

Uppingham Town Council

Minutes of the Amenities Committee – 14th December 2022 (Meeting commenced at 7.50pm)

Present. Pete Rees (Chairman) Dick Reeve, Dave Casewell, Mike Fish, Tom Johnson, Charlie Pallett.

Sharon W Coe – Town Clerk and Cynthia Ondeng Admin Assistant were also in attendance.

1. Chairman's Remarks

Cllr Rees welcomed everyone to the meeting on a very cold evening.

2. Apologies for Absence, Declaration of Members' Interests and Requests for Dispensation:

Liz Clarke apologized as the Mayor and ex officio member.

3. Minutes of the Amenities Committee held 17th August 2022

Proposed Cllr Reeve, seconded Cllr Johnson, and **resolved unanimously** that these be approved.

4. An opportunity for the public to speak.

None present at the time of the item.

5. To receive an update on the following Update on the Goal post storage.

An update was given on the temporary fencing which will be replaced as per the Council wishes.

Update on the Sun Dial relocation at Tod's Piece.

The Clerk reported that we were obtaining quotes and ideas on the proposed base for the Sun Dial, it may be a reclaimed tree stump or a piece of stone. The work was still progressing.

Update on the Outdoor Gym Equipment on Tod's Piece

Cllr Rees reported that he and Cllr Pallett had met the brownie leader and they had come to a compromise position on behalf of both parties following the relocation of the equipment to the Gainsborough road side of Tod's Piece. Cllr Rees would like to meet the contractor again on site. There is also a bush that needs some attention. The Clerk showed the original plans that had been produced prior to her tenure and this may still fit but she will facilitate the meeting as requested.

6. To consider requests for various re-siting/replacement of bins from Rutland County Council.

Floor mounted bin outside the Vaults PH. – Cost is £500.00 for replacement and installation. This should be actioned given the close proximity to the takeaway. Proposed Cllr Reeve, Seconded Cllr Rees, Resolved **unanimously**.

Bin relocation in front of 23 High Street East. - It was proposed that this item is deferred, and the committee will look for alternative sites and request the Clerk to place them on the

Full Council agenda for further discussion. Proposed, seconded, and resolved unanimously.

7. To consider a request to look at RINGO Parking.

Cllr Fish presented papers to the Committee detailing the scheme which seeks to protect vulnerable people when parking with a machine that does not accept cash. (RCC machines are cashless) If you use a credit card your location can be traced which in some cases has happened and the victim's location has been able to be identified by the perpetrator. The committee thought this was an excellent scheme to endorse and a press release will be prepared. Full details will be put on the UTC website. The Clerk will also ask RCC if they would consider putting a sign on their parking board signage for further clarity.

Proposed Cllr Reeve, seconded Cllr Pallett, and **resolved unanimously**.

8. To consider the request for a coffee van for a changing connections project.

On the basis that the UTC do not own the car parks. It was proposed that this cannot be supported at this time.

Proposed, seconded, and **resolved unanimously**.

9. To consider the next steps regarding Baines and Dairy Corner in connection with RCC.

Cllr Rees overviewed the position, there had been a discussion about costings. If UTC were to purchase the corners at £1.00 each would RCC feel that was acceptable. The caveat was that the corners need to have considerable work on them before UTC would consider the purchase and transfer. The Clerk is requested to chase the figures proposed by RCC for the works and were they (RCC) willing to progress this? Do RCC have any alternative propositions for the Town Council to consider.

Proposed, seconded and **resolved unanimously**.

10. To consider the Skatepark recladding and options, including a graffiti wall.

The Clerk updated the committee on various options that were being considered. There is a possibility that we may have a private benefactor that can help. The Clerk is waiting for a meeting to be arranged so that she can explore the possible options available before reporting to Council.

11. To receive an update on the Allotments.

The Clerk updated the committee on the work that had been taking place. The administration assistant has completed some training and the allotment invoices will be sent prior to Christmas. The Clerk had contacted BIFFA to see if the unused allotments could be cleared, the Clerk was continuing to chase this proactively, but her hands were tied due to the outside factors as mentioned. Complaints have been received regarding a certain allotment holder that held four allotments and they were being used in contravention of the Allotment rules. The Clerk was also dealing with this.

A proposition was made that in the future only one allotment would be allocated per person.

Proposed, seconded, and **resolved unanimously.**

The Committee asked the Clerk to contact the farmer who had previously agreed to flail the hedges. The Clerk will action this.

There were still problems with the Housing Company fence, the Clerk had reported this more than once. She will pass the housing company's details on to Cllr Fish.

12. To consider CIL monies in respect of modernization of the Town Hall, to include new kitchen facilities and heating.

Cllr Casewell proposed that a small working party be formed to consider extension of the TH including a complete redesign of the kitchen with a possible heat pump. The Clerk confirmed that the kitchen is not currently fit for purpose. There was a CIL champion that would need to be involved. The working group would identify the objectives for the redevelopment. It was proposed that UTC could also engage an architect to help us. The redevelopment would also need to include the area at the side of the TH leading to the disused Police Office (following relocation to inside the TH).

Proposed Cllr Casewell seconded Cllr Pallet. **Resolved unanimously.**

The Clerk had received quotations for the air conditioning unit for the Clerk's Office, we she had enquired whether we need Planning Permission from RCC and they had confirmed in writing that it is permitted development. The Committee wanted the Clerk to take action on implementing the air conditioners.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm.