

DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the
Civic Amenities Committee
held at The Manor House, Dawlish on
Wednesday, 18 September 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

Present

Councillors Mawhood (Chairman), Dawson (Vice Chairman), Foden (ex-officio), James, M. Lowther, T. Lowther Taylor.

Officers in attendance

Angie Weatherhead - Events, Projects and Tourism Officer.

Public Participation

There were no members of the public in attendance.

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.

36 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mayne, Prowse, Woods and Wrigley.

RESOLVED that the apologies be noted.

37 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There had been no requests for dispensations.

38 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

39 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2019 be signed as correct and accurate recording of the meeting.

40 DAWLISH WATERFOWL

A written report was received from the Waterfowl Wardens. Five whistling ducks had hatched on 5th September 2019 in the aviary. Swans were currently sitting on eggs opposite the old post office. They were due to hatch in the middle of October. New rubber matting had been fitted in the viewing windows for the ducklings and there was additional species information on a new board in the aviary itself for the public to view. One of the wardens had removed a fishhook from the beak of a

swan. A dead duck had been found in the aviary but cause of death was uncertain. Two Black East India Ducks and two mini Appleyards had been purchased for £40. The wardens were shortly to receive some donated waterfowl from Somerset.

41 FREE RANGE WATERFOWL SIGNAGE

The officer had been in contact with Devon County Council regarding signage and a response was awaited. If an official sign did not exist, then a sign could not be placed on Devon County Council Highways lampposts or traffic lights posts. Cllr Dawson reported a sign of the right type had been seen on a County Council lamppost near Kingsteignton.

RESOLVED that the officer would follow up.

42 SWAN AND CYGNETS INFORMATION BOARD

The officer reported that a decision was awaited from the Planning Department of Teignbridge District Council as to whether the placing of the lectern was within the Town Council's permitted development rights. The conservation officer had advised that the most recessive colour should be used on the lectern. The officer would present the cost of installation to the next meeting.

Cllr Foden proposed approval for the purchase of the lectern, graphic panel and printing up to £1,100. This was seconded by Cllr James. It was

AGREED to approve the purchase of the information display board up to £1,100, subject to regulatory permissions.

43 INCREASED FENCING HEIGHT/REPLACEMENT

The officer reported that the supplier of the current railings had been identified. Investigations were ongoing for costs as the fencing also required powder coated mesh and installation.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

44 COMMUNITY INFORMATION NOTICE BOARDS

The Chairman outlined the history of the boards to both include Town Council and community information and stated that previous confusion over locations meant that three boards should be considered. A list had been drawn up of several potential locations, but these could not be currently pursued as it required permission from the landowners, a willingness of a party to maintain them and storage prior to installation. The three locations under consideration were The Buntings, Little Week and Swan's Rise, Carhaix Way. A summary of quotes for wood and man-made timber (MMT) boards was provided to the meeting.

A discussion focussed on using recycled materials, the maintenance cost of wood compared to MMT.

The Committee suspended Standing Orders to enable Cllr T Lowther to speak to the item.

Cllr Lowther agreed with the low-cost maintenance option of MMT.

Standing orders were resumed.

Cllr Dawson questioned whether the engraved letter would be covered by the five-year guarantee for the boards.

The Committee suspended Standing Orders to enable Cllr T Lowther to speak to the item.

Cllr T Lowther asked for consideration of the Dawlish Town Crest in the header.

Standing orders were resumed

Further discussion took place about whether a crest should be included on the header or inside the boards.

The Committee suspended Standing Orders to enable Cllr T Lowther to speak to the item.

Cllr T Lowther felt the cost of engraving was overpriced in the quotes.

Standing orders were resumed.

The motion to purchase three community noticeboards holding 8 sheets of A4 in MMT with the name Dawlish Town Council engraved in gold was proposed by Cllr Taylor, seconded by Cllr M Lowther. It was:

Resolved that three community noticeboards holding 8 sheets of A4 in MMT with the name Dawlish Town Council engraved in gold be approved.

The Committee then discussed the cost of the noticeboards.

The Committee suspended Standing Orders to enable Cllr T Lowther to speak to the item.

Cllr T Lowther was concerned about the cost of three boards and about making sure of best value in the purchase price. The Chairman noted that the top amount that the Committee was considering for a board was £2,000 as it was the quoted cost for one board and discount for the purchase of three boards would be obtained.

Standing orders were resumed.

The Chairman reiterated that members of community had requested the community information boards and it would be good publicity to have the Dawlish Town Council header on the boards.

It was:

RESOLVED that the Finance & General Purposes Committee be recommended to approve funding for up to £6,000 for three community information boards at the parish locations: the Buntings, Little Week and Swan's Rise.

45 LITTLE WEEK PLAY PARK

The officer advised that work would be starting on the 16th September. Discussion took place on the purchase of a wooden round picnic bench following consultation with local residents.

Cllr James proposed the purchase of a wooden bench, seconded by Cllr Taylor. Two votes were in favour, four votes against and the motion was not carried.

The Chairman proposed that quotes for a round MMT picnic table be presented to the October meeting of the Civic Amenities Committee.

RESOLVED that quotes for a round MMT picnic table would be presented to the October meeting for further consideration.

46 BENCHES IN THE STRAND

The Town Council bench outside the chemist in the Strand had been taken out of circulation as it was not safe to use. An independent contractor had looked at the bench for repair and estimated about £600. One of the two remaining benches had also been bit by a car. Both remaining benches were worn and potentially needed re-siting further in on the pavement, so they could not be hit by vehicles reversing. Devon County Highways had provided guidance on replacement benches and a paper was submitted on possible replacement benches. Discussion took place on replacing the benches.

The Committee suspended Standing Orders to enable Cllr T Lowther to speak to the item.

Cllr T Lowther agreed with other councillors that time should be taken, and the anchoring of the benches was important.

Standing orders were resumed.

RESOLVED that the matter be brought back to a future meeting of the Committee with details of the possible options in consultation with Highways and the Conservation Officers. In the interim a press release would be issued on: why the bench was removed; noting the damage to the second bench and that the Council was investigating the replacement of all three benches with a suitable design. At 9pm the Chairman asked members to vote to extend the meeting to allow the completion of the agenda.

RESOLVED unanimously to continue the meeting.

47 BENCHES AT LEA MOUNT

RESOLVED that one of the benches at Coryton Cove be exchanged with a Teignbridge Council bench to be bench can be sited at Sandy Lane and the cost of installation up to £400 be approved. The two further benches at the Coryton Cove to remain in situ and not be moved up to Lea Mount.

48 TOWN AND PARISH AUDIT

RESOLVED that the officer circulate to all Councillors.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Councillor Val Mawhood
CHAIRMAN