

TENTERDEN TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE EXTERNAL COMMITTEE **MEETING HELD AT TENTERDEN TOWN HALL ON 12TH AUGUST 2019**

Councillors Present: Cllrs. M. Carter, Mrs. J. Curteis, M. Hickmott, J. Nelson (Chair), R. Parkin, R. Quinton and Substitutes: Mrs. S. Ferguson and Mrs. C. Walder.

Officers Present: Town Clerk Mr. P. Burgess, Deputy Town Clerk Mrs. C. Gilbert and Administrative Assistant Mrs. L. Owers.

Others Present: Miss. A. Gardner, Mrs. P. Smith and A. Sugden (not members of this Committee), Community Warden Ms. J. Vos, Ashford Borough Councillors P. Clokie & J. Link, and 4 members of the public.

0369 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs. J. Crawford and K. Mulholland; Cllrs. V. Cole, C. Knowles and Dr. L. Lovelidge (not members of this Committee).

0370 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None.

0371 **MINUTES.** The minutes and reports of the meeting held on 8th July 2019 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

0372 **MATTERS ARISING.** None.

0373 **REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.** None.

0374 **COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS.**

- (a) Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson suggested that it would be a good idea to have a corporate/business welcome pack for new businesses in the Town, which could provide information on listed buildings and conservation areas within the Town. Cllr. Nelson commented that this should be suggested to Ashford Borough Council or maybe the Tenterden Chamber of Commerce. It was suggested that this item be included on the next External Committee agenda.

0375 **SUB-COMMITTEE & WORKING GROUP REPORTS.**

- (a) Kiln Field and Wildlife Venues. The report of the meeting held on 5th July 2019 was **NOTED**. The quotations for the pond clearance are to be discussed at sub-committee level first and then brought back to the External Committee.
- (b) Donations. The report of the meeting held on 5th August 2019 was **NOTED** and it was **RESOLVED** to award the following grants:
- (i) Tenterden Museum - £1,000.00.
 - (ii) Tenterden Volunteer Centre - £200.00.

(iii) 1066 Archery Club - £1,000.00.

- 0376 **SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE.** It was **RESOLVED** that a further portable SID unit be ordered and after a trial period, if the usage permits, the unit would be offered to nearby councils for a small rental charge.
- 0377 **FINANCIAL REPORT.** The Income and Expenditure report for this committee for the quarter ended 30th June 2019 was **APPROVED**.
- 0378 **GARDENER.** It was **RESOLVED** that the vacancy for a gardener/horticulturalist be progressed. Cllr. Mrs. Walder suggested that the Council focussed on a qualified horticulturalist in order to maintain the high quality of the service that has been received from the current volunteer gardener. The Town Clerk reported that the vacancy will be advertised in the Wealden Advertiser next week.
- 0379 **WALKIE TALKIES.** Due to a recent issue where one of the maintenance staff had a medical emergency whilst on Kiln Field, this highlighted a need for better communication between the maintenance staff and the Council office. It was proposed that Walkie Talkies be purchased but the Town Clerk also tabled information on a TrackerGuard SOS Lone Worker Alarm. This is a wrist band which has an SOS button which when pressed will by text alert three designated contact numbers with the users GPS location. It was **RESOLVED** to request a seven-day trial of the Lone Worker Alarm. However, should this not be possible, to purchase one unit only. Feedback will be made at a future External meeting with a re-discussion on the purchasing of walkie talkies.

Cllr. Miss. Gardner joined the meeting.

- 0380 **CINEMA PROJECT.** It was **AGREED** that the Council should obtain reports from KCC Highways and transportation for pre-application advice and from Wessex Archaeology for a Desk Based Heritage Environment Record assessment expenditure totalling £2,515.00 prior to the building feasibility stage.

Cllr. Quinton abstained from voting.

- 0381 **HEDGE & SHRUB REMOVAL.** It was **RESOLVED** that any proposed hedge or shrub removal by the Town Council should be referred to the Kiln Field & Wildlife Verges (KFWV) sub-committee in the first instance.

0382 **REGULARISATION OF SUB-COMMITTEES.**

- (a) It was **RESOLVED** to split the Tourism & Business and High Street Regeneration Sub-committee, resulting in two new sub-committees:
- (i) Tourism & Business. The following members were appointed: Cllrs. Mrs. Ferguson, Miss. Gardener, Quinton, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Walder.
 - (ii) High Street Regeneration and Conservation Area Management Plan (CAMP). The following members were appointed: Cllrs. Carter, Nelson and Sugden.

Cllr. Mrs. Walder commented that the Sub-committees should report back regularly and possibly be more task driven.

- (b) It was **RESOLVED** that the Kiln Field & Wildlife Venues and the Caretaker Scheme Sub-committees be merged, and members re-elected. The

following members were appointed: Cllrs. Carter, Mrs. Curteis, Knowles, Dr. Lovelidge, Parkin and Mrs. Walder.

- (c) It was **RESOLVED** that the Terms of Reference for each sub-committee should be re-written and agreed at the first meetings of the newly-formed sub-committees.

0383 **BOWLS CLUB.** Cllr. Parkin enquired as to what the Bowls Club would have received if they had been included in the Recreation Ground re-ordering project. The Town Clerk reported that the move would have included a new club house. Cllr. Carter commented that with the new youth hub, it might be possible to extend the building to incorporate the Bowls Club. Cllr. Nelson suggested deferring the potential of including a new club house to Ground Control.

It was agreed to **DEFER** a decision on the Bowls Club until feedback has been obtained from Ground Control.

The Committee moved into closed session. *Under the Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960, the public and press will be excluded from the closed meeting session due to the confidential nature of this part of the meeting which involves the discussion of confidential staffing matters and confidential financial negotiations.*

0384 **PROJECT EXPENDITURE AND LAND PURCHASE.** Confidential document 614M refers.

End of closed session.

0385 **CORRESPONDENCE.** None.

0386 **MINOR MATTERS.**

- (a) KCC Order – Appledore Road. The Order for the reduction of the speed limit to 50mph on part of the Appledore Road was **NOTED**. Cllr. Parkin enquired why the speed limit reduction could not be delayed and incorporated into a consultation when the Tilden Gill development was complete. Cllr. Nelson responded that this was the normal way KCC worked.

0387 **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED TO THE CHAIRMAN.**

- (a) Cllr. Mrs. Walder reported that Smallhythe Road will be shut on 29th and 30th August 2019 for pothole repairs.
- (b) Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson reported that the traffic lights on West Cross will soon be changed.

The meeting opened at 7.02pm and closed at 8.27pm.

The foregoing Minutes and Reports were confirmed and signed at the External Meeting held on the 9th day of September 2019.

Chairman _____ (09.09.2019)