



# MINEHEAD TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

held on Tuesday 13 August 2019

at the Council Offices, 3 Summerland Road, Minehead at 7.30 pm

*This Meeting was digitally recorded*

**Present:** Chair: Cllr A Kingston-James  
Councillors: Cllr T Bloomfield, Cllr O Harvey, Cllr S Heard, Cllr B Mandley,  
Cllr C Palmer\*, Cllr M Palmer, Cllr J Walder  
(\* denotes Somerset West and Taunton District "SWaT" Councillor)

**Councillors in Attendance:** Cllr D Prosser

**Officers in Attendance:** Ms J Bashford - Town Clerk  
Mrs M Swallow - Notetaker

**Members of the Public and Press:** 3 members of the public  
0 members of the press

126 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO APPROVE THE REASONS GIVEN [LGA 1972 s 85 \(1\)](#)

Apologies were received, and approved, from Cllr P Bolton, Cllr S Slade (Mayor), Cllr T Venner and Mr B Howe (Deputy Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer).

127 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST [In accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members](#)

To receive and record any Declarations of Interest in respect of any matters included on the Agenda for consideration at this Meeting.

Member	Item	Interest	Time Period	Speak/Vote
Cllr C Palmer	All	SWaT Councillor	2019	Stayed in the room, spoke and voted

(a) **Dispensations**

None.

128 TO ADJOURN THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC INCLUSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER NO 1C

No prior requests to speak were received.

- 129 TO APPROVE MINEHEAD TOWN COUNCIL'S FULL SUPPORT AND PROMOTION OF DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE CLOSURE OF PORLOCK FIRE STATION

***The approval was Proposed by Cllr Walder, Seconded by Cllr Mandley and unanimously agreed.***

- 130 TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL FOR CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES 2019

Ms Bashford, Town Clerk, presented this item on behalf of Deputy Clerk Mr Howe.

She reported that Mr Howe has liaised with Wellington Town Council regarding an offer for their surplus Christmas Lights. These are a high-quality, large, full set of lights comprising various shapes and constructed on steel frames, and Mr Howe together with the Amenities Team Manager feel these would be an excellent resource for the town and main Alcombe area.

It is suggested that Councillors approve a donation of £500 from Minehead Town Council's ("MTC") budget for Christmas 2019 to secure these for the use by MTC from Wellington Town Council.

***It was Resolved that this Proposal be taken to the next Full Council Meeting for consideration and approval – Proposed by Cllr Bloomfield, Seconded by Cllr Walder and unanimously agreed.***

Cllr Harvey, with his professional electrical knowledge, offered to work with Mr Howe to ensure the appropriate couplings in order that the lights can be used effectively.

- 131 TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO FULL COUNCIL THAT AN ACCESS RAMP CONNECTING THE SURE START BUILDING TO AN OUTSIDE CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA BE CONSTRUCTED

***It was Proposed that this should be recommended to Full Council for approval, only once legal advice has been sought to check the covenant on the land affected and ownership of said land is clarified. Proposed by Cllr Walder, Seconded by Cllr C Palmer and unanimously agreed.***

- 132 TO RECEIVE UPDATES FROM THE COUNCILLOR ADVISORY GROUPS, MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO FULL COUNCIL FOR ACTION WHERE APPROPRIATE

The Chair opened this item, explaining that whilst Councillors had been appointed to Advisory Groups, Briefs had not yet been provided and therefore the reports would be informal. The Clerk confirmed that Briefs for Advisory Groups would be brought before Full Council for approval.

(i) **Allotments**

There was nothing to report.

(ii) **Cemetery**

Cllr Prosser reported that, together with the Clerk, the professional expertise of Roger Thomas had been sought and a response is currently awaited.

(iii) **Community Building Project**

It was confirmed that groundworks are well underway. The soil removed has tested negative of any contaminants so this will be recycled as good-quality topsoil.

(iv) **Flooding**

Although Cllr Bloomfield had been unable to attend the recent West Somerset Flood Group Meeting, she confirmed that during their Meeting the group had agreed to

seek an annual contribution of £5 from each local Town and Parish Council towards establishing a website comprising various useful information.

***Cllr Bloomfield therefore Proposed that the Full Council should, at their next Meeting, consider joining with other local Councils in making this £5 annual contribution. This Proposal was Seconded by Cllr Walder and unanimously agreed.***

(v) **Partnerships**

There was nothing to report.

(vi) **Public Toilets**

There was nothing to report.

133 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE COUNCILLOR WORKING GROUP INVESTIGATING THE VIABILITY OF THE HALF-PIPE SKATEBOARD RAMP

Cllr Mandley confirmed that he has spoken with both the Ramp owners and the Fundraiser and that progress is ongoing.

Consultation with both the public and the Police will be actioned as soon as possible, and a risk assessment undertaken in due course.

He stated that he planned to provide a further update at the next Amenities and Environment Committee Meeting.

134 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

There was no business to discuss.

The Meeting closed at 7.55 pm.