



TEWKESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the

Environment & Amenities Committee meeting
Held at Tewkesbury Town Hall on 4th July 2023 at 6pm

Present: Cllrs S Raywood (Chair), J Raywood, M Sztymiak, C Danter, J Baddams

In attendance: J King (Assistant Town Clerk)

E&A 23/001 To receive apologies for absence

None received.

E&A 23/002 To record declarations of interest

None received.

E&A 23/003 To consider requests for dispensations

None received.

E&A 23/004 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 21st March 2023

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 21st March 2023.
Proposed by Cllr J Raywood, seconded by Cllr Danter.

E&A 23/005 Matters arising from the minutes – for information only

19/036 Community right to bid — complete – awaiting confirmation letter

22/039 Ownership of land behind Gupshill bus shelter – ongoing

22/059 Use of Boys’ Brigade toilets – complete, no sessions taking place at Derek Graham due to availability

22/064 Bee friendly corridors – complete, Tewkesbury in Bloom working with Buildings & Moorings regarding taking on St Mary’s Lane mooring area

E&A 23/006 To receive correspondence relating to the Environment & Amenities Committee

Tewkesbury Borough Council asked the committee for permission to put ‘don’t drop you gum’ stickers of the bins on the High Street, Barton Street and Back of Avon. The committee agreed that they were happy for stickers but they should not be bigger than A4 and they would prefer a mix of the two styles. The committee requested that the Conservation Officer be approached for their opinion.

E&A 23/007 Public Participation

A member of the public attended, they live near Derek Graham and was horrified at the way the trees at the edge of Derek Graham were pollarded. They reported it to the Town Council and it was sorted. They want to ensure that any future work carried out by the County Council is not left in the same state as before.

E&A 23/008 To receive the committee budget report (including earmarked reserves)

The budget was received and reviewed.



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E&A 23/009 To review the work programme and agree any actions

The work programme was reviewed and the following items were discussed:

- Fence repair at Derek Graham has been completed.
- Tewkesbury Borough Council repairing carousel links at Warwick Place
- Mixed waste bin has been installed at Manor Place.
- Bus shelter has been installed at the Odessa – Cllr Cody has received positive comments from residents around the Odessa.
- Play Ranger sessions – due to staffing levels only able to provide two in the summer – these will be on the Vineyards, as they have historically been the best attended. Question has been raised about session for 2024.

It was RESOLVED to approve seven sessions as follows- four during summer holidays 2024 and one each in October half term 2024, February half term 2025 and Easter holidays 2025 at a cost of £545 per session.

Proposed by Cllr Baddams, seconded by Cllr J Raywood.

Action: Cllr Baddams to investigate alternative providers for the sessions that the Play Rangers are unable to supply this year.

- Noticeboard has been installed in Newtown.
- Vehicle Activated Sign has been repaired and is ready to go back out.
- Swap boxes are being made by the Sheds Project.

E&A 23/010 To receive updates on Play Areas and agree any actions

i. Derek Graham Memorial Park

Severn Trent consider the reinstatement good enough and are paying a final £100 compensation. There are no health and safety issues remaining. A decision was made to not pursue this issue any further, as it is unlikely to provide beneficial and will just use officer time.

The committee discussed the first steps for the refurbishment of the Derek Graham Park. There is £20,000 in Earmarked Reserves and £5000 in Playground Projects. This will enable the Council to apply for grants; if required, as you must have some funding of your own to start a project. In addition, you need to show that the proposed changes are driven by the community, rather than imposed on them. The Assistant Town Clerk has worked with Cllr Robertson to create a non-biased questionnaire of what people might like.

The committee discussed groups in Newtown that could be contacted, and this includes, the WI, Boys' Brigade, Girl Guides, Tirlbrook School, Tewkesbury School, nurseries, gyms, dance lessons held at the squash club. Need to identify a place for leaflets to be dropped back to – The Canterbury or the garage? Need to include St Nicholas' Church as their parochial



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parish includes Newtown. Questionnaire drop in Wheatpieces and Walton Cardiff, as many people use Derek Graham as their nearest park. Form should be downloadable, so that it can be completed and emailed back.

Arrange a drop in date in the park for residents to come and share their thoughts and ideas. Potentially use other entertainment e.g. circus skills workshop to bring people to the park.

ii. **Mitton Play Area**

Question regarding the surface at Mitton. Sand needs to be reapplied, usually in the region of £600 and this needs to be done every two years. Committee are happy for this to take place under delegated authority when the exact costs are received.

Action: Quote to be obtained for replacing the surface with wetpour.

iii. **Warwick Place Play Area**

It was RESOLVED to replace two swing seats at Warwick Place at a cost of £299.37. Proposed by Cllr J Raywood, seconded by Cllr Danter.

The committee discussed the issue of the litter at the park. The Council already provide a litter pick twice a week and there are signs on both entrance gates to the park about picking up litter. The issue is not bin capacity, rather people not caring.

Action: Ask PPNP if litter picking is something they would be able to support.

E&A 23/011 To receive an update on the vandalism issues at Spring Gardens

The Assistant Town Clerk provided an update and advised that the police have taken action following the vandalism that was recorded in the Anglo-American Remembrance Garden. The same individual are those that have been seen on CCTV around Spring Gardens and the theft of toilet rolls and CCTV evidence has been reported to the police.

Two individuals are taking part in six month restorative justice programmes.

E&A 23/012 To discuss and agree the work to be undertaken on the Arrivall Sculptures

It was RESOLVED to undertake the following work at a cost of £1700:

- Copper capping of end grain and horses' backs, using copper strips and nails
- Clear preservative coating to be applied to complete structures
- Grind off excess threads, make and fit new bolt oak covers

Proposed by Cllr Sztymiak, seconded by Cllr J Raywood.



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E&A 23/013 To agree next steps for the repair / replacement of the Gupshill bus shelter

The visibility issue for the bus shelter has been investigated. It was concluded that a clear bus shelter would provide no better visibility than the current one.

It was RESOLVED to delegate authority to the Assistant Town Clerk to get the roof replaced up to a cost of £1000.

Proposed by Cllr Szymiak, seconded by Cllr Baddams.

E&A 23/014 To consider the emergency / winter plan and update as required

Cllrs discussed the current emergency plan and ballast bins. It was noted that the current plan was quite long and did not fit well with Tewkesbury Borough Council's emergency plan. It was felt it could be more helpful to individuals; as it is primarily a flooding emergency plan, by including flood risk preparation for households.

Action: Assistant Town Clerk to provide an initial revision for the committee to consider.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

Next meeting: 10th October 2023

Signature of Chairman upon approval of the minutes 10th October 2023