



**Tiverton Town Council**

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**Minutes of the Events & Amenities Committee held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 6.15pm in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall.**

**Present:** Cllrs W Burke, V Bagatelas, S Beard, C Berry, D Broom, S Bush, R Clarke, A Cuddy, P Hill, B Holdman, K Lejeune, M Farrell, T Wheeler.

**In attendance:** Mr John Vanderwolfe (Town Clerk), and Mrs J Hubbard (Assistant to the Town Clerk).

Not present: Cllrs D Garcia-Parejo and N Davey.

<b>162</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> Cllr S Griggs (Away). All resolved to accept this apology.
<b>163</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> There were no declarations of interest.
<b>164</b>	<b>Minutes</b> The minutes of the meeting held on the 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2023, having been previously circulated, were adopted as a true record.
<b>165</b>	<b>Matters Arising from the Minutes that are not an agenda item</b> There were no matters arising.
<b>166</b>	<b>Democratic Period</b> No members of public present.
<b>167</b>	<b>Perambulation of the Leat: Cllr P Hill, the Bailiff of the Hundred to report and agree a date in line with the MDDC Walking Festival.</b> Cllr P Hill proposed to the members that the Perambulation of the leat be held on Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2024. This would then link in with the MDDC's walking festival which commenced on the same day. Cllr Hill said that he had been liaising with the Knightshayes Estate office manager Mr T Hunter, and a potential route had now been drafted. The proposed route would commence at Chettiscombe. The reason for this change from previous perambulations being that the leat was not currently operational in the town centre, and unlike previous events, MDDC could no longer assist with the installation of the temporary structures needed to traverse through the town's garden sections. Participants would now walk through the fields at Aller's Farm before picking up a forest track for a large proportion of the route, before traversing open fields to reach the source of the leat at Norwood Common. All walkers would then retrace their steps from Norwood Common back to Colcombe Farm, where a new section would commence, encompassing Coombeland, before taking walkers back to Fire Beacon Lane leading down to Knightshayes Court. The walk would then cease at this point. The majority of the route was off road, and circular, negating the need for public transport. Cllr P Hill said that the route offered options in terms of length, as the walk could be cut short by omitting the Norwood Common stretch and heading straight for Colcombe Farm. Equally a smaller walk could be undertaken from the town to Chettiscombe and back.

Cllr P Hill said that Mr Hunter had kindly offered to assist with the event and would accompany him on a trial walk to access the route and note any issues.

Mr Hunter had confirmed that the estate office would install a gate to allow easier access at Landdrake Farm, this point had been problematic during the last event due to a barbed wire fence section.

Cllr P Hill informed the members that there were ongoing discussions with the National Trust at Knighthayes Court on whether one of their car parks could be utilised for walkers, this would then enable them to park vehicles for the duration of the walk or to be used as a pick up and drop off point.

Cllr P Hill proposed that the members agreed to the date of Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024 for the Perambulation of the Leat. Details of the official route/s were still to be decided and would follow at a later date. All members agreed to this this.

Cllr P Hill also informed the members that he had held a meeting with interested parties to discuss the town leat. Many ideas and suggestions had evolved from this meeting.

One suggestion was to host a proclamation at Coggan's Well, as a separate event. The purpose of this would be for all those who wanted to commemorate the occasion but could not partake in the walk.

Another idea was to organise a bus to transport members of public from the town centre to Chesttiscoombe, for all those who did not have their own transport.

Cllr S Beard asked who would be guiding the routes, as if there were to be 3 options there would be a need for 3 guides.

Cllr P Hill agreed, he said that there would be a need for volunteers to assist with the walks, and to help as car parking and road marshals.

The Rotary clubs and other voluntary groups could be contacted to see if they could offer support.

Cllr P Hill said that no dogs other than assistance dogs would be permitted on the perambulation. The main reason being that the route went through farmland where livestock could be grazing.

Cllr D Broom asked why the leat was not flowing and who had turned it off.

Cllr P Hill explained that MDDC controlled the flow of the leat. It had been turned off due to flooding issues at Martin's Lane.

Cllr B Holdman said that the leat issues were long and very complex, many organisations such as South West Water and the Environment Agency had no appetite to engage in discussion to resolve the issues, citing a lack of funding as the reason.

Cllr P Hill said that there were plans to resurrect the setting up a charitable trust for the town leat. A Save the Leat facebook page which had been previously set up had been revived. This it was hoped would help to raise the profile for a wider renovation project.

Cllr S Bush said that the perambulation of the leat event could be utilised as a funding opportunity to contribute to its repair and suggested that the walk could be sponsored. A just giving page could be set up. He asked how any monies collected would be processed.

The town clerk said that the money could be paid into the town council's bank account and transferred to the charity account, once this had been established.

Cllr R Clarke asked if consideration could be given to hosting a children's walk and perhaps incorporate a nature trail.

