CHARD TOWN COUNCIL

The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard, Somerset TA20 1PP
01460 239567 www.chard.gov.uk
Mayor: Cllr Victoria Bates Proper Officer: Neil Bloomfield

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

AMENITIES & EVENTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Amenities & Events Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2024 commencing at 19:00 hours in the Auditorium, The Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP.

PRESENT: Cllr Bulmer, Cllr Hussey, Cllr Baker (Chair), Cllr J Kenton, Cllr A Kenton (Ex Officio), Cllr Richter & Cllr Williams

ALSO PRESENT: Temporary Town Clerk Neil Bloomfield, Operations Manager (OM): Kevin Dyer, Events Officer (EO); Tim Bickman, Democratic Service Officer (DSO); Beverley Newman.

2024/29 Public Participation Time
No members of the public were present.

2024/30 Apologies for absence
Apologies were received from: Cllr Watson, and Cllr Shortland (Personal)
Committee accepted all the apologies.

2024/31 Declarations of interest
The following declarations of interest were made:

- Cllr J Kenton – Unitary Councillor in respect to agenda item 2024/34 & 35
- Cllr Baker – Unitary Councillor in respect to agenda item 2024/35 & 35 and in respect to agenda item 2024/37 Cllr Baker is a member of the PPC

2024/32 Committee meeting minutes

Cllr Baker as Chair of the Amenities & Events Committee deferred this item as minutes for the 14th May were incomplete and still wished to clarify minutes from 1st July.
Action Point: DSO re-send draft minutes for the 1st July.
No action was agreed regarding the 14th May minutes

2024/33 Officer Reports

(a) Operations Manager

The Operations Manager gave an overview of the non-confidential items in his report points: 1.2 & 1. Council noted these and commented positively on Operations Manger *Green book* stating it could be useful in terms of replicating in other key areas of the Officer work.

(b) Events officer

Committee noted the EO's report:

Point 2.0 of the EO's report - Action Point EO to arrange another Guildhall Task & Finish Group meeting to discuss future bookings.

Point 2.1 of the EO report - Cllrs would like some more information in relation to Chard Town Council becoming the *Lead organiser for the Community Show Case* event around costs to the Council and potential income. It was agreed to consider becoming *Lead Organiser* next year.

2.3 of the Event Officers report - The Mayor explained she would not be arranging a 'silent auction' in December as she had learned the Numatics charity Black Tie Dinner Dance was doing the same type of event in November. The Mayor confirmed she would be undertaking an alternative event instead, yet to be decided.

Point 5.0 of the Event Officers report

Proposed: Cllr J Kenton Seconded Cllr Bates
Unanimous

Resolved: To form a dedicated Task and Finish Group for VE celebrations May 2025 and agree a dedicated budget of £5,000.
The following committee members agreed to be part of the Task & Finish Group:

- Cllr BaKer
- Cllr Bates
- Cllr Bulmer
- Cllr Hussey
- Cllr J Kenton

2024/34 Bondfield Way Allotments

Proposed: Cllr J Kenton Seconded Cllr Hussey
Unanimous

Resolved: For Operations Manager to approach Somerset Council to request the start of devolving these to Chard Town Council and for the Operations Manager to feedback to Council on any potential works that may be required.

2024/35 Bath Street Toilets

Proposed: Cllr J Kenton Seconded Cllr Williams
Unanimous

Resolved: For Council to give delegated authority to the Operations Manager to approach Somerset Council to asset transfer this building, seek any approval necessary to refurbish and add a 'Changing Spaces' facility, obtain new quotes for the work as per the plans and bring back to Council quotes for approval for funding the devolution EMR.

2024/36 Tree and Hedge Works
Committee noted the progress report on this work.

2024/37 War Memorials

Proposed: Cllr J Kenton Seconded Cllr Bates
Unanimous

Resolved: For Council to discuss with the RFO the possibility of identifying dedicated funds of up to £6,000 for this restoration work.

2024/38 Proposed: Cllr J Kenton Seconded Cllr Bates
Unanimous

Resolved: To exclude members of the press and public due to the confidential nature of agenda item 2024/39

2024/39 Cemetery Works

Proposed: Cllr J Kenton Seconded Cllr Baker
Unanimous

Resolved: For Council to undertake the requested work as outlined in the Operations Manager Report, using the second contractor listed, ensuring high priority is given for the provision of shelter for Amenities staff rest breaks and to consider the carparking.

2024/40 Date of next meeting
Committee noted that the next meeting of the Amenities & Events Committee would be held on **Tuesday 15th October** in the Guildhall, Fore Street, Chard TA20 1PP commencing at 19.00.

There being no other business the Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 20:25

CHAIR / VICE CHAIR: _____ **DATE:** 18/11/24