

## **OUTSIDE SERVICES COMMITTEE**

16th June 2020 Virtual Meeting at 1.52pm

### **Minutes**

(Please note that all Councillors are now members of the Outside Services Committee.)

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

CLLR MORGAN

**PRESENT:** CLLRS COAKLEY, GOLD (CHAIR), LONG, MOORE, RAPHAEL, TOLMAN, TAGG & WATSON

**OFFICERS: TOWN CLERK, OPERATIONS MANAGER (OM) & F&M OFFICER FOR IT SUPPORT**

#### **2. MINUTES**

**Resolved.** It was proposed by Cllr Tolman seconded by Cllr Long and agreed unanimously to approve the minutes of the 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

#### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr Raphael mentioned that Mud Lane is getting bad again. This would be discussed later in the meeting (item 11).

#### **4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

**None.**

#### **5. FINANCE**

**a) Approval of payments**

**b) Budget Monitoring**

**Item was deferred.**

#### **6. FOR DECISION – To receive any updates from the Operations Manager.**

The OM explained what work has been undertaken recently at the cemetery, namely tidying up the front entrance and heritage centre; removing any weeds and debris. The wildlife area has developed well and proven to be a success in creating a great place to sit and enjoy the countryside around us. The team have left small areas of flowers in different places around the site to complement the wildlife zone and encourage insect life to thrive. A number of bee houses have been placed around the site to encourage solitary bees to make this area their home.

The play equipment still remains closed to the public. Routine maintenance has been undertaken to the play equipment at Launceston

Road. Grass cutting at the parks has been on a reactive basis but will return to the normal routine this week. Work scheduled for the near future include maintenance and clearing at Saltash Road Park (including hedges) and the free carpark.

During the pandemic the road verges have been dealt with on a reactive basis, but the normal cutting schedule is to be resumed now. Work has already started at Liskeard Road, the Village Collection and will progress through into Tavistock Road and Launceston Road over the coming few weeks.

### **Parks & Open Spaces**

- 7. FOR DECISION – To receive any updates on matters concerning the Parks & Open Spaces, including any bookings for the recreational grounds, and agree action required.**

The OM explained that there is evidence that children are starting to use the equipment despite being closed and signage to that effect; so each day the staff re-tap the areas.

The Rotary would like to plant some crocuses and possible locations have been suggested to them, and we await their decision.

- 8. St Mary's Square**

**For Clerk to give background information on the adoption of St Mary's Square, and how the street cleansing may change with the new Waste Management contract.**

Under the existing contract, Cornwall Council street-cleanse this area but things will change under the new arrangements and responsibility will fall to the Town Council. Existing staffing resources will be arranged to cover this. Cllr Raphael will also arrange for the Community Litter Pick to clean it as part of their routine schedule. **Noted.**

Cormac have removed a silver birch tree, as advised by the Tree Officer, and it will be replaced by them with something similar. Alex Ward's family has also expressed an interest to plant a tree on the square (of a blossom variety), and a further tree is planned for Saltash Road park. The OM will get some prices for the replacement trees.

### **Allotments**

- 9. FOR DECISION – To discuss any matters concerning the allotments (to receive report)**

The report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Chair went on to fully explain concerns that have been raised by staff regarding matters

raised by tenants, and the dialogue she has had regarding a disgruntled applicant.

It was agreed that the staff have the full support of the Council in their actions, and their efforts have been appreciated.

The Clerk would get latest guidance on abusive, persistent or vexatious complaints.

**10. FOR DECISION – To receive any updates on the wildlife zone projects.**

This has been briefly mentioned in item 6; generally all good feedback and well received by the public.

**11. FOR DECISION – To receive any recommendations from the Environmental Sub-Committee relevant to this Committee.**

Cllr Raphael has recently visited Mud Lane and found it in a poor state. He will arrange for it to be cleared again this year but would appreciate some help with disposing of the green waste. The OM agreed to have any green waste take away and suitably disposed.

**12. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

Cllr Moore explained that many drains in the town are not working probably because of the dead plant material in them. **Noted.**

The Community Litterpick Group are looking to restart when safe to do so, but will no longer have refreshments in the hall complex. The Council continues its support to the group by taking collection of their recyclable materials (cardboard, paper, plastic but NOT glass).

Cllr Moore will be attending virtual meetings of the Flood Forum and CALC shortly, and updates will be provided. He went on to give a Public Health update.

**There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 3pm.**