



# Ross-on-Wye Town Council

**Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee**  
held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.00pm  
at The Corn Exchange, High Street, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 5HL

Present: Councillors R Mayo (Chairman), C Bennett, C Gray, D Ravenscroft, C Utting,  
V Coker (substitute for D Lister)  
Ex-officio Councillor N Gibbs  
In attendance: Mrs R Lewis – Deputy Town Clerk  
Two members of the public

**A18/02 01 Apologies for Absence**  
[Local Government Act 1972 s85 \(1\)](#)  
To receive and approve any apologies for absence

Councillor D Lister, another appointment

**RESOLVED – to accept the apologies given**

**A18/02 02 Declarations of Interest**  
[Local Authorities \(Model Code of Conduct\)](#)  
To receive any declaration of Councillors' interests

None

**A18/02 03 Dispensations**  
To receive any written dispensations from Councillors declaring an interest

None

**A18/02 04 To resolve to exclude members of the press and public**  
[Public Bodies \(Admission to Meetings\) Act 1960](#)  
To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including the press) have been excluded as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

Proposed: Councillor Coker  
Unanimous

Seconded: Councillor Gibbs

**RESOLVED – that agenda item A18/02 #09 Finance ii) Tree removal at Deanhill Park and iii) clear vegetation at Wye Street be treated as confidential and be dealt with after the Public (including the Press) have been excluded.**

**A18/02 05 Public Participation**

Mr Graham Aplin spoke about a request to put a Falklands Memorial Bench in the Market Place, explaining what the Royal British Legion would like. Members would be discussing this later in the meeting.

7.12pm *Mr Aplin left the meeting*

Mr Terry Griffiths, Parish Lengthsman was in attendance to give a report. The Chairman asked him to speak at Item #08

- A18/02 06 Amenities Committee Meeting - Minutes**  
[Local Government Act 1972 Sch 12 Para 41\(1\)](#)  
To confirm and sign the minutes of the previous meeting

**RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017 be signed as a correct record.**

- A18/02 07 Action Review Summary**  
To receive and review Outstanding Actions Summary

The Summary was noted. There were outstanding items which are currently being looked at. These include the Canoe Launch report and any introduction of Byelaws. Cllr Gibbs asked about the negotiations with the Rowing Club for passing places. This will be added to the Action Review Summary.

- A18/02 08 Parish Lengthsman**  
To receive an update from the Parish Lengthsman.

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Lengthsman was invited to speak about his report and answer any questions members had.

- All was up to date and drains were working correctly.
- The Lengthsman explained that he had been unable to cut the hedge at Crossfields due to parked cars and work would have to be undertaken at 7.00am in order to have access before the cars arrive in the morning.
- There will be no invoice for the autumn spraying as there had been various problems encountered with the weather conditions. Lessons learnt with new equipment and chemicals will be integrated into the spring programme.
- The Lengthsman confirmed that the French Drains at Caroline Symonds Gardens are regularly raked and checked.

To agree to continue in the Parish Lengthsman and P3 Schemes

Proposed: Cllr C Bennett      Seconded: Cllr V Coker      All in favour

**RESOLVED – to register to join the Parish Lengthsman and PS Schemes for 2018/19.**

7.28pm *Mr Griffiths left the meeting*

- A18/02 09 Finance**
- To receive and note the current budget report  
The report was noted. We are still within budget.
  - To appoint a contractor and approve expenditure remove the snow damaged sycamore tree in Dean Hill Park from the Tree Budget

Proposed: Cllr N Gibbs      Seconded: Cllr C Gray      All in favour

**RESOLVED - to approve expenditure of £580 to fell and remove the stump of the snow damaged sycamore tree in Dean Hill Park from the Tree Budget**

- iii) To appoint a contractor and approve expenditure to clear the vegetation on land adjacent to Wye Street Toilets  
The Deputy Clerk had only received two quotes – a third contractor had indicated that he would be quoting but in spite of reminders had not submitted a quote.  
The Chairman asked that a third quote be obtained and a decision made at the next meeting.

**A18/02 10 New bench**

Following the presentation by Mr Aplin members continued to discuss the pros and cons of the various positions suggested for the new bench.  
The Chairman asked all members to go to the Market Place and look at the possible positions and contact the Deputy Town Clerk with their views as soon as possible.

Proposed: Cllr C Utting                      Seconded: Cllr V Coker                      All in favour

**RESOLVED - to give authority to the Chairman and the Deputy Town Clerk to make a decision on behalf of the committee taking into consideration feedback from the members.**

7.54pm                      *Cllr Ravenscroft left the meeting*

**A18/02 11 Tubs**

To consider the future of the tubs for which the Council now has a licence located at High Street x 2, Gloucester Road x 1, Edde Cross Street x 2, Millpond Street x 3, Sussex Avenue x 3

The Chairman went through the list of tubs which are now the council's responsibility. Two local businesses look after two of the tubs, the Lions look after two more. Four tubs are falling apart and need to be disposed of and the three (at Sussex Avenue) are in need of a volunteer to maintain them.

The Deputy Town Clerk was asked to write to the Lions to inform them that we are now responsible and invite them to continue to look after them. She was also asked to contact the Rotary Club, SSAFA and U3A to see if they might be interested in sponsoring or maintain one or more tubs.

**A18/02 12 Interpretation Board at the Riverside**

To consider a first draft of text from the AONB for the new interpretation board.

Members were happy with the themes of the text but would like to see a mock up with the pictures before the board goes to be made.

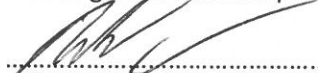
**A18/02 13 Church Floodlighting**

To receive a verbal report of a meeting of the Floodlight Working Party

Cllr Utting gave a report of the meeting of the group.

- The lighting of the spire and tower was considered the first priority with path lighting across the diagonal path to the south of the church as a second.
- In addition lighting to the north side of the building would be a third priority.
- It was hoped that the Friends of St Mary's might agree to fund a lighting consultant to make recommendations.
- Fundraising and grant seeking were thought to be the best means of financing the project.
- The group was also keen to consult with the public.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.08pm

  
..... Chairman

Date 6.3.18