Appendix 2

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD IN

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, MARKET PLACE, NEWBURY

**ON MONDAY 16 MARCH 2020 AT 7.30PM**

# PRESENT

Councillors Jeff Beck; Nigel Foot; Chris Foster; Jon Gage; Roger Hunneman; Steve Masters (Sub), Sarah Slack; Martha Vickers.

**In Attendance**

David Ingram, Community Services Manager

Jo Lempriere, Community Services Officer

## APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Martin Colston – Listening in online

Cllr Olivia Lewis

Cllr David Marsh

Cllr Vaughan Miller – Listening in online

## DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

The Community Services Manager declared that Councillors Jeff Beck, Steve Masters and Martha Vickers are also Members of West Berkshire Council, which is declared as a general interest on their behalf and a dispensation is in place to allow them to partake in discussions relating to West Berkshire Council business.

## MINUTES (appendix 1 of the Agenda)

**PROPOSED:**Councillor Jeff Beck

**SECONDED:** Councillor Jon Gage

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 16 December 2019, be approved.

1. **QUESTION AND PETITIONS MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were none.

## MEMBERS QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

Cllr Chris Foster. “What can this council do to thank and support those members of the community who are organising offers of help to vulnerable people during the coronavirus crisis?”

Chairpersons reply “*Cllr Foster, thank you for your question. Newbury Town Council is very supportive of all individuals & Community Groups who are and will give up their time to assist the less able and vulnerable in our Community.*

*Community spirt and togetherness, looking out for the vulnerable in your neighbourhood is key in these difficult circumstances.*

*We commend & encourage such neighbourly actions.*

*Newbury Town Council is aware that in this Civic Parish we have a high number of dependent individuals, be they in supported or nursing accommodation or indeed living at home.*

*The Council is currently reviewing its position on the effects of this outbreak and the various measures it can directly influence and those it can support.*

*This Council is looking to Government & West Berkshire Council, as the responsible authority for local Community Health, Education & Adult Services for guidance.*

*Newbury Town Council are ready, willing and prepared to support, at a Civic Parish level, any request for assistance.*

*The Town Council will update its position on the coronavirus crisis, what actions itproposes to take & how it will support the Community”.*

1. **PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER CONSULTATION (appendix 7 of the Agenda) – moved from agenda item 11**

**PROPOSED:** Councillor Steve Masters

**SECONDED:** Councillor Jeff Beck

**RESOLVED:** That Standing Orders be suspended.

Alexandra O'Connor (West Berkshire Council – Senior Community Coordinator (Resolutions) and Inspector Mark Tucker (Thames Valley Police – Community Policing Team) gave a presentation outlining the history behind the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) and Councillors were invited to ask questions.

**PROPOSED:** Councillor Roger Hunneman

**SECONDED:** Councillor Steve Masters

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council will make a submission in support of this Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) with recommendations that this order does not disrupt the Rights to Protest or be used to move on rough sleepers.

**PROPOSED:** Councillor Jeff Beck

**SECONDED:** Councillor Steve Masters

**RESOLVED:** That Standing Orders be reinstated.

1. **COMMUNITY SERVICES MANAGERS REPORT (****appendix 2 of the Agenda)**

Councillors received an update from the Community Services Manager on activities undertaken as per the items as attached at Appendix 2 of the Agenda.

It was noted that the Bandstand in Victoria Park was over subscribed and that there was a waiting list for the other Brass & Sliver Bands. It was suggested that the budget be increased to allow more Bands to play.

1. **GREEN SPACES WORKING GROUP – NEWBURY IN BLOOM (appendix 3 of the Agenda)**
   1. The minutes of the Green Spaces Group of 18th December 2019, 16th January 2020 and 6th February 2020 with the recommendations of the Group, as detailed in Appendices 3.1 to 3.4 of the agenda were noted.
   2. The approval of the Community Newbury in Bloom Working Plan as set out in Appendix 3.5 of the agenda has been held over due to the escalating restrictions due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
   3. **PROPOSED:** Councillor Jeff Beck

**SECONDED:** Councillor Jon Gage

**RESOLVED:** To recommend to Full Council the Transfer of Greenham House Gardens from West Berkshire Council to Newbury Town Council on the terms negotiated by Officers, as detailed in Appendix 3.6 of the Agenda, with the additional recommendation of using porous recycled rubber products for the pathways as opposed to asphalt which is non-porous.

* 1. **PROPOSED:** Councillor Nigel Foot

**SECONDED:** Councillor Steve Masters

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council through Officers renegotiate the agreement with the National Trust for Newbury Town Council to manage the grounds & trees associated with the Falklands memorial, with financial assistance from the National Trust for forward tree works.

* 1. The Community Services Managers biannual meeting with the Friends of Newtown Road Cemetery, as detailed within Appendix 3.8 of the agenda was noted.

1. **FORWARD WORKING PROGRAMME FOR COMMUNIUTY SERVICES COMMITTEE 2019/20 (appendix 4 of the Agenda)**

The contents of the Forward Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2020-2021 were noted.

Members were invited to raise any additional items for consideration for the future programmes.

1. **CITY RECREATION GROUND CONSULTATION (appendix 5 of the Agenda)**

The progress and updated plan for City Recreation Ground improvements were noted.

1. **SKYLLINGS PLAY AREA (appendix 6 of the Agenda)**

The current position on the proposal for the Skyllings playground redevelopment plan were noted.

1. **MARKET CONSULTATION (appendix 8 of the Agenda)**

The Community Services Manager David Ingram stated that he had been instructed to appoint a Specialist Market Consultant subject to available funding & Newbury BID sharing costs for the project, however the costs have been received are they are excessively prohibitive, therefore requested that this item be withdrawn from the agenda.

## EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

**PROPOSED:** Councillor Jeff Beck

**SECONDED:** Councillor Chris Foster

## RESOLVED: That under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business (agenda item 14) because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

1. **VICTORIA PARK SUBCOMMITTEE (appendix 9 of the Agenda)**

## 64.1 The Committee received an update of the current plans for the proposed community café.

**64.2**  TheCommittee agreed that the Victoria Park Sub-Committee can proceed with the plans as they are currently, however be ready to make small changes if required by the Planning Office of West Berkshire Council.

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRPERSON THANKED ALL THOSE IN ATTENDANCE AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.20pm.**

**CHAIRPERSON**