



Tiverton Town Council

Town Hall, St Andrew Street, Tiverton, Devon EX16 6PG

Town Clerk: J.F. Vanderwolfe Chartered MCIPD

Email:townclerk@tivertontowncouncil.gov.uk

Phone: 01884 253404 Fax: 01884 258550

Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 6th September 2021 at 2pm in the Mayoralty Room of the Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs W Burke, S Griggs, J Blagg, S Bush, C Harrower, I Hill.

In attendance: Mr John Vanderwolfe (Town Clerk), Miss L Hubbard (Clerical Assistant).

Not present: Cllr D Sutton.

54	Apologies Apologies were received from Cllr S Knight, (Family), D Knowles (Meeting).
55	Code Of Conduct There were no Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct at this stage of the meeting.
56	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 th July 2021, having been previously circulated, were adopted as a true record with an addendum as follows; Cllr I Hill congratulated Cllr Burke for his hard work on Tiverton in Bloom. She had offered to help in the previous Amenities meeting but no one had contacted her. Cllr I Hill felt that in the spirit of working together as a council, there should be better communication, so that councillors could work together on projects which could benefit the town more effectively and efficiently.
57	Matters Arising There were no matters arising.
58	Democratic Period No members of the public were present.
59	Tiverton in Bloom: South West in Bloom Presentation Day at the Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare on the 7th October 2021. Cllrs W Burke, S Griggs, and Mrs Philippa Grainger all expressed an interest in attending the presentation event. All resolved to accept.
60	Allotments a. Tomswell notice board Cllr W Burke informed the members of a new noticeboard that had been erected at Tomswell allotment site. The board was purchased by the Tiverton Allotment Association for the purpose of displaying information. In his opinion the board was of low quality and did not look aesthetically pleasing. The Town Clerk showed the members a photograph of the board. Cllr S Griggs asked if there was a council standard for the types of board that could be erected on the allotment sites. The Town Clerk said that the council did not currently have a standard requirement

	<p>for notice boards and suggested that perhaps this could be looked at for any future notice boards.</p> <p>The Assistant to the Town Clerk informed the members that the site representative for Tomswell had disposed of the old notice board as it was not fit for purpose, erected the new one and had tidied the parking area of the site.</p> <p>The councillors suggested that the site representative be thanked for his efforts.</p> <p>b. Allotment reports</p> <p>The Assistant to the Town Clerk went through the main points of the previously circulated allotment report.</p> <p>In regards to the broken fencing bordering Harrowby allotment site, the members felt that this should be pursued again. Cllr C Harrower said that she had done a lot of work on this and would now try to secure a favourable outcome in ensuring that Mid Devon District Council repair the existing or install new fencing. Cllrs W Burke and S Griggs said they would also assist on this.</p> <p>Cllr W Burke said that he had been contacted by the owners of the property bordering Tomswell allotment site. There were still issues with ivy and ground elder that needed to be addressed. Cllr Burke said he would now deal with this issue and would put weed killer on the ivy and ground elder. Cllr Burke said that there was a need to conclude the issue of the boundary wall. A survey was carried out by a contractor employed by Tiverton Town Council to assess the condition of the wall. This resulted in a report which stated that some of the deterioration was attributed to general wear and tear. The ivy growing from the allotment site was only partially responsible for any damage.</p> <p>The Town Clerk suggested that a contribution could be made to the owners of the wall to go towards repairs. Cllr Burke would now liaise with them.</p> <p>The Assistant to the Town Clerk said that there would be a need to hire a garden contractor to cut back the hedge at Tomswell allotment site which bordered the footpath to the new Rackenford Meadow housing estate as it was becoming very overgrown.</p> <p>Cllr Burke suggested that the Scots pine tree and other shrubs be properly grubbed out this time to save the council having to cut this down on a yearly basis.</p>
61	<p>Town Leat update and planned meeting</p> <p>Cllr I Hill informed the members of the forthcoming scoping meeting between herself, her husband Cllr P Hill, Mr S Densham of Mid Devon District Council and the Assistant to the Town Clerk.</p> <p>The primary objective being to devise a plan forward for the repairs to the town leat. Mr Densham had a lot of local knowledge of the leat and had sent some information to Cllr P Hill. It was felt he would be best placed to assist. Cllr I Hill said Cllr P Hill had carried out his own research on the leat and had recently visited Tiverton Museum too. This meeting would be to discuss what the next steps would be, after the successful completion of the repairs to Chettiscombe weir. To explore options for securing funding, council support and to link up with other organisation such as South West Water and the Environment Agency. Mr Densham had collated prices for the issues at Water Lane which were in the region of £10,000. A lot of problems had arisen from parts of the original course being either diverted or piped over.</p> <p>Cllr W Burke as Chair of the Amenities expressed an interest in attending the</p>

	<p>meeting. Cllr I Hill said she would send the details to him in order to attend. The meeting would be held at Mid Devon District Council's Phoenix House building at 10am on the 8th September 2021.</p> <p>Cllr S Bush said it was good news that there were plans again for the town leat and was pleased to hear of the progress so far. He noted that the Lea Road area had been cleared out too.</p> <p>Cllr C Harrower asked if all the information reports could be collated for all the councillors to view. Then a discussion could take place regarding how to source the money needed.</p>
62	<p>Eastern Urban Extension</p> <p>The Town Clerk said that he had been in communication with Ms C McCombe (Area Planning Officer) Mid Devon District Council in relation to the proposed new community centre for the Eastern Urban Extension development. It was thought now was the right time to deal with this project. The Town Clerk suggested a meeting for the end of September with Ms McCombe for the purpose of making a plan as to what form the proposed community centre takes and how to fund this.</p> <p>Cllr I Hill asked if it would be possible to visit the proposed site. The Town Clerk replied to say that it would be possible for a small group of people to visit.</p> <p>He said that a successful community hub had been set up in Cranbrook.</p> <p>Cllr I Hill asked if a community garden could be included as there was a successful community garden in Cullompton. Village greens and allotments could be included for discussion too.</p>
63	<p>Emergency Plan</p> <p>Cllr S Bush said that he had sent more information for the Emergency plan.</p> <p>Mid Devon District Council in conjunction with Devon Communities Together were holding a webinar entitled "Building Community Resilience" but it would clash with the town council's Full Council Meeting. A suggestion was to ask Cllr S Pugh who was planning to attend, to take notes and relay the information back to the members.</p> <p>Cllr S Bush said that he did not want to duplicate what the district council's plan.</p> <p>Cllr S Bush said that more thought needs to be given on the plan, especially in light of Germany's recent floods. He said that Climate change was impacting more with frequent extreme weather events occurring. Cllr Bush said there would also be a need to work with other agencies on this.</p> <p>The Town Clerk said that he had experienced difficulties in contacting the emergency services at Mid Devon District Council.</p> <p>Cllr I Hill said that members needed to know the hierarchy of what the council was expected to do in terms of gold command.</p>
64	<p>Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Amenities Committee is scheduled for Monday 15th November at 2pm</p>