

**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT & AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON
TUESDAY 10TH JANUARY 2017, AT 6PM**

Present: Councillors M Sztymiak (Chairman), K Brennan, P Clatworthy, C Danter, H Burns, M Poxon and S Raywood.

1. Apologies: Cllr A Smith

2. Declarations of Interest

Name	Interest
Cllr M Sztymiak	Tewkesbury Borough & County Councillor

3. Dispensations

None

It was agreed to move item 14 to the beginning of the agenda for Ben Evans from GMAS to make a presentation to the committee.

To Discuss a Youth Engagement Policy.

Ben Evans, the MD of Gloucestershire Mentoring & Support, addressed the committee. GMAS is a community interest company limited by guarantee and non-profit making which was set up in 2013 to help young people in Gloucestershire. Ben has previously worked for Youth Services and the Youth Offending Team and he explained that youth clubs are being set up locally and funded by Parish Councils. He provided the likely costs of such a service. Councillor Sztymiak thanked Ben for his informative presentation and asked if he would be prepared to make a presentation to full council and Ben agreed to this. Ben then left the meeting.

Councillors went on to discuss the information provided and agreed that there was no general youth provision in Tewkesbury currently, especially a safe place for young people age 16 to 18. Members decided that the Town Council should consider putting something in place in the same way other parish councils had. They felt it was important that councillors did not dictate this provision but suggested a survey should be conducted to discover what was required. It was resolved that:

- i. The clerk will contact Tewkesbury Borough Council to request they make a presentation at the next Environment & Amenities committee explaining the youth services provision currently provided by them within our parish.
- ii. Committee members should look to engage with other youth agencies to decide whether a Youth Council at Tewkesbury Town Council would be beneficial.

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14th December 2016

The minutes were approved by the committee.

5. Work Programme:

- i. The Asset Register (bins and bus shelters) - committee members agreed to provide information on the location of these items in their ward to the clerk by email so that a definitive list can be prepared.
- ii. Work Programme – the clerk is to be responsible for updating the work programme according to minuted actions.
- iii. Notice Boards – the committee discussed the specification and gave the clerk further instructions on the placement and structure of the board proposed for Warwick Place park. The clerk informed the committee that she had approached two carpenters to provide quotations for this work but had received no reply so far.

6. To Receive 8 Quotations for Grass Cutting and Strimming in Play Areas and Riverside from March 2017 to October 2019

The committee opened and considered the quotations. It was resolved that, for due diligence, the clerk would request work references from HOPP, Countrywide and Millavon and bring them to the next Environment & Amenities committee meeting.

7. CCTV Grant Update – Report by Councillor Brennan

Cllr Brennan reported that she had applied for the grant in order to move CCTV equipment to Tewkesbury Borough Council's buildings but that there had been some technical reasons delaying the move such as problems with siting the masts. She confirmed that Red Hand were not involved in the decision to move the equipment. The grant stipulates that the work must start before March 2017. Cllr Brennan said that Red Hand are waiting to hear from the Abbey as to where the mast can be sited. Cllr Poxon's summary of the proposal was that the hard drive and equipment would, in fact, stay at the Town Hall but that a radio connection to the Abbey and on to Tewkesbury Borough Council was being suggested. The service would therefore move virtually but not physically. It was resolved that Cllr Brennan will continue to manage this project and talk to Red Hand and the Abbey to co-ordinate the progress.

8. Environmental Warden Update – Report by Cllr Clatworthy

Cllr Clatworthy reported that it seemed there was not much interest for this project from parish councils currently, however the Borough Council are now preparing a job specification.

It was resolved that the clerk should contact other local parish councils to ascertain their financial commitment to this project.

9. Public Toilet Doors – Access Issues & Maintenance

Cllr Burns suggested that members of the committee should visit the public toilets. Cllr Sztymiak proposed that the toilet cleaners should have a check list for maintenance issues which could be used to report problems back to the office. The clerk is to action this. In the meantime, the committee agreed that 'Closed' signs should be placed on each door after 6pm every day and during the Christmas holidays to stop members of the public from inserting coins into the coin-op when the doors are locked.

10. Dog Fouling on Chance Street

Resolved: The clerk will laminate anti-dog fouling posters and Cllr Clatworthy will put them up in Chance Street.

Councillors agreed that the Town Council strategy on dog fouling is to display posters in problem areas. If a problem is made known to councillors they should contact the clerk who will laminate and post out posters for them to display. It was also agreed that the clerk will regularly display anti dog fouling images on the Town Council Facebook page.

11. Memorial Bench Delivery Programme – Update from the Town Clerk

The clerk reported that a member of the public had begun the application process to purchase a High street bench in memory of a family member. The clerk was also instructed to advertise this opportunity on the council website.

12. To Receive Play Areas Updates from the Town Clerk

- i. Mitton Park – the clerk detailed the income received from grants and councillors signed the final payment cheque to Jupiter Play. The Active Together Grant is expected soon and the clerk was asked to chase this up with Gloucestershire County Council.
- ii. Warwick Place Park – Maintenance work to remove old equipment was agreed. Heart of Priors Park group have received two quotes for development of the park and are awaiting a third. The clerk will supply the details of Jupiter Play. HOPP have decided not to use the services of a park designer as most of the suggestions received with the quotes seem acceptable as designs. The chair of the group, Gavin Preedy, reminded the committee that there was a need to make sure disabled residents are considered. He agreed to try to obtain a third quotation and attend the next meeting to update the committee.
- iii. Derek Graham Park – 2 picnic tables have come up on the safety report as being a high risk due to damage. It was resolved that the clerk will contact the Friends of Derek Graham Park group to let them know the council intends to remove the tables and suggest they may like to plan fundraising activities to replace them. It was recommended that non-combustible materials are used for the replacement picnic tables.

13. To Receive the Playground Inspection Report

Committee members discussed four high risk items on the report.

14. Youth Engagement Policy- item moved to the start of the agenda

15. Budget Position

The budget position was noted and the clerk was asked to report on the difference in price between the previous electric supplier (Extra Energy) and the new one (Scottish Power) at the next meeting

The meeting finished at 9pm.