

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES, LAND AND PROPERTIES
COMMITTEE, HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6th MARCH 2019 AT THE
COUNCIL CHAMBER, KINGS HOUSE, THETFORD STARTING AT 2.00 P.M

Present:

Councillors:

S J Armes
B J Canham (Chair)
C Harvey
T J Jermy

M P Brindle
D M Crawford
J Hollis

Officers in attendance:
Roz Barnett

Deputy Town Clerk

MINUTES

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DECLARATIONS OF ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS
None.

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APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received from Councillors R G Kybird and F Robinson.

772/18

MINUTES

- **RESOLVED:** The minutes of the Committee's meeting held on 6th February 2019, received by Council on 26th February 2019, be confirmed as a true record and signed/initialled by the Committee Chairman.
- **RESOLVED:** The minutes of the Special Committee's meeting held on 20th February 2019, received by Council on 26th February 2019, be confirmed as a true record and signed/initialled by the Committee Chairman.

773/18

ACTION POINTS & UPDATES

Councillors noted the following actions taken since the last meeting:-

- Frederick's wood works have not been completed in February because in the exceptionally warm weather the birds were nesting early. The BTO advised that although legislation says it should not be after the 1st of March they recommend that works are not done in February- August.
- Councillors asked that the King's Square Clock replacement be completed once the art work is ready for installation
- New bins will be installed in March.
- Mural Window boards are up and the Dad's Army mural will be completed mid-March.
- Telford Way is emptied and the replacement windows have been ordered at a cost of £2818 as agreed by finance. The Council are awaiting the costs of the replacement doors which we have provisionally agreed to pay 50% depending on whether the price is within the agreed budget. The interior has been stripped, repaired and painted.
- The National Lottery Heritage have advised the council to secure match funding before submitting our final application for the heritage hub as the process is very competitive. They suggested we include the Two Towers to strengthen the heritage at risk element of the project. A development project grant to Historic England will be submitted as soon as the Council has chosen the architect to work on the project. We have resubmitted our Esmee Fairbairn application and will be submitting a revised bid to Breckland District Council.

- Cllr Armes, and Hollis volunteered to score Two Towers tender. ALP Officer to approach Cllr Crawford.
- Revised litter pick date at Castle Park 23rd of March
- Cllr Armes, Harvey, Hollis and Canham volunteered to work on the Thetford in Flower entry to Anglia in Bloom.
- Cllr Armes, Harvey and Hollis volunteered to score the Castle Park fencing tender.

774/18

TO REVIEW THE BUDGET AND AGREE ANY CARRY FORWARDS

Councillors noted that there would not be a major underspend at the end of the year however there is additional income of £46,132 which they agreed should be allocated as follows:-

- £14,599 Barnham Cross carparks improvements stage 2
- £2000 Thetford in Flower
- £2000 Carnegie Greening
- £4000 Riverside Improvements and Breckland Fens and River Project Sculpture trail
- £2000 fireworks event(Already agreed)
- £8000 tree reserve for Frederick Wood (Already agreed)
- £8000 tree reserve for Maine Street Wood(Already agreed)

The remaining balance to be transferred to the Barnham Cross Reserve for land management costs.

After a discussion Councillor T Jermy proposed and Councillor D Crawford seconded:

RESOLVED: The ALP underspend and additional income of £46,132 should be carried forward to the 2109/20 ALP Budget as listed above.

775/18

HEALTH & SAFETY MATTERS

No matters reported

776/18

HARRIET MARTINEAU PLAY AREA

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that she had received the revised costs to start the Harriet Martineau play area. The play park installers will supply and fit the tower and slide at a cost of £10,920, installation will cost £2,266 and there will be additional planning application costs. The council has been asked to supply a management plan for the potential increased noise and usage of the site.

The work will start in April 2019 and the rest of the park will cost £35,934 once funds have been secured. Councillors agreed to take the risk of ordering the equipment before planning permission has been finally agreed as the tower could be used at a different site. After a discussion Councillor T Jermy proposed and Councillor D Crawford seconded:

RESOLVED: That Thetford Town Council purchase a tower and slide for the Harriet Martineau play area at a cost of £10,920. Councillors agreed the installation costs of £2,266 both items to be taken from the Play Park Reserve 3180.

777/18

CASTLE PARK TRIM TRAIL

Councillors agreed that a tender document be prepared on a budget of £40,000 using the same process that was used for the new play parks. The brief is that it should be suitable for residents of all ages and abilities. Once the designs are submitted there should be consultations at Castle Park and the Market Square to ensure residents can express their views. The money will come from the Play Park Reserve 3180 (£10,000) and the rest from an application for S106 money. After the discussion Councillor S Armes proposed and Councillor C Harvey seconded:

RECOMMENDATION: That Thetford Town Council go out to tender for a trim trail in Castle Park to find out what equipment would be recommended for a budget of £40,000.

778/18

MAINE STREET WOOD

Councillors were asked to consider a small partnership working budget of £2000 for the implementation of the management plans for Maine Street Woodland. There followed a discussion and councillors were shown photographs of the voluntary work already carried out. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to Bush Adventures for the work done so far. After the discussion Councillor S Armes proposed and Councillor C Harvey seconded:

RESOLVED: That Thetford Town Council award Bush Adventures a partnership working budget of £2,000 to manage Maine Street Woodland using the tree reserve of 3182.

779/18

TO CONSIDER GRAZING ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2019/22

Councillors agreed to advertise the three year licence for grazing the town's common land. Councillors asked that the contract specifies the use of rare breeds and water buffalo as residents had really liked seeing the unusual animals. They also agreed that the £3000 already in the budget should be included as an annual payment for the grazier. This is to take into account that in the future there will be less grazing as the licence holder will be asked to graze a lot of animals for shorter periods of time. The payment will be taking into account the extra work and effort that will be required moving the animals around.

780/18

KING STREET SQUARE

Councillors wanted further information on planters before approving proposals.

781/18

ALP ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY:

Councillors asked that the following ideas are put forward :-

- Solar Panels, Change all lights LED,
- Electronic Planning Screen
- i pads for councillors with controls on use for agenda committee meetings
- Promote the use of materials in a way that minimises potential waste
- Look at the cleaning materials we use.
- Think before we print.
- Recycle goods no longer needed. Sell or donate.
- Work with contractors to make sure they consider the environment
- Manage our woodlands and commons sustainable e.g. charcoal, sell wood
- Improve open spaces for wildlife. Plant hedging and trees.
- How we can reduce and recycle waste.
- Work as a team and think before we do. e.g. example sharing vehicles.
- Buy food platters that can be wash rather than use plastic ones.
- Use natural materials where possible.

782/18

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

None.

783/18

CORRESPONDENCE

Councillors noted correspondence received. Councillors approved the use of council staff and equipment to resident groups who wish to plant bulbs in Thetford. Councillors approved the use of king's square for deaf children's charity.

Chairman.