

TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE EXTERNAL COMMITTEE **MEETING HELD AT TENTERDEN TOWN HALL ON 10TH JUNE 2019**

Councillors Present: Cllrs. J. Crawford, Mrs. J. Curteis, M. Hickmott, K. Mulholland, J. Nelson (Chair) R. Quinton and Substitute: Mrs. S. Ferguson.

Officers Present: Deputy Town Clerk Mrs. C. Gilbert and Administrative Assistants Mrs. L. Owers and Ms. S. Ratcliffe.

Others Present: Cllrs. Miss. A. Gardner, C. Knowles, Dr. L. Lovelidge, R. Parkin, Mrs. P. Smith and A. Sugden and Mrs. K. Walder (not members of this Committee) and four members of the public.

0336 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr. V. Cole and the Town Clerk Mr. P. Burgess.

0337 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** Cllr. Parkin declared an interest in the Cinema Focus Group as his daughter is the Assistant Manager of White Stuff.

0338 **MINUTES.** The minutes and reports of the meeting held on 8th April 2019 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

0339 **MATTERS ARISING.** None.

0340 **REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.** None.

0341 **COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS.**

- (a) Cllr. Quinton raised queries regarding the Community Land Trust (CLT). Cllr. Quinton asked whether it was the Steering Group who approached Wates or did Wates approach the Steering Group and if so, how did they know about the Steering Group; also would the Group be reporting its activities to the community. Cllr. Quinton enquired who had been invited to the pre-launch of the CLT on 26th June 2019 in addition to Town Councillors and whether this was open to residents. Cllr. Quinton requested clarification as to whether those on the CLT Steering Group would be the founding board members of the CLT when it is formed.

Cllr. Nelson responded that it was Wates who had approached the Steering Group but he did not know how Wates knew about the Steering Group. The Steering Group would be conducting a presentation and a report its activities to the community at the pre-launch meeting on 26th June 2019; it is hoped the Group would be able to gauge what community support there is for the CLT in order to move forward. Cllr. Nelson reported that it would make sense for the people on the Steering Group to be the founding board members, however if others would like to join they should put themselves forward.

0342 **VICE-CHAIRMAN.** Cllr. Mrs. Curteis was appointed Vice-Chairman for the 2019-2020 Council year. Cllr. Mulholland abstained from voting.

0343 **FINANCIAL REPORT.** The Income and Expenditure report for this committee for the year ended 31st March 2019 was **APPROVED**.

0344 **SUB-COMMITTEE & WORKING GROUP REPORTS.**

- (a) Kiln Field. The reports of the meetings held on 20th March 2019 and 31st May 2019 were **NOTED**. Cllr. Dr. Lovelidge requested a budget of £5,000 which will include the cost of £330 for the proposed Great Crested Newt eDNA sampling survey, pond clearance work and various other work. Cllr. Knowles reported that he would give a Borough Grant towards this project. Cllr. Knowles also reported that Russell Jarvis from the Jarvis Group had agreed to donate £1,000 and Mr. G. Day and the Day family had agreed to contribute £2,000 towards Kiln Field. Cllr. Knowles reported that he would also make enquiries to see if the Borough Council can assist on the project and there may also be Section 106 funds available from the Tilden Gill development. Cllr. Crawford thanked Cllr. Knowles for covering most of the expenditure as this is a major project for Tenterden. It was reported that Cllr. Knowles had met with local schools and they are very keen to take part in the project and help raise funds.

Cllr. Dr. Lovelidge reported that there is a proposal for grass verges in designated areas to be left to wildflowers to encourage insects and bees. The designated areas would not affect the access ways to the town and a section of grass would be cut around the wildflower sections. The verges are owned by Kent County Council (KCC) therefore approval is required before implementation. Once approval is received from KCC, signs will go up advising the public. The Deputy Town Clerk reported that depending on the extent of the designated areas under KCC's ownership, KCC may cut the amount money paid under the caretaker scheme. KCC have requested a list of the areas and maps; they will then review the proposal. It was **AGREED** in principle that a budget of £5,000 would be granted for the various works for Kiln Field.

- (b) Cinema Focus Group. Cllr. Knowles commented on the revised plans for the Pebbles and raised concerns about the impact on the Millennium Garden. Cllr. Nelson reported that the revised plans would go to public consultation along with the other regeneration projects. Cllr. Crawford advised that he would have expected the proposed drawings to be included in the pre-planning application. It was **RESOLVED** that no further drawings need to be commissioned at this point.

- (c) May Fayre Sub-committee. The report of the meeting held on 17th April 2019 was **NOTED**. Cllr. Hickmott reported that it was another successful year and the committee will be meeting on 12th June 2019 to discuss this year's event; lots of positive feedback on this year's event had been received.

Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson thanked Cllr. Hickmott and the Team for all their hard work. Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson asked when May Fayre might be held next year due to the first Bank Holiday being moved to Friday, 8th May 2020 for VE Day. Cllr. Hickmott reported that this would be discussed at the May Fayre meeting.

Cllr. Hickmott reported that the reason the Dog Show was cancelled this year was because it is supposed to be a fun dog show not a professional dog show. Cllr. Hickmott was not prepared for volunteers to be abused by members of the public as they had been the previous year.

- (d) Youth Policy. The report of the meeting held on 28th May 2019 was **NOTED**. Cllr. Nelson reported that it was proving difficult to obtain advice from experts who had agreed to prepare a needs analysis which could be used to measure what facilities would be supplied for youths; this would be pursued.
- (e) Sports Review. The report of the meeting held on 11th April 2019 was **NOTED**. The issue of parents being exposed to all weathers at the 3G pitch was discussed and the idea of co-funding shelters was suggested. It was noted that these were for community use only as Homewood does not require them. The proposal was for 'bus shelter' type shelters at a cost of around £12,000. Cllrs. Quinton and Mrs. Curteis queried whether this cost was necessary and whether the school should fund them as minimum standards for the provision of the pitch. Cllr. Nelson reported that the school would not pay for them. The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the Town Council had two bus shelters in storage and suggested that maybe these could be of use. It was agreed to **DEFER** this item to the next External meeting on 8th July 2019 in order to investigate the feasibility of the bus shelters currently held in storage.

It was reported at the meeting that the newly formed Tenterden Tigers were now unable to play on the 3G pitch due to lack of funding as the £1,500 agreed by the Town Council for local football teams has now been exhausted. It was agreed to investigate further funding.

Approval was required for a topographical measured survey for the Smallhythe Road proposal at a cost of around £1,600. It was suggested by the Sports Review that the cost is split three ways between the Town Council, landowner and Ashford Borough Council. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would pay a third of the cost.

- (f) Tent1 Steering Group. The report of the meeting held on 23rd April 2019 was **NOTED**. In consideration as to whether the Town Council should write to Dandara in support of the retaining the BMX track located off Bells Lane, Cllr. Mrs. Curteis reported that Dandara had held off for as long as they could, but given the issues on site and with families moving into the developments, the track has to be removed. Dandara had also investigated the insurance cover for the track and it was not viable. It was agreed that it was unfortunate that the skate park would not be ready until next year. Cllr. Sugden reported that when planning permission was given for Tent1, the woodland area was designated as a wildlife walkway and to change its purpose would require changes to the master plan. Cllr. Knowles reported that he had written to all residents who would potentially be affected by the BMX track and the response was 50/50 for and against.

It was **RESOLVED** not to write in support of retaining the BMX track due to it being located on private land. The Deputy Town Clerk agreed to liaise with Dandara on publicising the removal of the track.

0345 **SUB-COMMITTEE & WORKING GROUPS.** It was **RESOLVED** to appoint the following members to the following sub-committees.

