

FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held at the Town Council offices, The Town Hall, 1 – 2 Guildhall Street, Folkestone on Tuesday 6th August 2019 at 7pm.

Present: Councillors Abena Akuffo-Kelly, Ann Berry, Paul Bingham, Michelle Dorrell, Peter Gane, Belinda Walker and Roger West.

In attendance: Vicky Deakin – Communities and Events Officer

1057. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Jonathan Graham.

1058. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Roger West declared a personal interest in relation to the Youth Festival of Remembrance and both Cllrs Abena Akuffo-Kelly & Michelle Dorrell a personal interest on Item 9 Allotment Rules.

1059. MINUTES

The Committee were asked to receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 4th June 2019 and to authorise the Chairman of the Committee to sign them as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting 4th June 2019 be received and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr Ann Berry

Seconded: Cllr Peter Gane

Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

1060. YOUTH FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE

The Town Council has financially supported the Youth Festival of Remembrance since it was established. At its meeting on 3rd October 2017 the Community Services Committee resolved: *'That FTC wishes to support local cadets in providing an opportunity for them to take part in an annual youth/cadet event with the Youth Festival of Remembrance to receive £2,000 annual funding from the Youth Facilities Budget to facilitate this with immediate effect'*.

The Committee currently has £2,000 earmarked in Youth Facilities and was asked if it wished to release the funds from the 2019/20 budget.

RESOLVED: That £2,000 be released from the Youth Facilities Budget to support the Youth Festival of Remembrance.

Proposed: Cllr P Gane

Seconded: Cllr M Dorrell

Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

1061. TREES 2019/20

Further to a draft Tree Planting Schedule being developed, the Committee were invited to consider proposals for additional sites. Members were asked to send any suggestions for tree sites in their wards to Councillor Richard Wallace and / or Vicky Deakin (Communities & Events Officer) to be reviewed by KCC prior to them being put to committee in October when the Tree Planting Schedule will be finalised.

RESOLVED: That up to £8,000 be released from the Tree Planting Budget to implement the Tree Planting Schedule.

Proposed: Cllr P Gane

Seconded: Cllr A Berry

Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

1062. FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL - TREE CHARTER BRANCH UPDATE

At its meeting on 3rd October 2017 the Community Services Committee resolved '*To become a 'Champion' for the scheme, sign up to the Charter and also apply for a Legacy Tree*'.

It was agreed that the Communities and Events Officer will provide a comprehensive update in respect of the implications and responsibilities of Folkestone Town Council being a Charter Champion, National Tree Week, Tree Charter Day and potential projects to help build the movement and create a legacy for the Tree Charter in our Community further to feedback and suggestions from Members at the Community Services Committee meeting on 1st October 2019.

1063. NOTICE OF MOTION

The following 'Notice of Motion's' were put forward by Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly for consideration by Members with their views subsequently detailed:

- *'to request Folkestone & Hythe District Council reduce the price of parking or make parking free on set days to increase footfall in the town'.*

Cllr Peter Gane advised that Cllr Akuffo-Kelly approach F & HDC as the responsible authority in respect of raising this at their next Full council meeting.

- *Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly would like to move a motion to review the bus shelters in the town and undertake a programme of repairs via a business sponsorship scheme.*

Members agreed to consider this proposal under the Bus Shelter Item 8.

- *Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly would like to move a motion to enter into dialogue with Kent County Council regarding bringing Folkestone library services under the control of Folkestone Town Council.*

Members agreed that this should be deferred to Full Council for consideration.

Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly would like to move a motion regarding setting a timetable for making Folkestone Town Council a more climate-conscious council.

Members agreed that this should be deferred to Full Council including the formation of a 'Climate Committee' to be considered.

Councillor Abena Akuffo-Kelly would like to move a motion regarding the diversification of Town Council funds to enable more cultural events such as bringing Pride in-house.

It was agreed that Members would bring forward suggestions to the next Community Services Committee meeting for more diverse and cultural events to be considered for inclusion on the current events calendar.

1064. BUS SHELTERS

The Town Clerk has applied to Kent County Council under its Parish Bus Stop Shelter Grant Scheme for 2019-2020, if the applications are successful then match funding would be required. Councillor Belinda Walker recommended three shelters one in Central Ward and two in Cheriton which have been requested by members of the public and organisations and are supported by Stagecoach and Folkestone & Hythe District Council.

Members agreed that proposals should be considered at the next meeting with an update and additional information to be available further to the Town Clerk's current and ongoing research

1065. ALLOTMENTS RULES

The Committee is asked to receive and approve Allotment Rules v10 which includes additional items at number 5.

RESOLVED: That Allotment Rules v10 is received and approved.

Proposed: Cllr P Gane

Seconded: Cllr M Dorrell

Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

1066. BT PUBLIC PAYPHONE REMOVALS

The Committees views were sought on this Community Consultation with responses to be submitted by Friday 9th August, 2019.

After much debate, it was agreed that any phone boxes in central areas of Folkestone or with high footfall should be considered for defibrillator installation. The Committee suggested that the BP Garage/Marks and Spencer, Cheriton High Street should be approached to ascertain if they would be amenable to Folkestone Town Council providing a defibrillator to their site.

Further to Member consideration it was

RESOLVED: That the phone box on Cheriton High Street (opposite Firs Lane) should continue to house a public payphone as it is relatively highly used.

Proposed: Cllr P Gane
Seconded: Cllr B Walker
Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

1067. WORKING GROUPS 2019/20

At its meeting on 13 June 2019 the Finance & General Purposes Committee confirmed the membership of the Folkestone & Hythe District Council/Folkestone Town Council Working Group for the 2019/20 Municipal Year. As Councillor R West is chair of both the Community Services and Grants Committees, it was agreed that he should be included as Chair of the Grants Committee and Community Services should be represented by its Vice-Chair, Councillor P Bingham.

The Committee were asked to consider and elect a substitute.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Akuffo-Kelly be appointed as a substitute for the F & HDC / FTC Working Group.

Proposed: Cllr M Dorrell
Seconded: Cllr P Bingham
Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

1068. FOLKESTONE MUSEUM ADVISORY GROUP

A member from the museum working group is required to attend the FMAG together with the Mayor, and therefore, a nomination was therefore sought.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Bingham be the elected representative of the Museum Working Group to attend FMAG meetings.

Proposed: Cllr M Dorrell
Seconded: Cllr P Bingham
Voting: F:7, Ag:0, Ab:0

1069. LITTER BINS

Councillor Ray Field has highlighted some damaged bins in Harbour Ward, one of which belongs to FTC, it is proposed that this bin is replaced with a larger capacity bin and costs are being sought.

It was agreed that the Communities & Events Officer would establish costs and provide details at the next Committee meeting with Members also advising if there are any other damaged blue and gold bins in their wards at this meeting.

1070. BUDGET

The Committee were asked to consider any proposals they wish to make for the Community Services Budget 2020/21 and to bring them forward at the next meeting on 1st October 2019.

1071. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 1st October 2019

.....Chairman

1 October 2019