

AN AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING OF ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL IS TO BE HELD AT 8.00PM MONDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2010 AT GLOBE HOUSE, ALCESTER (Seggs Lane entrance)

Present

N Dearling (Chair), J Bunting, R Leek, Y Hine, P Crabtree, C Gough, C Wright (Clerk)

Public Participation at Discretion of Chair

No Public were present

1. Apologies

Apologies with reasons for absence were received and accepted from M Graham

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 25 January 2010 having been circulated were proposed to be accepted by J Bunting seconded by R Leek and accepted.

4. Allotments

a) Cllr Dearling reported the progress on the formation of an Allotment Association stating a further meeting had taken place with six members, two from each site, accepting membership of a management committee. This was considered to be the appropriate way forward and a move to an allotment association format would be based on the success of this committee. A further meeting to determine the constitution and terms of reference of this group was to be made with the Clerk present.

b) The Clerk report that at a recent meeting he had asked Ragley Estate for possible new sites for allotments. He asked if this could be followed up with a formal letter, which was agreed. Preference on possible site areas was discussed and in particular along Cold Comfort Lane.

c) The Clerk reported there were still 32 on the waiting list and a few available allotment tenancies, however until the Environment Agency plans had been made available he was concerned at allowing new allotment holders to take plots in case reallocation has to take place.

d) An allotment regulation review was deferred until the terms of reference of the Allotment Committee were resolved. A complaint had been received regarding the state of the path at Bleachfield Street North as it was being used by someone with a Disability Buggy. No responsibility could be considered by the council as this was outside any agreement.

5. Cemetery

a) No further work was reported at the old cemetery site. The clerk stated there was still concern over being able to use existing graves for new ones and was still seeking clarification on this. Further work and clarification was needed to see if Coventry Diocese could help with the legal removal of Human remains.

b) Cllr Dearling stated the work at the current cemetery site which included trees was still in progress. Costs were required from contractors for kerbing the paths around the central square. The Clerk reported that professional advice was needed for some of the trees at the cemetery as the tree surgeon had indicated there was serious rot into the main trunks of some of the trees alongside Birmingham Road. It was agreed for the clerk to contact appropriate experts. Cllr Dearling also reported the costs at the cemetery did not reflect the costs incurred by the Council and further cost rises in Burial Fees should be considered.

c) No further work had been done on the Vision for the Cemetery

6. Grass Cutting and Other Contracts

No further professional contracts had been agreed or were needed

7. Trees and Hedgerows

The clerk reported there were at least two trees on the Conway Fields that needed immediate attention.

8. Footpaths

The clerk report from on the present state of footpaths stating some work was still required at Westbury Park and Conway Fields, The Spring was considered more appropriate for the

work. The footpaths at Riverside, which are tarmacked are also to be considered. The Clerk is to investigate a cold fill solution.

9. Referrals from Forum or Full Council

None at present

10. Memorials

The following memorials were considered by the committee and approved.

- a) Flint grey polished granite headstone with gilded inscription "Barbara Bromwich 14.09.1913 - 22.11.2008 R.I.P".
- b) Dark grey granite headstone and base, snowdrop design top centre, inscription "Cynthia Ruth Allcock A much loved wife, mom and granny Died 15th June 2009 Always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts".
- c) Black granite tapered cremation tablet, inscription "In loving memory of a dear husband and father Richard John Gough 15-1-1963 - 5-4-2009".
- d) Grey granite headstone and base, inscription "In loving memory Mark Stephen Polly 13.4.1950 - 9.11.2008 Loving husband, dad and son. A true friend. Always in our hearts. Rest in peace."

11. Propositions to Full Council

No proposals were made for approval by full Council

12. Correspondence

Councillors considered a letter from Mrs Wilks re. Request for a Kerbstone to 'Tim Wilks' Grave. Cllr Dearling stated the grave regulations do allow a kerb if it at ground level. The clerk stated the grave is in an area where there are numerous graves with kerbs and this is a traditional grave design. It was agreed to write to Mrs Wilks allowing her to have kerbs only if they are flush with the surface.

13. Dates of Next Meetings

Monday 22nd March 2010 8.00pm at Globe House