

**AMESBURY TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held at The Bowman Centre**  
**on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 at 7.15pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr J Swindlehurst (Chair), Cllr Dr M Devendran (Mayor), Cllr T Edwards (Deputy Mayor),

Cllr R Yuill, Cllr S Hedge, Cllr A Hagger, Cllr I Mitchell, Cllr M Strange, Cllr Buchanon, Cllr Edwards

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Cllr R Crook (by invite), Mrs SJ Tucker (Town Clerk)

**VISITING PUBLIC:** 0

	<b>Public Questions</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
	There were no members of the public present.	
1.	<b>To receive apologies for absence</b> Apologies were received from Cllr Jaconiah (childcare commitments).	
2.	<b>To approve the minutes of the last meeting dated 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b> Resolved.	
3.	<b>To receive Declarations of interest from members</b> None received.	
4.	<b>Councillors' questions/statements</b>  4.1 Cllr Edwards raised concerns following complaints from residents about ByWay 20 and the condition of some of the footways on the estate, some of which are unusable (non draining water and mud). Whilst Cllrs completely understood residents' frustrations and ideas were discussed that could potentially alleviate the problems, Cllr Yuill advised that these roads/footpaths had not yet been adopted by Wiltshire Council and due process needed to be followed. Any action that the Town Council considered to help residents in relation to improving the footpaths would likely have legal and Health and Safety implications. Cllr Yuill had made several attempts to contact the Adoption Officers at both Wiltshire Council and Bloor Homes to determine a timescale for adoption and issues on the estate but was still waiting for feedback from Bloor Homes. This provoked a wider debate amongst Cllrs over how developers had not been held to account over several years with their obligations/conditions of build to formally hand over areas before being permitted to start new areas by Wiltshire Council, this even dated to back to Salisbury District Council, when the new development of Archers' Gate was first planned.  It was recommended that the Council considered writing a letter to Bloor Homes outlining their concerns.  4.2 Cllr Edwards informed the Committee of chip bark available for use on Amenity Areas if needed.  4.3 Cllr Yuill noted that heavy vehicles had been dragging mud onto Stockport Road by going off road between Stockport Avenue/Roundabout and the end of Stockport Road. Cllr Crook admitted that his farm vehicles use this road,	

<p>5.</p>	<p>he would present the Council with legal documents about agricultural rights. The committee discussed the option of a barrier to prevent unauthorised use of this piece of land.</p> <p>4.4 Cllr Strange had received a complaint about the curtains (missing hooks and unable to close those at the long window) in the Main Hall of the Bowman Centre and the cleanliness of the Kitchen over the weekend. The Clerk would look into this.</p> <p>Cllr Strange also reported that the parking metres in Central Car Park had not been working for a few days. The Mayor (Cllr Dr Devendran) would contact Parking Services at Wiltshire Council about the issue.</p> <p>4.5 Cllr Mitchell reminded councillors that the Town Council's response to Wiltshire Council's Local Plan is currently with Troy Planning and had been sent out to councillors for final comments prior to submission this week.</p> <p>4.6 The Mayor (Cllr Dr Devendran) reported that the Christmas Tree had been installed, with lights being installed on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. She also noted that the bollards had been installed on Richard's Drive.</p> <p>4.7 Cllr Haggart asked if the bunting had been removed. The Clerk informed him that it was being removed at the same time as the Christmas Lighting were being installed. Cllr Edwards stated that in future all bunting is removed by the second week of October at the latest.</p> <p><b>Clerks Update</b></p> <p>The Committee received the following report:</p> <p>I conducted a familiarisation visit of our Amenity areas with Clive Hopkins on 15<sup>th</sup> November. This included all of our play parks, for which we received the ROSPA report in September. Work is ongoing by the caretakers to address any areas that were highlighted for improvement on the report.</p> <p>Andy Gott attended a ROSPA Play Park Inspection course on 15<sup>th</sup> November, this course means he is now familiar with the process and systems to conduct H&amp;S checks of our play equipment.</p> <p>We are working with a resident close to the Centenary Pavilion who has complained that the noise from the Mosquito alarms is affecting his families' sleep. He is adamant that the noise experienced is linked to the pitch given off by the alarms, despite them being set at the lowest level and only meant to be audible by the younger generation. We will monitor the situation but have not received any complaints from other residents about this issue.</p> <p>Action points from the last Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> October:</p> <p>Minute 4.2 – Cllr Hedge has been given the combination for the container to check the flood equipment.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Mayor</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>
-----------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------

