

MINUTES of a MEETING of the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** of WINSLOW TOWN COUNCIL
held on **Thursday 21st November 2024**, at 28 High Street, Winslow, at 7pm

Present: Cllrs Keys, Castle, Hamley and Wiseman

Absent: Cllr Onley

Clerk: S Carolan

Also present: None

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Onley

A24/87 The Committee RESOLVED to accept Cllr Onley's apologies.

Declarations of Interest and Applications for Dispensation: None

Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

A24/88 The Committee RESOLVED that the minutes of its 10th October 2024 meeting be signed as a true record.

Matters Delegated by Council: None

Biodiversity / Nature

The Committee noted: (a) the lack of progress on the wildflower project; (b) that the Clerk will make contact with the Community Board; and (c) a recommendation from the Community Facilities Upgrade Project that planting to the north of the cricket ground be timed to meet the BNG needs of the upgrade project.

Street Scene

The Committee noted the completion of tree works at the Elmfields Gate and Picadilly gardens, and that further news is awaited from Rotary on maintenance.

Tomkins Park

A24/89 The Committee noted an updated quote obtained by the Clerk for topping up of the hoggin path and associated works, and RESOLVED: (a) that the Clerk should seek a revised quote to include a base for an additional bench; and (b) that the location of the new bench be delegated to Cllrs Castle & Wiseman.

Burial Ground

The Committee noted that the burial ground extension planning application will be discussed by the Finance & Resources Committee on 26th November.

Playground

The Committee noted an update from the Chairman on progress creating the draft design specification for the playground, and from Cllr Hamley and the Clerk on the latest Upgrade Project meeting. The Committee further noted that Cllr Keys will seek clarification from the architect of the precise boundary of the new playground plot, without which invitation to tender cannot be finalised.

A24/90 The Committee RESOLVED to recommend to Council that, when a design specification is agreed, the details be uploaded to the Contracts Finder service, and that Kompan, Proludic and Sutcliffe be invited to submit expressions of interest.

Recreation Ground

The Committee noted: (a) the recent removal of dead elm trees from the recreation ground, and (b) complaints that the overgrown leylandii hedge adjacent to Elmfields Gate is obstructing the street lighting.

A24/91 The Committee RESOLVED: (a) to accept a quote for £2,500 for removal of the leylandii trees; and (b) to agree to the Biodiversity Steering Group's proposal to plant disease resistant elms at suitable locations in the margins of the cricket ground in February or March 2025.

Devolved Services Agreement with Buckinghamshire Council

Members noted an invitation from Buckinghamshire Council to enter into a further devolved services contract, and that Cllr Keys will arrange a meeting with Buckinghamshire Highways to discuss members issues with the current agreement as well as observations on the proposed new one.

Clerk's Report on Service Delivery

The Committee noted a report from the Clerk, including: (a) completion of tidying up the burial ground hedges; (b) a reduction in the number of cuts of the burial ground extension to two per year at the suggestion of the Biodiversity Steering Group; and (c) a delay to the completion of the clearance of the northwestern corner of Tomkins Park.

A24/92 The Committee considered a request for a plaque to be allowed on an existing memorial at the burial ground and RESOLVED to decline the request.

Items for Information

The Committee's next meetings are scheduled for Thursdays 19th December 2024 and 16th January 2025.

The chairman closed the meeting at 8:50pm.

Signed: _____ (Chairman) at a Meeting held on **19th December 2024**