



ANDOVER TOWN COUNCIL

A

Constantia Basis Virtutum

Minutes of Assets and Amenities Committee

Time and date

7.00pm on Thursday 7 December 2017

Place

Upper Guildhall, High Street, Andover

Details of Attendance:

Town Councillors

Cllr V Pond (P) – Chairman

Cllr R Kidd (P) – Vice Chairman

Cllr S Hardstaff (A)

Cllr A Cotter (P)

Cllr R Hughes (A)

Cllr G McBride (P)

Cllr L Gregori (P)

Cllr L Bird (P)

Cllr K Bird (P)

Cllr B Long (P)

Cllr C Ecclestone (P)

Cllr M Mumford (P)

Officer: Wendy Coulter (Town Clerk)
Tor Warburton (Committee Officer – Taking the minutes (Training))

Other Cllrs present: 0

Members of the Public: 1

The Chairperson started the meeting at 7.00pm.

AA 031/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

AA032/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

AA033/17 MINUTES

The minutes of the Assets and Amenities Committee meeting held on 19 October 2017 were received and accepted as a correct record.

Cllr Ecclestone stated that the Bus Shelters are a statutory duty and asked how the Committee was able to vote on something already agreed at Full Council.

The Town Clerk pointed out that the Bus Shelters were not a statutory duty rather a power that the Town Council were able to take on if they wished to. It was also pointed out that it was thought no

decision on whether the Bus Shelters were handed to the Town Council or not was actually taken at Full Council.

It was proposed by Cllr K Bird and seconded by Cllr M Mumford to accept the minutes of the Assets and Amenities Committee meeting held on the 19 October 2017 as a correct record. A vote was taken:

6 For and 3 Abstentions

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Assets and Amenities Committee meeting held on 19 October 2017 were received and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

AA034/17 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public asked that it looked like no money has been allocated for the Bus Shelters in this financial year. He asked how many Bus Shelters were going to be handed over and when. The member of the public also pointed out that we have a new notice board in Andover but can't see where the money came from as none appears to be on the budget. The member of the public also stated that the Bus Shelters should not be seen as an asset. The member of the public was informed that written answers to the above questions would be forthcoming.

AA035/17 BUDGET

Cllr B Long highlighted that the budget for the Christmas Lights was reading £4,766.22 and questioned if more hadn't been spent. The Town Clerk responded that all the invoices have not yet been received.

Cllr C Ecclestone asked where the numbers for the Bus Shelters has come from. There did not appear to be any budget for the Bus Shelters in last year's budget which reads £0. The Town Clerk pointed out that the last time the Bus Shelters were in the budget was 2015 so would not show in last year's figures. The figures that the Town Council have were received from Test Valley Borough Council. However, the Town Clerk stated that if the Town Council voted to take on the Bus Shelters there would be an income of at least £5,000 from advertising and £10,000 set aside in earmarked reserves. The suggestion was that these funds would be sufficient to cover the Bus Shelters for the next year, therefore the line could be removed from the 2018/2019 budget.

The Town Clerk also suggested that the New Building Fund could be reduced to £38,000.

It was noted that there were some fairly significant infrastructure changes that need to be made to the Christmas lights in 2018. As there were significant earmarked reserves this would cover the changes. It was therefore suggested that the budget be reduced to £20,000 for the Christmas lights.

Cllr K Bird wanted it made clear that the budget was not being reduced to £0 but to £20,000.

The earmarked reserves for the Christmas Lights would also cover two members of staff qualifying for G39 training, which would cut down on call out costs for Christmas Light maintenance when operational.

A proposal was made by Cllr L Gregori and seconded by Cllr G McBride that:

- 1) the Bus Shelter budget entry be removed and be covered by reserves and advertising income.
- 2) The building fund be reduced to £40,000 from £56,000.
- 3) The Christmas light budget be reduced to £20,000.

Cllr B Long then proposed and Cllr M Mumford seconded an amendment to the proposal that the building fund be reduced to £38,000.

A vote was taken on the amendment:

For: 4 Against: 5

Not passed.

A vote was then taken on the original proposal:

For: 8 Against: 2

RESOLVED: that:

- 1) the Bus Shelter budget entry be removed and be covered by reserves and advertising income.
- 2) The building fund be reduced to £40,000 from £56,000.
- 3) The Christmas light budget be reduced to £20,000.

AA036/17 VIGO RECREATION PARK TREE

An update was received and noted.

Cllr B Long will source alternative quotes for the tree guard.

AA037/17 COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID

Cllr K Bird delivered the report on Community Right to Bid which was noted.

Cllr G McBride offered to help with the bidding process. Cllr K Bird asked that if any other Councillors had places that they would like considered then a map should be sent to Cllr K Bird showing the outline of the area to be considered clearly outlined.

AA038/17 LUDGERSHALL RAILWAY

A report was given by Cllr C Ecclestone and was noted.

Cllr K Bird thanked Cllr C Ecclestone for his commitment to the project. As and when the project goes ahead it would be a very positive influence for Andover.

Cllr C Ecclestone confirmed that the line would ultimately be run by the railway. Cllr Ecclestone was not aware when the next meeting was but was aware that a grant has been awarded and it had to be decided what to allocate it to.

AA039/17 HCC MARKETS/FOUNTAINS

Cllr B Long stated that no Working Group was ever formed for the Fountains or the Weathervane.

Cllr B Long proposed and Cllr G McBride seconded that no Working Group be formed but that Cllr B Long researches and brings a written report back to Committee on what is happening with the Fountain and the Weathervane.

A vote was taken:

For: 9 Against: 1

RESOLVED: that no Working Group be formed but that Cllr B Long researches and brings a written report back to Committee on what is happening with the Fountain and the Weathervane.

AA040/17 OFFICE ACCOMMODATION

The report was received and noted.

Cllr K Bird thanked Cllr V Pond and the Working Group for their work. Cllr R Kidd was in agreement.

AA041/17 REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

The following reports were received and noted:

WW1 Commemorative Tree

Defibrillators

AA042/17 COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

Additions were made and noted.

AA043/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members noted the date of the next Assets and Amenities Committee meeting, Thursday 1 February 2018 in the Upper Guildhall, High Street, Andover.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.57pm.

Chairman

Date