

THATCHAM TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the
Recreation and Amenities Committee
held on Monday 21st August 2023 at 7.00pm
in the Council Chamber, Brownsfield Road, Thatcham

Present: Councillor Tom McCann (Chairman)
 Councillors Suzanne Adamantos, Mike Cole, Lee Dillon and Val Watts
 (substituting for John Boyd)

In attendance: Mel Taylor (Town Clerk)
 1 member of public

RA/2023/40 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors John Boyd (Val Watts appointed as substitute), Jeremy Cottam, Owen Jeffery, Simon Pike and Ben Schiffer-Harte.

RA/2023/41 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
 There were no declarations of interest.

RA/2023/42 MINUTES
RESOLVED to take as read and confirm as accurate, the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th June 2023.

RA/2023/43 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING
 There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

RA/2023/44 INCOME / EXPENDITURE COSTS
Councillor Cole joined the meeting during this item
 Committee reviewed and noted income and expenditure for this Committee's budgets for the financial year to date.
 It was requested that a report of vandalism costs be provided as a separate, consolidated report to future meetings.

RA/2023/45 DOG EXERCISE AREA
 At a meeting of Full Council on 31st July 2023, it was delegated to this Committee to consider locations and approve expenditure up to £10,000, for the proposed relocation of the enclosed dog exercise area from the Memorial playing field, due to flood alleviation works. Members considered a report from the Town Clerk with assessments of a number of Town Council owned/managed areas.
RESOLVED that in light of potential amendments to the final design of the flood alleviation works, to defer this item until the final plan was known.

RA/2023/46 ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING PARTY
RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the Environmental Working Party meeting held on 19th July 2023.
RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Steevenson to the Environmental Working Party.

RA/2023/47 YOUTH WORKING PARTY
RESOLVED to appoint Councillors J Pemberton and Steevenson to the Youth Working Party.

Recreation and Amenities Committee
21st August 2023

RA/2023/48
RESOLVED

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

to approve BACS payments due from the Imprest account (appendix I).

RA/2023/49

REPORTS BY TOWN COUNCIL APPOINTEES

Councillors noted the following reports from Town Council Appointees on outside bodies:

Thatcham Memorial Foundation

Councillor Cole reported that aside from the flood alleviation works, it was business as usual.

Kennet Leisure Centre

Councillor Dillon reported that 'Everyone's Active' had been appointed as the new leisure centres' operator, including Kennet Leisure Centre and encouraged Council to invite them to present to Full Council and discuss how they proposed encouraging engagement in physical activity in Thatcham.

RA/2023/50
RESOLVED

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw.

Councillor Dillon left the meeting

RA/2023/51

WEST BERKSHIRE THERAPY CENTRE

Councillors received a verbal background report from the Town Clerk regarding West Berkshire Therapy Centre.

RESOLVED

that Councillors Brooks and Steevenson may conduct research and pursue discussions with Trustees of West Berkshire Therapy Centre regarding a proposal the charity was exploring.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____