

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

In accordance with s78 of the Local Authorities and Police Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulation 2020

6 April, 2021

MINUTES pages 1 - 7

Present
Councillors:

Coles	Fojtik
Cleeve	Rolfe
How	Taylor (Chairman)
Jackson (Mayor)	Vos

Clerks: Admin Clerk

Public: The meeting was streamed live on YouTube for members of the public to watch.

Cllr Warren-Howles was present for item 9.2 minuted as 74.

Press: No members of the press were present.

65) Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Wall and accepted for the reasons given.

Cllr J Fradgley was absent from the meeting.

66) Declarations of Interests

No declarations were made at this point, but as the Town Trust was mentioned later during the meeting Cllrs Coles, Cleeve and

Jackson declared an interest in item 9.6 minuted as 78 and abstained from the vote.

Cllr Fojtik declared an interest in item 9.6 minuted as 78.

67) To receive written requests for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interests

None.

68) To grant any requests for dispensation

None.

69) Public Participation

There was no public participation.

70) Minutes

RESOLVED: That the Draft Open Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 7 January, 2021 be approved as a correct record.

71) To Adopt Draft Notes of Sub-Group Meetings

- Asset Register Review Group

RESOLVED: That the notes from the Asset Register Review Group meeting held on 11 March, 2021 be adopted.

- Cemetery Task and Finish Group

RESOLVED: That the notes from the Cemetery Task and Finish Group meeting held on 20 January, 2021 be adopted.

- Environmental Strategy Panel (formerly Climate Change Emergency Panel)

RESOLVED: That the notes from Environmental Strategy Panel meetings held on 27 January, 25 February and 17 March, 2021 be adopted.

- Website, Social Media & Newsletter Panel

RESOLVED: That the notes from Website, Social Media & Newsletter Panel meetings held on 9 February and 9 March, 2021 be adopted.

72) Budget Review March 2021

Members noted the report.

73) Terms of Reference

It was Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED: that the Terms of Reference of the Community Services Committee are approved and adopted.

74) Our Place Our Planet

Councillor Warren-Howles attended the meeting to explain the premise of the Our Place Our Planet proposal.

It was Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED: that we agree with the initial cost of £95.00 for the first year and set up a Task and Finish group.

75) T3 Foundation

Councillor Taylor reported that he is currently in discussions with one Care Home who are potentially interested in the equipment (at a cost of £270.00) but that no other care homes in Stratford-upon-Avon have yet to show any interest.

There were questions as to whether the Care Home would be able to fund this themselves, because if STC fund equipment for one

Care Home, the Council may then feel obligated to do it for all Care Homes in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Councillor Taylor noted that this type of project is usually accomplished by crowdfunding and that this proposal was initially brought to this Committee in October 2020 but that there were conflicting opinions over whether the Town Council should be involved with this fundraising.

It was Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED: that Councillor Taylor would take this back to look at alternative means of funding.

76) Policy of Display in the Town Hall

Following a short discussion

It was Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED: that the following wording in the Policy of Display in the Town Hall

- *The General Purposes Committee will recommend what gifts are accepted.*

Is changed to:

- *Mayoral gifts will be accepted and displayed at the Mayor's discretion.*

77) Cemetery Rules and Regulations

It was noted that a blanket ban on alcohol consumption in the Cemetery may not be the right way to go as this would then prohibit any future receptions at the Cemetery from serving alcohol (i.e., the opening of the Tranquility Garden in 2017).

It was Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED: that the following wording is added to the Cemetery Rules and Regulations:

- *The consumption of alcohol is not permitted within the Cemetery without prior permission of the Town Clerk.*

It was also Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED: that the Clerk seek clarification on who enforces the fine mentioned in item 71 of the Rules and Regulations:

71. Any person who contravenes the above enactments shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £100.00 and in the case of a continuing offence not exceeding £10.00 for each day during which the offence continues.

78) Community Catalyst and Community Halls

Councillor Fojtik explained the Community Catalyst proposal aimed to minimise the likelihood and impact of social and financial exclusion in Stratford-On-Avon District and increase community resilience through adopting an asset-based community development approach through the appointment of a Community Catalyst for the Clopton and Bishopton communities who will deliver improvements in Stratford-on-Avon District Social Inclusion Partnership (SIP) priorities in the local communities. The aim would be to secure funding to employ a post for a minimum of a 3-year contract.

Councillor Fojtik was very keen to get the Town Council involved in this and hoped that a potential £5,000 from General Reserves can be earmarked for this initiative.

Councillor Vos remarked that he would like to see a job description for this post as well as an outline of quantifiable targets. Councillor Fojtik agreed to source this information.

Councillor Rolfe noted that she would like to see all community centres supported, not just the ones in Bishopton and Clopton.

This led to Councillor Coles' proposal to work to preserve the continuity of existing halls, take the lessons learned from the successful halls and use that to identify where new facilities should be created. In order to do this, Councillor Coles suggest that:

1. The Council carry out a ward-by-ward survey of what halls there are, how they are run and what activities they offer;
2. Using the results of this survey the Council identify where the shortfall is and potentially what could fill the gap;
3. The Council identify partners, for example the Town Trust, and create a strategy to fill the gaps. The strategy should outline what needs to be done to help preserve the continuity of existing halls, take the lessons learned from the successful halls and use that to plan new facilities.

Once the strategy is in place, the Council can work with partners to create a working group to apply for grants especially those being offered for post COVID-19 work, recovery and renewal funds which are being targeted at precisely the work these centres would undertake.

It was Proposed, Seconded and

RESOLVED: that the Town Council join in with Community Catalyst proposal (providing the £5,000 as necessary) and work with the board to get good outcomes from the project. This may include widening the scope of the Community Catalyst work to include all Community Centres. This would be guided by the Town Council's own internal work on this.

79) Riverside Wall at Holy Trinity Church

Members noted the report.

80) Anti-social behaviour in the Garden of Remembrance and Holy Trinity Churchyard

Members noted the report.

Since the meeting, the Clerk has spoken to the Outside Spaces Foreman who notes that whilst the situation in the Garden of Remembrance has recently improved, the dog fouling in the Churchyard is still an ongoing issue despite the new signage.

81) American Fountain Clock

Members noted the report. There was a question as to how much these repairs will cost. The Clerk has since spoken to the Civic Officer who informs that he is yet to receive a quotation.

82) Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

The next virtual Meeting of the Community Services Committee will take place at 6:00pm on Tuesday 6 July, 2021, or at 6:30pm if a physical meeting is to be held at the Town Hall.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7:34pm.