MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD

ONLINE VIA ZOOM

**ON MONDAY 15 MARCH 2021 AT 7.30PM**

# PRESENT

Councillors Martin Colston; Olivia Lewis (Chair) Jeff Beck; Nigel Foot; Chris Foster; Jon Gage; Roger Hunneman; Steve Masters; Sarah Slack; Martha Vickers (Vice-Chair).

**In Attendance**

David Ingram, Community Services Manager

Jo Lempriere, Community Services Officer

## 31. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

## DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

The Community Services Manager declared that Councillors Jeff Beck 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

**PROPOSED:** Cllr Jon Gage

**SECONDED:** Cllr Jeff Beck

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 21 September 2020, be approved.

It was noted however, that on page 15 of the meeting pack point g) Wash Common Tree planting 5th & 12 Dec 2020 (stated as point 9 in the CS Meeting) of the Newbury Green Spaces / In Bloom Working Group meeting of the 08 October 2020, should have read “will now”, instead of “will not”. These minutes have now been amended.

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

There were none.

## MEMBERS QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

There was one from Cllr Tony Vickers:

Chair, West Berkshire Council is inviting other organisations in the District to bid for funds (between £10k and £100k per project) that would be in accord to its Infrastructure Delivery Plan that could be implemented by March 2022. For details see <https://info.westberks.gov.uk/cilbidding>.

The deadline for bids to be submitted is 10th January 2021 but this is first time this committee has met since the scheme was announced. Does Community Services Committee have any potentially qualifying projects that it might consider bidding for and if so could a decision be made this evening to make a bid?

The Chairs reply was:

*“Thank you Cllr Tony Vickers.*

*The Council is aware of the offer from West Berkshire Council and the opportunity has and will continue to be considered.*

*The closing date, 10th Jan 2021 is giving very short notice to applicants bearing in mind the current Covid 19 restrictions and the holidays period*

*which for many starts at the end of this week.*

*Officers are looking at what opportunities there are for a bid submission.”*

1. **GREENHAM COMMON COMMISSIONERS**

Rebecca Hart the Commissions Chair, gave a presentation outlining their request for funding and how it would be used mostly for admin support and website improvements.

**PROPOSED:** Cllr JeffBeck

**SECONDED:** Cllr Martin Colston

**RESOLVED:** That the Committee recommends that Newbury Town Council would from April 2021 provide £500/year for 3 years, subject to a verbal report from the Commission to Full Council annually.

1. **COMMUNITY SERVICES MANAGERS REPORT**

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

**24.2** The items on the report were noted.

1. **GREEN SPACES WORKING GROUP – NEWBURY IN BLOOM** 
   1. The minutes of the Green Spaces Group of 08 October 2020 and 12 November Appendices 3A & 3B of the Agenda were noted.

Cllr Martha Vickers requested an amendment to the minutes of the 2 meetings, as she sent appologies to the meeting for the 08 October, but these were not noted, and she attended the meeting of 12 November, but this too was not noted.

* 1. **PROPOSED**: Cllr Jeff Beck

**SECONDED:** Cllr Martin Colston

**RESOLVED:** That the Green Spaces Working Group Forward Community Engagement Plan as set out in Appendix 3C of the Agenda was approved.

1. **REVIEW OF COMMUNITY SERVICES 2021/22 BUDGETS**
   1. Officers’ proposal for the Community Services Budget for the 2020/21 financial year, as attached at Appendix 4 of the Agenda were noted.
   2. The were no additions, amendments or deletions required, before inclusion in draft budget for Policy & Resources Committee consideration on 14 January 2021.
   3. **PROPOSED:** Cllr Martin Colston

**SECONDED:** Cllr Martha Vickers

**RESOLVED:** The submission of the Draft Budget proposal for Policy & Resources Committee consideration on 14 January 2021 as attached at Appendix 4a of the Agenda was approved.

1. **SERVICES REVENUES FOR 2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR**
   1. The proposals for Services Revenues for 2021/22 and allotments for 2022/23 as attached at Appendix 4b of the Agenda were noted.
   2. There were no additions, amendments or deletions required, before inclusion in draft budget for Policy & Resources Committee consideration on 14 January 2021.
   3. **PROPOSED:** Cllr Martin Colston

**SECONDED:** Cllr Jon Gage

**RESOLVED:** The Services Revenues for the financial year 2021/22 and in advance the Allotment Charges for 2022/23 as at Appendix 4b of the Agenda were approved for submission to the Policy & Resources Committee consideration on 14 January 2021.

1. **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE 2021/22**
   1. The Forward Work Programme subject to amendment following outcome of Councils new Strategy being adopted, was noted.
   2. There were no additions to the Community Services Forward Working Programme.
2. **TOWN COUNCIL STRATEGY 2019-2024**

There were no proposed changes to the Town Council Strategy, before review by the view by the Strategy Working Group for submission to the Policy & Resources Committee consideration on 14 January 2021

1. **NEW COMMUNITY CAFÉ FACILITY – VICTORIA PARK**
   1. The Community Services Manager gave a verbal update to the Committee on the current plans for the proposed Community Café.
   2. Cllr Roger Hunneman said there would be a meeting of the Victoria Park Sub-Committee early in the new year.

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRPERSON THANKED ALL THOSE IN ATTENDANCE AND DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.02pm**

**CHAIRPERSON**