CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard, Somerset TA20 1PP
01460 239567 www.chard.gov.uk
Mayor: Cllr Mrs. J Kenton Acting Proper Officer: Adrian Turner

All Council & Committee Meetings are open to the Public and Press

AMENITIES & EVENTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Amenities & Events Committee meeting held on Monday 16th January 2023 commencing at 19:00 hours in the Town Hall, The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP.

PRESENT: Cllr Baker (Chair), Cllr Bates, Cllr Bulmer, Cllr Eggins, Cllr Grief-Page, Cllr Hawkes, and Cllr Watson.

ALSO PRESENT: Tim Bickman, Events Officer, Beverley Newman DSO and Adrian Turner, Acting Proper Officer and Operations Officer

Public Participation Time
No members of the public were present.

2023/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received from Cllr Crook (work), Cllr J Kenton Cllr Watson and Cllr Richter

2023/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
The following declarations of interest made:

- Cllr Bulmer 2023/10 (a)
- Cllr Grief-Page 2023/10 (a) Personal
- Cllr Eggins 2023/06 (b) – working connection with the Community Hub
- Cllr Hawkes 2023/06 (b) working connection with the Community Hub

2023/03 TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC
Proposed: Cllr Bulmer Seconded: Cllr Brown
Unanimous

2023/04 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Proposed: Cllr Grief-Page Seconded: Cllr Brown
Unanimous

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Amenities & Events Committee meeting held on Monday 14th November 2022 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

2023/05 MANAGER REPORTS

(a) **Operations –** Committee **NOTED** the report. It was additionally noted there would be an approximate cost for administration relating to the 'Welcome to Chard' stone of £185 00 (Point 7 of the Operations Manager report).

(b) **Events –** Committee **NOTED** the report.

2023/06 OPEN SPACES

(a) **Allotment holders update**

Cllr Baker reported to committee the last Allotment Holders meeting was very positive.

(b) **Grade 1 Listed Building, Fore Street, Chard –See confidential**

Proposed: Cllr Baker Seconded: Cllr Bates
Unanimous

RESOLVED To move agenda item 2023/06 (b) to after CONFIDNETIAL MATTERS given two Councillors have declared an interest. Thus, enabling the committee meeting to be continuous.

2023/07 RESILIENCE PLANNING

(a) **Task & Finish group meetings:**

Operations Manager reiterated the salient points outlined in his Operations Report, namely progress is being made with Resilience planning, despite the not insignificant challenge of lack of funds. Alternative solutions were being pursued i.e. shared OOO rotas with neighbouring Councils

AP In addition, the T&F group would further discuss and prepare a report with costings on alternative scenarios for the March Amenities and Events meeting requesting committee to direct next steps.

2023/08 A&E COMMITTEE MEETINGS RESOLOUTION & ACTION POINTS

DSO gave an overview of this item explaining she had produced a draft document that captures Resolutions and Action Points (AP) raised at all the committee meetings. The rationale for having such a document being to be better informed of all projects, agreed work strands and their progression and act as reminder as to what has been agreed and when.

DSO further explained the document is 'work in progress' and that the aspiration is to back date the document at least back to June 2022.

2023/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Committee noted that the next meeting of the Amenities & Events Committee would be held on Tuesday 21st March 2023 in the Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP commencing at 7pm.

2023/10 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

As certain items to be discussed included the consideration of exempt information it was **RESOLVED** under Item 2023/ 03 that, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the items listed below, on the grounds that they would involve the likely disclosure of exempt information, as defined in the respective paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

Proposed**:** Cllr Eggins Seconded: Cllr Watson
Unanimous

(a) Allotment lease renewal–

Proposed: Cllr Bulmer Seconded: Cllr Bates
Unanimous

RESOLVED to accept the recommendation as outlined in the report attached, namely The Events & Amenities Committee recommends to Full Council to extend the lease for a further period of 3 years to run from the 25th March 2023 to the 24th March 2026 with an annual rent of £3,000**.**

(b) Electronic payment to Chard Town Council– Committee noted and considered the proposal as outlined in the Events Officer report and agreed to the undertaking of a cost benefit analysis to be presented to the next Finance & Audit Committee meeting 13th February 2023

Proposed: Cllr Bates Seconded: Cllr Brown
Unanimous

RESOLVED To revert back to 'public' forum

- Cllrs Eggins and Hawkes left the meeting

2023/06

(b) Grade 1 Listed Building, Fore Street, Chard –See confidential

Cllr Baker provided an update on this explaining Architectural Heritage Fund have confirmation of receiving a grant of £9000 towards the Viability Appraisal Report. Chard Town Council had previously agreed to provide a further contribution of £3000. Work will begin in the new year looking at the best way to get the building back in use.

Jane Boyd-Brent Company Secretary Somerset Building Preservation Trust said:

> “Having Chard Town Council as a key stakeholder is essential. We are really grateful for your support and look forward to working with you.”

The Chair Cllr Baker thanked Members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 19:45pm