

BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Health, Well-Being and Environment Committee meeting
held in the Council Chamber, The Chantry Centre, Chantry Way, CM11 2AP
on Tuesday 23rd November 2021 at 7.00pm

Chairman: Cllr M Moore
Vice-Chairman: Cllr K Mordecai
Councillors: A Adshead, J Clark, J Devlin, M Mordecai, D Spencer, M Thomas
D Wakefield

Also in attendance the Town Clerk and Cllr J Tutton

53. Apologies for absence

Cllrs M Dear, E Sainsbury

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

None.

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

None.

56. Minutes of the Health, Well-being and Environment Committee held on 12th October 2021

Members received and considered the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th October 2021.

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

57. Health, Well-Being & Environment Committee Accounts

Members received and considered the following:

a) a copy of the accounts from 1st April 2020 to 17th November 2021

Resolved: that the information regarding the accounts is noted.

b) renewal of annual membership of the Open Spaces Society at a cost of £45.00

Resolved: that the membership of the Open Spaces Society is renewed.

c) the Billericay Society have recently disbanded and donated £100 from their funds to the Christmas Lights

Resolved: noted and to thank the Billericay Society for their donation.

58. Estimates 2022-23

The public toilet consultation closes on 30th November and will be discussed at F&GP as whatever decision is made will have an effect on the budget. Cllr Adshead said that if the APC is removed there will be a budget surplus so members should consider bringing projects to the Council which these funds can be set aside for.

Resolved: that subject to budgetary requirements regarding the APC, the Estimates for 2022/23 are presented to Finance & General Purposes Committee on 2nd December 2021

59. War Memorial

Resolved: to obtain a quotation from Bakers of Danbury for cleaning of the base of the WW1 Memorial.

60. Outwood Common Play Area

Members received and considered representation from a local resident to update this play area. Cllr Clark said that she had been on the group responsible for installing the area originally and they had consulted widely with local groups and residents. The consensus of opinion at the time was that no equipment should be installed which would attract adolescents and the anti-social behaviour they can sometimes bring to areas. Cllr Wakefield said that older children are now using it and this is putting off younger children from going in. He said the Council could spend money on updating the equipment and be in exactly this same position in five year's time. Members felt that it could be worth looking at replacing the grass with a safety surface and also "design out" the damage that can be done by older children. It was agreed that the Council would spend time looking at potential options.

Resolved: (i) that a meeting is arranged between residents and the Town Council to discuss this further, and; (ii) that the terms of the lease with Waltham Forest are checked.

61. Trees at the Chantry Centre

Members were advised that there is £500 being made available to replace the trees that have died on the forecourt. Discussion took place about what type of tree would be a suitable replacement, or whether other planting should take place and it was:

Resolved: that Skippers Ground Maintenance are asked what their suggestion would be for a robust replacement.

62. Tree Wardens

Members received and considered the following:

a) November newsletter

b) information about the proposed tree and vegetation removal in Billericay by Network Rail. Cllr Devlin advised that residents may be worried about trees being cut back severely as has happened in other areas, but safety on the railway is a priority and will always take precedence over other concerns.

Resolved: information noted.

63. Items for Information

Cllr Talboys asked the Town Clerk to advise members that Waitrose has recently made donations to The Tree Wardens, Mill Meadows Society, Norsey Woods Society and Friends of Lake Meadows

Resolved: information noted

64. Items for Consideration for Social Media/Press Release

- Donation from Billericay Society
- Lighting of Christmas Tree at Chantry

65. Questions from the Press and Public

None.

Cllr M Moore
Chairman of the Committee

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40pm

Chairman:..... Date: