



COMMUNITY WELLBEING COMMITTEE
Minutes of a Committee meeting held on Thursday 17th June 2021 at 19.00hrs.
Meeting held with remote attendance

Present:

Chair: Councillor J Johns.
Committee Members: M. Beckwith and M. Dale

In Attendance

Note: Councillors attending by remote access are not able to participate nor vote in the meeting but may raise questions during the agenda item for Members' Questions

Councillors J. Buczkowski and K Haslett (by remote access)

Officers: M. Weston (Deputy Town Clerk)

Also Present: Volunteer Footpath Warden: N Savage

YMCA Representative – H Hides

1 no. member of the public

CW122. Chair's Announcements

The Chair:

- i) Advised that Councillor Buczkowski had made written comment on agenda item 13. YMCA which will be read at the relevant point of the meeting.
- ii) Requested that members contact the meeting administrator to advise of their available dates and times to attend an on-line (Zoom) meeting in relation to Cullompton's road safety;

CW123. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Guest.

CW124. Declarations of Interests

To receive any Declarations of Interest from Councillors and Officers in respect of matters to be considered at this meeting, together with an appropriate statement regarding the nature of the interest.

No declarations of interest were made at this time by Councillors or Officers.

CW125. Public Participation

To allow members of the public present at the meeting to raise matters which are relevant to the work of the committee; up to 3 minutes will be allowed for each person.

Councillor Buczkowski:

- i) **Budget Requests** Agenda item 9 -. The Committee may wish to look at this after consideration of agenda item 11 – Hayman’s Close Allotment Site as funding may be required for works here. Hayman’s Close Allotment site is a Council property and the Council is obliged to maintain this. This is an asset (of the Council) and Cllr. Buczkowski would urge investment in this property. Having undertaken a site visit with the Town Clerk and Administrative Assistant, it is the entire fence which needs replacing and it would be waste of money to try to fix it on a sectional basis.
- ii) **Youth Service Provision - YMCA** agenda item 13. We need to be mindful of excluding vulnerable young people whilst imposing a charge.
- iii) **Cullompton Appreciates Scheme** - agenda item 12.
 - a. Could we look at what happens if an individual is nominated. This is not very clear in the guidance. If someone is nominated, would this go to the Town Clerk, Mayor and Deputy Mayor to decide or to a committee as would normally be the case in a democratic society?
 - b. Term G within the scheme is quite pointless and serves no purpose.

The Chair thanked Councillor Buczkowski.

CW126. Appointment of Vice-Chair

To consider the appointment of a Committee Vice-Chair.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Matthew Dale is appointed as Vice-Chair of the Community Wellbeing Committee.

CW127. Minutes:

To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 20th May 2021 as a correct record 9(Supporting Paper A to the agenda)

RESOLVED: That the draft Minutes of the Community Wellbeing Committee meeting held on 20th May 2021 be approved as a correct record.

CW128. Action List:

The Action List relating to the Community Wellbeing Committee was received and reviewed (Supporting Paper to the Agenda) and it was:

RESOLVED: To approve the Action List as applies to the Community Wellbeing Committee.

CW129. Financial Monitoring:

To receive and review information about the Community Wellbeing Committee income, expenditure and commitments, compared to the 2020/21 budget estimates. (Supporting Papers to the agenda C: Income & Expenditure & D: Financial Summary Report & Graphs)

RESOLVED: That the financial monitoring papers of the Community Wellbeing Committee are noted and accepted.

CW130. Budget Requests:

- i) The Community Wellbeing Committee's 3 year Action Plan (Supporting Paper E to the agenda) and Budget Request Report (Supporting Paper E1 to the agenda) were noted;
- ii) Consideration was given to a recommendation from the Policy, Finance & Personnel Committee with regard to Budget Reallocations. It was advised there is a potential budget available of £35,000.00 however it was noted that no 19, High Street has recently come back onto the 'market' so this money may not be available/all available. The Town Council has developed a fresh proposal to develop the site.

Discussion ensued and it was:

RESOLVED/RECOMMENDATION to Full Council: That following consideration of potential monies available for budget reallocation, the Community Wellbeing Committee would like to request monies towards the cost of clearance of plots (as per agenda item 11) and full fence replacement at the Hayman's Close Allotment site together with work to address bank erosion at the Cullompton Leat watercourse.

CE131. Public Rights of Way

An oral report was received from Cullompton's Volunteer Footpath Warden (VFW)

Leat Incident – Mobility Scooter with user falling into the water

Devon County Council's new Footpath Warden (DCC FW) has made contact to advise he has contacted Tesco with a view addressing this issue but as yet, has had no further response. VFW will mention in any conversations with Tesco about possible signage to an alternative access route to the footpath.

Chimney Stack: DCC FW agrees this is an area of concern and will liaise with Devon County accordingly. This highway is maintainable at public expense. Town Council is chasing as is VFW.

Devon County Council's Parish Paths Partnership Scheme: Devon County runs strimmer courses. The Keystone Project has previously used some of its volunteers to help out with Public Rights of Way work and are looking to attend this course however they do not have the necessary equipment, namely (petrol) strimmers. It has been suggested that the Project acquires its own strimmers/equipment e.g. Personal Protective Equipment.

NOTE: It was agreed that investigation is needed into costings of required equipment (petrol stimmer & PPE) and it was advised that P3 funds can be used for the purchase of these items.

CW132. Allotments: Haymans Close & Top Field Allotment Sites - Update

Following consideration of the Haymans Close & Top Field Allotment Sites Update Report (Supporting Paper G to the agenda) and associated quotations as received for the Haymans Close Allotment Site clearance of (two) plots, it was:

RESOLVED: That the Community Wellbeing Committee, pending the decision regarding funding from the Town Council in relation to plot clearance and fence replacement at Haymans Close Allotment Site –
would like quotations sourced for the replacement and disposal of the full boundary fence at Hayman's Close Allotment Site.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recognised that there is a clear need for maintenance to be undertaken on the Top Field and Haymans Close allotment sites and that associated funding (capital investment) will be required. As such, the Community Wellbeing Committee request that the Policy, Finance & Personnel Committee or the Full Town Council, identify some associated funding for these allotment sites.

CW133. Cullompton Appreciates Scheme

Consideration was given to a scheme to recognise achievements or services which benefit Cullompton or the people who live, work or study in the town (Supporting Paper H to the agenda) and it was:

RESOLVE/RECOMMENDATION to Full Council: That following consideration of the proposed Cullompton Appreciates Scheme, the Community Wellbeing Committee support this venture and accept the document as supplied.

CW134. Youth Services Provision – YMCA

Consideration was given as to whether the YMCA charging an entrance fee for its youth sessions (Supporting Paper I to the agenda) was acceptable.

CW135. RESOLVED: To suspend Standing Orders to allow a representative of the YMCA to address the Committee in relation to agenda item 13, Youth Services Provision – YMCA.

The representative from the YMCA advised that since the YMCA took over the Youth Services Contract they have charged 50p as a 'buy in'. Further, that it had been agreed at the Youth Services Working Group this charge would be temporarily stopped and also if this action has any detrimental impact (e.g. challenging behaviour) this resulting feedback should be referred back to the Working Group. It was emphasised that the YMCA are more than happy for this charge to be removed as it wishes as many young people to engage in its services as possible.

The chair thanked the YMCA representative and it was:

RESOLVED: To resume Standing Orders.

Discussion ensued and it was:

RESOLVED: That following consideration of the YMCA charging an entrance fee for its youth club sessions, the Community Wellbeing Committee:

- i) agree that the YMCA should not charge a fee until further notice and in the meantime;
- ii) request that should there be any issues in terms of this charge cessation, (detrimental impact) that this is reported back to the Committee who will review the position accordingly.

CW136. Leat - Chimney Stack

The Committee noted the update report (Supporting Paper J to the agenda) on the position with the chimney stack. Discussion ensued and it was noted that the Council is still concerned with any health and safety issues and the detrimental impact that there may be on members of

the public passing in close proximity to the structure. It was further noted that there had been an incident where members of the public had climbed on top of the stack and some bricks had fallen.

RESOLVED: To suspend Standing Orders to allow Cullompton's Volunteer Footpath Warden to make comment on agenda item 14, Leat – Chimney Stack.

The Cullompton Volunteer Footpath Warden advised that we need to be very mindful of not obstructing a Public Right of Way by any action and would encourage and that any proposed action is run by the Devon County Council Footpath Warden, an expert in such matters. With the best of intentions, we do not want to falling foul of any Public Rights of Way. This is a public footpath not a bridleway so do not need to allow access for cyclists or horses.

Note: The path does not allow access to vehicles.

CW137. RESOLVED: To resume Standing Orders.

CW138. RESOLVED: Communicate with DCC Footpath Warden to establish his thoughts on the issue with the ex-chimney stack and to potentially install a fence around the structure.

CW139. Public Spaces Protection Order – Dog Controls

Consideration was given to the proposed Dog Controls and an agreed response to Mid Devon District was formulated (questionnaire responses).

RESOLVED: That following consideration of agenda item 15, Public Spaces Protection Order – Dog Controls:

- i) Meeting Administrator to complete the Mid-Devon District Council questionnaire as per the agreed response of the Committee;
- ii) Meeting Administrator to scan and send this questionnaire response to the relevant officer at Mid-Devon District Council by the deadline date of Friday 18th June.

CW140. To consider Members Questions.

No questions were raised by members of the Committee.

It was:

CW141. RESOLVED: To exclude the public and press during consideration of agenda Item 18- Headweir Road on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of its confidential nature (Financial Information & items subject to negotiation) The reports relating to this agenda item have been withheld from public circulation and deposit.

CW142. Headweir Road Play Area

Consideration was given to a report regarding a complaint about the Headweir Road Play Area and the intended action was noted. (Supporting Paper L to the agenda - confidential for councillors only. It was:

RESOLVED: To accept the proposed actions i) & iii) as contained within the Headweir Road Play Area Report (Supporting Paper L to the agenda, confidential for members only) –

- i) To install signage directing users of the play area to the nearby Linear Park to play ball games. This should assist with negating foot/balls going into the complainant's property;
 - iii) Consideration of suitable method to enable the installation of a trellis to screen complainant's property. Possibilities include:
 - a) Installing higher new fence panels with the proviso that the complainant would then be responsible for these in the future;
 - b) Installing dedicated posts on which the trellis could be mounted.
- with the exception of ii) –
- ii) Installation of a suitable bar to stop the chains of the swing being rolled up enabling individuals to sit on top of the unit (and being able to look into the property of the complainant) and also the swing being used as a goal post.
- As following consultation with the play area equipment supplier, the Council has been advised that the swing units (basket and toddler swings) within the play area have rotating bearings installed which stops them (chains) being rolled up.

The meeting closed at 8:59pm.