- (a) Caretaker Scheme.
Cllrs. Carter, Mrs. Curteis, Dr. Lovelidge & Sugden.
- (b) Community Transport Scheme.
Cllrs. Knowles, Mulholland & Mrs. Walder.
- (c) Donations.
Cllrs. Crawford, Mrs. Curteis, Mulholland & Mrs. Smith.
- (d) Kiln Field.
Cllrs. Crawford, Mrs. Curteis, Knowles, Dr Lovelidge, Parkin, Mrs. Smith & Mrs. Walder.
- (e) May Fayre.
Cllrs. Mrs. Curteis, Hickmott & Mrs. Smith.
- (f) Police Forum.
Cllrs. Mrs. Curteis, Mrs. Ferguson, Mulholland & Mrs Smith.
- (g) Sports Review.
Cllrs. Carter, Miss. Gardner, Mulholland, Nelson, Sugden & Mrs. Walder.
- (h) Tourism & Business.
Cllrs. Carter, Crawford, Mrs. Ferguson, Miss. Gardner, Mulholland, Nelson, Quinton, Mrs. Smith, Sugden & Mrs. Walder.
- (i) War memorial and Remembrance Sunday.
The Town Mayor & Cllr. Nelson.
- (j) Xmas Lights.
Cllrs. Carter, Mrs. Ferguson, Knowles, Quinton & Sugden.
- (k) Youth Policy.
Cllrs. Nelson, Mrs. Smith & Sugden.

0346 **FRIDAY MARKET SUB-COMMITTEE.** It was agreed to **DEFER** considering the merging of this sub-committee with another sub-committee pending the High Street Health Check.

0347 **FRIDAY MARKET EQUIPMENT.** It was reported that market traders have no protection for the back of their stalls located on the roadside of the market. The appearance of the market from the South side of the High Street is also still a cause for concern, particularly as more traders serve direct from vans or trailers. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase barriers at a cost no higher than £1,500. The barriers could be used for other events in the Town as well as the Friday market.

0348 **TENTERDEN FESTIVAL.** Cllr. Mrs. Curteis raised her concerns at the Town Council staff being asked to photocopy the festival posters at a time when they are extremely busy. Cllr. Knowles reported that he would fund the £250 from his Ward Member Grant to pay for the printing of the programmes and banners and would urge Mr. Dalton to complete the application form as soon as possible. Cllr. Mrs. Walder agreed to pay for the printing of the posters from her Ward Member

grant. It was agreed that should further funding be required, this should be brought back to the External Committee.

- 0349 **FOOTPATH MAP.** It was **RESOLVED** to purchase new footpath maps and install them on the outside of Station Road and Recreation Ground toilet blocks and one in the High Street at a cost of £25.00 plus printing and framing. This would be subject to planning permission. Cllr. Mrs. Smith requested that the map notice board at the Museum car park should receive attention.
- 0350 **HIGH STREET HEALTH CHECK.** It was agreed to **DEFER** the proposal that Jo Wynne-Carter (or another suitable consultant) be commissioned by the Town Council to carry out a High Street Health Check for Tenterden to the Tourism and Business Sub-committee. Ms. Welch commented that no pot of funding was in place for Tenterden and the Council needed to be clear on what they expected from the health check. A long term vision of what is viable for Tenterden needs to be in place. It was agreed that a meeting of the Sub-committee would be set up soon.
- 0351 **RUBBISH ON THE HIGH STREET.** It was **RESOLVED** to distribute to High Street/just off the High Street properties the information leaflet on when residents should put out their bins.
- 0352 **CORRESPONDENCE.** None.
- 0353 **MINOR MATTERS.** None.
- 0354 **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED TO THE CHAIRMAN.** None.

The meeting opened at 7.20pm and closed at 8.47pm.

The foregoing Minutes and Reports were confirmed and signed at the External Meeting held on the 8th day of July 2019.

Chairman _____ (08.07.2019)