

# TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL



## MINUTES OF A HIGHWAYS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT TENTERDEN TOWN HALL ON 15<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2016

### **Councillors Present:**

M. Carter, Mrs. J. Curteis, Mrs. S. Ferguson, Miss N. Gooch, M. Hickmott (Vice-Chairman), R. Isworth, Dr. L. Lovelidge, K. Mulholland, J. Nelson, Mrs. P. Smith and A. Sugden.

### **Officers Present:**

Town Clerk Mr. P. Burgess and Deputy Town Clerk Mr. R. Parham.

### **Other Present:**

Two members of the public.

The Vice-Chairman was in the chair.

3045 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.** Cllrs. Mrs. Hannett and Thorpe.

3046 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THIS MEETING.** None.

3047 **MINUTES.** The minutes and reports of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3048 **MATTERS ARISING.**

- (a) Minute 3041 – Tree Planting. It was **NOTED** that Kent County Council had reported that it had a responsibility to replace removed trees within the conservation area, and as such the trees outside 52 and 64 Ashford Road would be replaced.

3049 **PERSONAL REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

- (a) Responsibility for Verges and Green Spaces. Mr. M. Pearson of High Street urged members to reject a plan for the Town Council to take responsibility for verges and green spaces, as he felt that the figures quoted for the costs associated with the work were misleading. His own research suggested that the costs would be significantly higher, and that any benefit to the community would be outweighed by the financial burden of the work. He drew particular attention to the cost of clearing gullies, which he felt would run to many thousands of pounds each year. He also questioned the earlier decision to purchase a higher specification mower, as he felt that this decision presumed that the Town Council would take on the work, as it was otherwise unnecessary for the existing workload.

3050 **COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS.** None.

3051 **SUB-COMMITTEE & STEERING GROUP REPORTS.** None.

- 3052 **FINANCIAL REPORT.** The income and expenditure report to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 was **APPROVED.**
- 3053 **STREET FURNITURE.** It was **RESOLVED** that a request to site a memorial bench on the south side of the High Street, opposite Tenterden House Interiors, would be granted.
- 3054 **ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION.** List no. 172 was **NOTED.**
- 3055 **EAST CROSS GARDEN.** It was **RESOLVED** that a sub-committee would be formed to formulate a specification for replacement paving at East Cross Garden. Cllrs. Carter, Miss Gooch and Mrs. Smith were appointed as members.
- 3056 **TENNIS CLUB.** It was **RESOLVED** in principal that control of the tennis courts on Tenterden Recreation Ground could be passed on to a tennis club, as long as existing regular users were involved in negotiation of the matter, and that the potential for the courts to be used for netball was taken into account.
- 3057 **BANNER POLICY.** Consideration was given to the policy for placement of advertising banners on the Tenterden Recreation Ground railings. It was **RESOLVED** that banners would only be allowed for community events or not-for-profit organisations within the civil parish of Tenterden.
- 3058 **CARETAKER SCHEME – RESPONSIBILITY FOR VERGES & GREEN SPACES.** It was **AGREED** that the Town Council should take responsibility for the maintenance of verges and green spaces in exchange for an annual combined contribution from Ashford Borough Council and Kent County Council of £30,000.00, provided that the Cranbrook Road cemetery could be excluded from the contract, and that a break clause could be included for two years into the contract.
- 3059 **CORRESPONDENCE.**
- (a) High Street Flower Beds. A letter from a resident complimenting the flower beds was **NOTED.**
- 3060 **MINOR MATTERS.**
- (a) Public Parks. Information on an inquiry into parks and open spaces, being run by the Department for Communities and Local Government, was **NOTED.**
- (b) UK Power Networks. Information on the new “105” telephone number, to be used for reporting power cuts, was **NOTED.**
- (c) Southern Water. The annual report was **NOTED.**
- (d) Tent 1 Street Naming Policy. Information on the names intending to be used by Taylor Wimpey in its portion of the Tent 1 development was **NOTED.**
- (e) Kent Mineral and Waste Local Plan. Information on the local plan was **NOTED.**
- (f) Hadlow Parish Tree Warden. An invitation to attend educational tree walks was **NOTED.**

3061 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

- (a) Hanging Baskets. Cllr. Mrs. Smith reported that she had received complaints regarding the hanging baskets at the junction of Grange Road with Ashford Road blocking vehicle sight lines. The Town Clerk stated that the baskets would be removed as a matter of safety. Consideration would be given to moving the standard on which the baskets were hung to allow a continued display at such a high-profile site.
- (b) Volunteer Litter-Picking Day. Cllr. Nelson reported that a volunteer litter-picking day had been organized for Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

**The meeting opened at 9.12pm and closed at 9.55pm.**

The foregoing Minutes and Report were confirmed and signed at a meeting of the Highways & Amenities Committee held on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September 2016.

Chairman..... (26.09.2016)