



**TEWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES

*of the*

Environment & Amenities Committee meeting

Held at Tewkesbury Town Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 at 6pm

**Present:** Cllrs S Raywood (Chair), P Aldridge, J Raywood, P Jones

**In attendance:** J King (Assistant Town Clerk), Mr A Hayes

**E&A 22/031 To receive apologies for absence**  
Apologies received from Cllr Szymiak.

**E&A 22/032 To record declarations of interest**  
None received.

**E&A 22/033 To consider requests for dispensations**  
None received.

**E&A 22/034 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022**  
It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022.  
Proposed by Cllr J Raywood, seconded by Cllr Jones.

**E&A 22/035 Matters arising from the minutes – for information only**  
**19/036 Community right to bid** — ongoing. **Action:** Assistant Town Clerk to chase Tewkesbury Borough Council.  
**21/033 Arrival inspections** – ongoing. **Action:** Cllr Aldridge to contact proposed contractor.

**E&A 22/036 To receive correspondence relating to the Environment & Amenities Committee**  
Two letters have been received regarding requests for grit bins – **Action:** Assistant Town Clerk to meet with GCC Highways to look at most suitable locations.

**E&A 22/037 Public Participation**  
There was no public participation.

**E&A 22/038 To receive the committee budget report (including earmarked reserves)**  
The budget was received and reviewed.

**E&A 22/039 To review the work programme and agree any actions**  
The work programme was reviewed and the following items were discussed:

- Swap boxes and next locations: Door has come off twice with the current swap box, due to vandalism. Monitor for six months before considering another box.
- Ballast bin – waiting to be reinstalled, to be completed by 9<sup>th</sup> January.
- New bus shelters – 50% grant for Odessa Bus Shelter has been agreed with GCC. Order has been placed for new bus shelter.



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- CCTV issue with the tree blocking the signal from Spring Gardens toilet block. Looking at alternative options to pruning the tree, e.g. moving the CCTV camera to the other side of the car park, which would also assist with covering the other side of the toilet block.
- Adoption of benches on Link Road and St Mary's Road with legal team at Tewkesbury Borough Council. Link Road bench could do with refurbishing once adopted.

It was RESOLVED to refurbish the Link Road bench, once adopted, at a cost of £353. Proposed by Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Jones.

- The Committee discussed the Gupshill bus shelter, the future issues with the roof and the fact that you cannot see buses coming from inside the shelter, so people tend to stand outside. Community matched funding is potentially available from GCC for a new bus shelter.

It was RESOLVED to replace the bus shelter at Gupshill and apply for community matched funding for 2023/24.

Proposed by Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr J Raywood.

A question was raised regarding the ownership of the land behind the bus shelter. **Action:** Assistant Town Clerk to raise an enquiry with Tewkesbury Borough Council.

- The four remaining benches in need of refurbishment in the Anglo-American Remembrance Garden were discussed.

It was RESOLVED to refurbish the four benches in the Anglo-American Remembrance Garden at a cost of £930.

Proposed by Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr J Raywood.

- Cllr Aldridge requested consideration of a new noticeboard for Newtown. **Action:** To be added to next agenda as costs required.

### **E&A 22/040 To receive updates on Play Areas and agree any actions**

#### **i. Derek Graham Memorial Park**

Trees have been pollarded, so repairs to the fence can now be made. Contractor is visiting site on Thursday to provide a quotation.

#### **ii. Mitton Play Area**

Rubber softpour has been used to bind the matting together following the vandalism and this seems to be lasting better.



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### iii. Warwick Place Play Area

Tree has been planted. Insufficient volunteers meant the bulb planting did not take place. Will revisit in Autumn 2023.

#### **E&A 22/041 To review and award the grass cutting contract for 2023-2026**

It was RESOLVED to award the grass cutting contract to Countrywide Grounds Maintenance at a cost of £2110 per annum.  
Proposed by Cllr J Raywood, seconded by Cllr Jones.

#### **E&A 22/042 To review the bus shelter cleaning and agree any actions**

The Committee discussed the two companies that have been used for bus shelter cleaning. The recent new contractor's work was considered a significant improvement, but this was reflected in the price. The budget would allow for cleaning three times a year at a cost of £350 per time. Cleans to take place in April, early July and end of October. Trial the new approach for a year.

It was RESOLVED to move to the new contractor for three cleans of the bus shelters in 2023, at a cost of £350 per time.  
Proposed by Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Jones.

#### **E&A 22/043 To note the emergency spend of £497.62 to replace vandalised glass panels in Mitton bus shelter.**

The emergency spend was noted.

#### **E&A 22/044 To consider and agree a request for the willow tree at Derek Graham to be pruned**

Request has been made to reduce the crown of willow tree to entrance. Tree is healthy and tree survey does not require it for another three years, individual loses light in their garden. Quote has been received for £400 from tree surgeon, individual is happy to fund the work.

It was RESOLVED to agree the willow tree being cut now, if the individual covers the cost, but there should be no further pruning for 7 years.  
Proposed by Cllr Aldridge, seconded by Cllr Jones.

#### **E&A 22/045 To discuss the ongoing vandalism at Spring Gardens and next steps, including a decision on the proposed water fountain**

Issues have been ongoing, all are reported to the police.

One incident was clearly caught on CCTV and police went to Tewkesbury School to speak to the individuals. Different children have been vandalising it over the Christmas holidays, this can also be seen on CCTV and the police will be advised.

It was agreed that the Spring Gardens toilet block will close at 4pm until the clocks change, as the majority of vandalism is taking place when dark.

It was also agreed that the external source for funding the proposed water fountain will be pursued and if successful, the fountain will be installed with the timer fitting.



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**E&A 22/046 To approve the payments list**

It was RESOLVED to approve the payments list of £12,899.08  
Proposed by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Aldridge.

The meeting closed at 6.48pm

Next meeting: 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023 at 6pm

Signature of Chairman upon approval of the minutes ..... 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023

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