	<p>Minute 7 - 2 x Mosquito Anti Loiter Devices quote</p> <p>Minute 8 – Lloyd is costing a flagpole, he currently has 2 x quotes.</p> <p>Update – Men’s Shed Project</p> <p>6. The Mayor (Cllr Dr Devendran) updated the Committee following the recent Men’s Shed Steering Committee Meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> November. The Steering Committee should contact the Bookings Clerk to arrange use of the Pavilion. Other items from the Minutes will require Full Council agreement in December. The quote for £550 for the architects to prepare the tender process is to go to Full Council for a decision on the 5<sup>th</sup> December. The Clerk identified the funds in the EMR available for the project.</p> <p>7. Fences on Stockport Avenue</p> <p>7.1 Cllr Edwards noted the Council’s previous advice of leave to fall for fences that were in disrepair and remove any damaged ones. Its unlikely that any panels can be re-used. Cllr Crook suggested the bund and ditch option in replacement of fences, along with the seeding of wildflowers to protect vehicular access to land exposed.</p> <p>7.2 Grit Bin Locations</p> <p>Cllrs Edwards and Yuill have looked at vulnerable/additional areas, particularly on the new estate that would benefit from grit bins. Wiltshire Council will no longer fund new grit bins, these are now the responsibility of Town Councils. One of the current issues is that many of the roads are still unadopted, another issue is finding Town Council owned land to site any new bins. Cllr Hedge suggested approaching LHFIG and speaking to Wiltshire Council to see if they are maintaining their bins. The caretakers will be asked to review a map with both Wiltshire Council and Amesbury Town Council grit bins to determine if their locations are accurate and the status of grit within them.</p> <p>7.3 Boscombe Down Playing Fields</p> <p>Cllr Yuill has written to both the local MPs (Danny Kruger and John Glenn) about the Boscombe Down Playing Fields that are MOD/DIO land. He will keep pursuing this with the aim of being in contact with the correct point of contact for disposal of land at DIO.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Yuill</p>
--	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------

7.4	<p>Mosquito alarms and lighting – from the Clerk’s report</p> <p>The Clerk’s report had included quotes for Mosquito Alarms and lighting to deter anti social behaviour at Harvard Park. The Operations Manager is determining where these could be installed in line with rules and regulations over properties and play parks. The Committee approved the IK08 lights x 2 at a cost of £1440 each. This would be submitted to Full Council on 5<sup>th</sup> December.</p> <p>Cllr Buchanan noted the trial that the Mosquito Alarm company may be considering. Whilst on the conversation of lights, Cllr Crook noted that the Bonnymead Lights needed looking at. The Clerk will look into this and the alarm trial.</p>	<b>ACTION</b>
7.5	<p>Flag Pole</p> <p>The Chairman, Cllr Swindlehurst noted that quotes had been provided to the Committee for removal of the flagpole from the wall of the Bowman Centre and installation of a 5m pole in the garden of the Bowman Centre. However, this had not been added to the Agenda. The Committee referred this to the Full Council Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> December.</p>	Clerk
8	<p><b>Items for next Agenda</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Harvard Park Update</li> <li>2. ByWay 20 Update</li> <li>3. Boscombe Down Playing Fields Update</li> </ol>	Cllrs
9.	<p><b>The meeting closed at 8.15pm.</b></p> <p><b>Date of next meeting: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.15pm.</b></p>	