Cllr P Hill reminded the members that the town council had previously agreed to set aside £10,000 for repairs to the leat. This could be used to create a charitable trust. He informed members that he had already drafted up a C.I.O. document previously, this

	<p>could be revised and brought up to date. It would take 40 days to set up a C.I.O. once set up this trust would need a treasurer.</p> <p>Cllr C Berry proposed to utilise £10,000 for the C.I.O. trust, this was seconded by Cllr B Holdman. All resolved to accept this proposal.</p> <p>Following the leat meeting, Mr Czapiewski had offered to contact South West Water again to see if they could be engaged. Cllr P Hill had contacted Greenfords contractors who had carried out the repairs to Chesttiscombe Weir, they expressed an interest in the project.</p>
<p><b>168</b></p>	<p><b>Events:</b></p> <p>The Town Clerk read out a report prepared by the Town Centre Coordinator Ms S Gray.</p> <p>Events planned for 2024 included Riverside market events for April and June, and Phoenix Lane markets for July and August.</p> <p>September would see a potential event for the Perambulation of the Leat, to coincide with the district council's first Walking Festival.</p> <p>Concluding with the town's Christmas Light Switch-on for November and late night shopping events planned for December. * Cllr S Beard updated the members that following the Town Centre Partnership meeting the preferred date for the town's Christmas switch-on event was for Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2024.</p> <p>The members all agreed to opt for this date.</p> <p>There were other ideas being considered including a large fund raising event in aid of the town leat and other community events to be hosted in the town's parks.</p> <p>The town clerk informed the members that the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 would mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D Day. He said it would be appropriate to recognise this important event, he went on to suggest on how the town council could do this. St Peter's church bell ringing group could conduct a peal of bells to mark the occasion, local primary schools could be invited to attend a commemorative event at the People's Park around the American war memorial, Tiverton museum could be contacted to see if they were putting on a D Day exhibition, Tiverton Civic Society could be contacted to see if they could arrange for a speaker to give a talk on this historic event at the town hall.</p> <p>Cllr S Beard asked what connection the American forces had with the town.</p> <p>The town clerk explained that American troops had been billeted in the town before they had carried out the ill-fated rehearsals for D Day at Slapton Sands.</p> <p>Cllr S Beard said she would inform the Town Centre Partnership of the event.</p> <p>The town clerk informed the members that for the last two years there had been little appetite for the Mayor's Sunday parade. It had been difficult to get local youth groups to engage in this event. He said that perhaps it was time to re-think this event, he suggested that a Mayor's day in the form of a festival could be put on.</p> <p>Cllr S Beard asked what the historical purpose of Mayors Sunday was.</p> <p>The town clerk explained that this was primarily to recognise the new mayor.</p> <p>Cllr R Clarke suggested that the event could be linked with Tiverton Twinning Association.</p> <p>Cllr S Beard said that locally recognised citizens could be involved.</p> <p>It was agreed that members email their suggestions to the town clerk.</p> <p>The town clerk informed the members that there would be a Devon Vintage Bus Day to be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024. He asked the members for a contribution of £500 this would be donated to the organisation in order to assist with fuel costs.</p>

	<p>The members agreed to this request.</p> <p>The town clerk asked the members for some guidance on Remembrance Day arrangements. He explained that the town council now had an obligation to organise this event as the Royal British Legion were no longer permitted to do so.</p> <p>He said that he had been upset at the last full council to receive criticism from a member of public. They had inferred that the town clerk had a duty to attend church and take part in the parade, rather than managing traffic.</p> <p>The town clerk informed the members that as the chapter 8 person he was responsible for traffic management and ensuring public safety, it was not possible to take part in the parade and attend the church service whilst carrying out event management duties. He asked the members for clarification on what duties he should be carrying out.</p> <p>The members all resolved that the town clerk should attend to the management of traffic and public safety, they agreed he would not be expected to attend the parade or church.</p>
<b>169</b>	<p><b>Allotments: to note a report regarding allotments. *previously circulated</b></p> <p>Cllr A Cuddy said that he had been approached by an allotment tenant who had concerns with ongoing illegal dumping of tyres at the Beech Road allotment site. He asked what could be done to prevent this.</p> <p>The town clerk said that he was aware of the problem at this site. Signs had been put up in order to try and prevent this.</p> <p>Cllr C Berry asked if wildlife cameras could be utilised to try and capture the individual/s doing this.</p> <p>The town clerk explained that there were legal implications for local authorities on the use of cameras in public places, CCTV options had been explored previously but this was not deemed practical and would not be easy to set up. There would be cost implications too.</p> <p>All resolved to accept the report.</p>
<b>170</b>	<p><b>CCTV: to note the draft Service Level Agreement received from MDDC and make any comments.</b></p> <p>The members highlighted issues with the draft document and were unhappy at the length of time that this document had taken and the lack of accuracy contained within it.</p> <p>The town clerk suggested that a working party group be set up to review the document with a view to then discussing this with MDDC.</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllrs' V Bagatelas, S Beard, C Berry, T Bridger, and P Hill make up this group.</p> <p>It was further agreed that the town clerk would contact MDDC officers to request a meeting to discuss these issues.</p>
<b>171</b>	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 6.15pm.</b></p>