

BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Health, Well-Being and Environment Committee meeting held remotely via Zoom on Wednesday 5th August 2020 at 7.00pm

Chairman: Cllr M Moore
Vice-Chairman: Cllr D Spencer
Councillors: A Adshead, M Dear, J Devlin, K Herlock, C Roberts, M Thomas, J Tutton

Also in attendance the Town Clerk

100. Apologies for absence

Cllrs J Clark, C Dyer

101. Declarations of interest with regard to items on the Agenda

None.

102. Public Participation session with respect to items on the Agenda

There were none.

103. Minutes of the Health, Well-being and Environment Committee meeting held on 3rd March 2020

Members received and considered the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3rd March 2020.

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2020 be approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

104. Health, Well-Being & Environment Committee Accounts

Members received and considered a copy of the accounts from 1st April 2020 to 29th July 2020.

Resolved: that the information be noted.

105. Christmas Lights 2020

Members received notes from a meeting held with the new contractor Christmas Illumination Limited.

Resolved: information noted.

106. Hanging Baskets/War Memorial/High Street Planters

Members discussed how disappointing the hanging baskets have been this year. The Town Clerk and Cllr Moore had recently met with the supplier to discuss the situation, and the supplier had suggested that if the Council was prepared to extend the contract for a further two years then they would replace the hayracks with self-watering containers at an

additional cost of £420 per year. The Town Clerk informed members that ECC Highways may not permit self-watering containers on the lamp columns due to their weight, and that the baskets currently in use had been specially made and been successful for many years previously. Cllr Moore proposed that IDC Greenscapes finish their agreed one year contract then the Council returns to Amethyst Horticulture in 2021. Seconded by Cllr Adshead.

Resolved: that IDC Greenscape’s contract ends following this year’s winter planting and Amethyst Horticulture are awarded the High Street planting contract for 2021.

107. Forthcoming Events

Members considered and discussed the best way for the Town Council to proceed with the following:

- (a) Jim Shields Statue Unveiling – members are aware that the Council is restricted with the current Government guidance regarding gatherings and it was felt that it might be best to postpone to get the maximum publicity for the town or else put the statue up with no fanfare or event. Cllr Herlock suggested a “secret installation” video. The siting of the statue could be filmed along with interviews with the sculptor, Council chairman and others that have a Mayflower connection. This could then be shared with residents on social media. Members were in favour of this and the Town Clerk was asked to contact a videographer to get further details of how this could be achieved and to also speak to the sculptor to get his views on filming the unveiling.
- (b) Opening of New Building – as soon as the building can be opened to hirers then the Council needs to do so to get revenue in. A big marketing exercise can be done at a later date. As with the statue the Council would be restricted to the numbers allowed inside the building, so whatever happens it must be done safely and in accordance with the Government guidelines.

Resolved: (i) that Government Guidance on gatherings continues to be monitored, and; **(ii)** the Council investigates further the making of a video for the statue unveiling.

108. Annual Inspection Outwood Common Play Area/Lake Meadows Teen Equipment

Members received and considered the inspection reports which were undertaken in May. The Town Clerk advised members that the basketball hoops in the MUSA had recently been damaged and that she would be arranging repair. The report also highlighted that some of the equipment had been identified as having a 3-5 year life span so members were asked to consider putting money aside in next year’s budget for eventual replacement.

Resolved: information noted.

109. Items for consideration for Social Media/Press Release

Nothing at this time.

Cllr M Moore
Chairman of the Committee

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.35pm

Chairman:..... Date: