit of the Wareham and district community. And as a place where men – many retired and some disadvantaged, disabled, lonely or with mental health issues – could meet to socialise and find friendship.

You may know there are Men's Sheds all over the world, with more than 600 in Britain, making it a highly successful and productive movement. We are affiliated to the UK Men's Shed Association, which has charitable status and lists many examples of member Sheds building their own premises.

What we do

We are very proud to have been of great assistance to the Wareham community since our foundation. You can see many of our recent projects on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/166021904170407> and our website, <https://warehamshed.org.uk>.

But to summarise, here are some of them:

** The rebuilding of a distinctive mining trolley badly damaged by a crashing car on the roundabout leading out of town, a job currently in progress for Wareham Town Council.

** Animal pens for the Livability Holton Lee Flourish charity.

** Osprey nest viewing screen and raft spider viewing platform for RSPB Arne.

** Raised bed repairs at Northmoor allotment for Tricuro.

** Showcases housing community posters for Wareham's St Martin's parish, Arne Parish Council, the Not Just Sundaes community café and Priory Church Lady St Mary.

** A planter with a sloped base for a wheelchair-bound elderly gardening enthusiast.

** A medal dispensing gadget for Wareham Library.

** Planters for Holton Heath railway station.

** Bridge, pathway and sign repairs at Priory Meadow.

** An entrance gate for St Nicolas Church, Arne.

** Noticeboards for the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation group at Creech Heath.

** A-boards for Sustainable Wareham.

** Repair of Purbeck Youth & Community Foundation Shed.

** Benches for Sandford School, including a "buddy bench" for troubled children.

** Hedgehog hibernation houses and feeding stations for Wareham's hedgehog rescue group.

** Countless bug houses and bird boxes for various organisations and individuals.

Why we need a permanent base

The Shed is currently housed at Dorset Council's Purbeck Connect centre in Sandford Road. We rent space at £9.30 per hour but are restricted to two three-hour sessions on Thursday and Friday mornings. Though this arrangement was perfect for our launch and the subsequent years, we now feel we have vastly "outgrown" it. As more members have joined the Shed – we currently have 28 – so it has become more cramped and restrictive, to the extent we are now reluctant to extend the membership, which is a terrible shame considering the Shed's benefits to both interested men and the Wareham community.

We have also gradually acquired more equipment. But, again, it has become a squeeze to operate it correctly as per our rigorous safety standards. Moreover, we feel the time has come to break free of the strict time and rental restrictions imposed at Purbeck Connect, so that members can attend the Shed whenever they like, greatly increasing both productivity and beneficial socialising.

The solution, we feel, is to build our own, more spacious Shed. Or, alternatively, to convert an existing building. But first, of course, we need a site. And this is where the council comes in. Are you able, given the value to Wareham we hope we have demonstrated here, to offer us a plot ... or a building that could be converted?

Our only requirement would be access to electricity, water and drainage. The rest we can take from there. According to our calculations, a single-storey Shed sized 22m x 12m would be ideal in terms of the space required for both men and machines. But obviously there can be flexibility in terms of floor space, layout or even storeys.

Finance

We are confident we can raise the money needed to finance either a new build or conversion. The Shed operation (rent and insurance) is currently member-funded. But in the past we have also received limited backing from Dorset Council and Wareham's Co-op, which has been used mostly for tools and training. More substantial funding would clearly be needed. But the varied nature and background of our membership and our affiliation to the UK Men's Shed Association – a charity, remember – gives us access to a wealth of fund-raising and grant schemes. We are confident our track record would appeal to potential backers.

We also obviously have the practical wherewithal to build a solid, fully-insulated structure, or adapt existing space.

However, we would need a site before grant bodies would take an application for funding seriously.

Governance

We are currently a voluntary organisation governed by constitution, which is the least formal available. If we had our own premises we would seek to become a Community Interest Company or Registered Charity.

A possibility?

One suggestion, *though merely as an example*, would be a plot positioned next to the scout hut on the Wareham Allotments. This has the advantages of being in Wareham; a community site; having nearby services; fitting in well with the spirit of the allotments; being on hand to erect allotment sheds, compost bins, raised beds etc, and good vehicle access. However, we would clearly be open to other suggestions.

Conclusion

We sincerely hope we have demonstrated both our valuable role within the community and the reasons for our need to expand and be more independent. We hope you will be able to help in order not only to benefit us, but to benefit Wareham.



Hedgehogs R Us

Linda Cook
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Market Weighton
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HedgehogsRus@mail.com

Firstly, thank you for taking the time to read this letter!

I am writing to all Councils, Parishes, Towns and Wards in the UK to ask them to take part in this amazing project!

Hedgehogs R Us Highway Project

With Hedgehog numbers in decline and Hedgehog awareness on the rise, there has never been a better time to get involved in Hedgehog conservation.

A Hedgehog Highway is a 5 inch gap in a fence and is essential in the battle to prevent the extinction of our endangered spiky friends. This gap allows them access to forage for food and meet mates. A Highway surround raises awareness to their plight and encourages others to take part.

I am asking for each area of the UK to use a small portion of their assigned funds to purchase a box of hedgehog highway surrounds and make them available for their residents.

Each box of 50 is £150 and includes:

- * 50 Hedgehog Highway surrounds & 50 information leaflets
- * A display box & window sticker showing you are part of the project.

Ideas of how to benefit your community include:

- * Donate the Highways and leaflets to your local school to educate in wildlife conservation
- * Swap the Highways for a donation of Hedgehog food which can then be given to your local Hedgehog Rescue Centre



The project will be receiving a lot of publicity in the coming months via Social Media and I really hope that you choose to take part.

My dream is to make the whole of the UK one giant Hedgehog Highway and for that dream to come true, it needs EVERYONE to take part.

Money is donated to Hedgehog Conservation for every box sold too!

If you would like to order or have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch and thank you for caring.

Linda Cook, Founder of Hedgehogs R Us