

T E N T E R D E N T O W N C O U N C I L



MINUTES OF THE EXTERNAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT ASSEMBLY ROOM ON MONDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2019

Councillors Present: J. Crawford, Mrs. J. Curteis (Vice-Chair), J. Nelson (Chair) and R. Quinton, Mrs. S. Ferguson (Substitute), Dr. L. Lovelidge (Substitute) and Mrs. K. Walder (Substitute)

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

Others Present: V. Cole, Mrs. P. Smith and A. Sugden and 9 members of the public.

388 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Cllrs. M. Carter, Miss. A. Gardner, M. Hickmott, K. Mulholland, Borough Councillor P. Clokie and Community Warden Ms. J. Vos.

389 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

Cllr. Nelson declared an interest in Agenda Item 8, Contract Negotiations, and would leave the room when discussed.

390 **MINUTES.**

The minutes and report of the meeting held on 12th August 2019 were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

391 **MATTERS ARISING.**

None.

392 **REPRESENTATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

None.

393 **COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS.**

None.

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

(a) Cinema Focus Group. The report of a meeting held on 20th August 2019 was **NOTED**. It was **AGREED** to approve the cost of a full building feasibility study for The Pebbles at a cost of approximately £26,845. Calls to tender will be compiled by the Cinema Focus Group and the Town Clerk.

(b) Kiln Field Reserve & Wildlife Venues. The report of a meeting held on 4th September 2019 was tabled. Cllr. Dr. Lovelidge reported that pond clearance will need to take place at Kiln Field along with the removal of some trees. The budget that had been previously agreed by the Town

Council would cover some of the works required, however, the pond clearance is more expensive than anticipated. Ashford Borough Council (ABC) have been approached for a grant, however, the Sub-committee were requesting that a further £6,250 be allocated by the Town Council in the hope that less would be used if further funding was secured from ABC.

Cllr. Dr. Lovelidge reported that Kent County Council (KCC) have now responded with which grass verges can be left to wildflower. Notices will be produced by the Town Council informing residents that the verges will be left for a year to see what will grow through.

Cllr. Mrs. Ferguson commented on the grass verges along Rolvenden Road, near Castweazle. The verges are in quite a poor state and the removal of thistles should be investigated. Cllr. Mrs. Walder reported that we as a community need to redefine what the verges are for and need to explain why the verges are being left. Cllr. Dr. Lovelidge reported that Plant and Organisational Wildlife is a good website for an explanation of procedures.

It was **AGREED** to increase the budget for Kiln Field by £6,250.00.

Cllr. Nelson left the Chair and meeting and Cllr. Mrs. Curteis took the Chair.

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.

395 **CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS.**
Confidential document no. 616M refers.

End of closed session.

Cllr. Mrs. Curteis left the Chair and Cllr. Nelson returned to the room and took the Chair.

396 **CORRESPONDENCE.**
(a) Tenterden and District Museum Association. A letter of thanks from the museum for the recent grant was **NOTED**.

397 **MINOR MATTERS.**
(a) KCC Voluntary Support Warden Scheme. Details of how the scheme will be changing to attract volunteers was **NOTED**.

398 **ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED TO THE CHAIR.**
(a) Cllr. Nelson reported that a meeting had recently been held by the Youth Policy Working Group. Current membership has three Councillors and Cllr. Nelson put out a call for more Council members to join in October. The Working Group were about to commission a Youth Services Provider.

The meeting opened at 8.36 pm and closed at 8.52 pm

The foregoing Minutes and Report were confirmed and signed at the External Committee Meeting held on Monday, 14 October 2019.

Chairman _____ (Monday, 14 October 2019)