

DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the
Civic Amenities Committee
held at The Manor House, Dawlish on
Wednesday, 17 April 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

Present

Councillors Mawhood (Chairman), Foden, Prowse, Robins, Taylor and Wrigley.

Officer in attendance

Andrew McKenzie – Town Clerk

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

The following minutes will be considered for approval at the next meeting of the Civic Amenities Committee and may be subject to change until that time.

100 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A. Fenne, G. Fenne, Lowther and Mayne (Mayor).

Resolved that the apologies be noted.

101 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There had been no requests for dispensations.

102 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

103 MINUTES

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 March and 2 April 2019 be signed as a correct and accurate recording of the meeting.

104 BROWNSBROOK ALLOTMENTS

The following update had been received from the Brownbrook Allotment Association:

- BBAA (committee and members) would like to thank the Chairman of CAC for her support in the (relatively) recent meetings regarding the setting of plot rents and other general support for the allotments as a whole
- At the AGM we highlighted the recent suggestion by Chairman of CAC regarding potential for BBAA to remodel fees to reflect the size of a plot rather than a flat fee irrespective of size. In addition, there may be potential to in effect subsidise fees for the (relatively) few poor quality plots. The general feeling was supportive of some sort of modification. BBAA are keen to discuss this and have circulated to members a sample Excel book that explores different ways to allocate fees but keeping the same total. The aim is to produce one or two favoured options with a view to contacting CAC and the Council to take this forward – likely the early summer.
- Work – fence replacement. Materials supplied by council, labour from the BBAA. This is to be organised in the coming weeks.
- Compost loo – Councillor GB is investigating this further but is understandably busy with other matters at the moment. Likely favoured position remains to the right of the existing lock up on the grounds that;
 - it is furthest from both brooks
 - is relatively secluded
 - is accessible to plot holders
 - less inviting to youthful exploration
- The loo is likely to involve a grant application for support with costs, but this will be more fully briefed when the project is more thoroughly prepared
- We hope to remap the field to better reflect the current plot layout and more accurately determine plot sizes. This will be combined with a social BBQ – date not fixed but likely to be around May.

The Clerk advised there were approx. 30 individuals on the waiting list for an allotment, but the Council had also been approached by homeowners opening up their gardens to those wishing to grow their own vegetables etc where their gardens were too big to manage themselves. The Council was referring those on the waiting list, where interested, to the relevant contact

Resolved that the update be noted.

105 DAWLISH WATERFOWL

The Clerk updated Members as follows:

1 April – 6 eggs from the nest at the lower end of the Brook unfortunately all were deceased in the shell.

5 April – 1 hybrid duck obtained

6 April – 1 common polchard male deceased on the pond for unknown reasons
8 April – 6 mixed ducks hatched in the waterfowl compound
12 April – 6 cygnets hatched from upper end of brook
15 April – 5 cygnets were, we believe, taken by foxes
16 April – the remaining cygnet was taken, again believed to be by a fox
17 April – 1 adult female taken, again believed to be by a fox.

Members also discussed the need to properly account for birds being sold on when there was no longer room to house them in the compound or on the Brook, and it was suggested that appropriate remittance be provided so as to effect an audit trail for the Council but also protection for the purchaser.

The Clerk advised that the Waterfowl Warden's had requested approval to purchase human fox traps. Members were in support of this proposal and it was

Resolved that the update be noted, and authority be given to purchasing 2 humane fox traps.

106 DECORATIVE PLANTING CONTRACT

The Clerk updated Members as to the updated quote provided by the Council's current grounds maintenance operatives for the maintaining and watering (including feeding) of the decorative plants in and around the Town Centre. Two other organisations had been approached however neither wished to quote for the works.

Following discussion, it was

Resolved that

- (a) the Town Council's current decorative planting contractor be engaged to supply and plant floral displays for 2019/20,
- (b) and that the Finance & General Purposes Committee be asked to consider the quotation from the Town Council's grass verge contractors undertake the watering and maintenance (including feeding) of such plants for the same time frame, once received;
- (c) the Clerk to investigate the option of bringing the maintenance aspect in house from next year, subject to satisfactory costs.

107 WAR MEMORIAL

The Chairman advised Members that she had discovered rubble that had appeared to have been dumped in the War Memorial Garden and suggested the Council erect notices advising that such areas were used as composting areas and materials must not be deposited within the curtilage of the War Memorial Garden.

Resolved that notices be produced and put in place.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.09 p.m.

Councillor Val Mawhood
CHAIRMAN