



Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 30th January 2017 at the Band Hall, Gravel Close, Downton at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr Brentor (Chair) and Cllrs Dean, Hayward, Mace, Pearce, Saxby, Sutcliffe, Watts and Whitmarsh.
Bev Cornish, Parish Clerk.

One member of the public was present.

Public Question Time:

Ms Susan Barnhurst-Davies briefed the Committee on the Circular Walk project and responded to questions from councillors. She said it was supported by the Southern Wiltshire Area Board and hopefully would link with two existing circular walks in Alderbury and Pitton as well as be suitable for people with dementia and their carers, subject to risk assessment. She said she hoped that the Committee and Parish Council would support it and confirmed that no costs would be incurred by the Parish Council as these would be met by the Area Board.

Amen 44.16 To receive apologies for absence: The Clerk reported that apologies had been received from Cllr Cordell due to work commitments.

Amen 45.16 To consider and resolve to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 28th November 2016: Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 28th November 2016 be approved and signed by the Chair as a true record.

Amen 46.16 Declarations of Interest:

a. **To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers.**

No declarations of interest were received.

b. **To consider any Dispensation Requests received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered.**

No dispensation requests had been received by the Clerk.

Amen 47.16 To resolve to note the matters arising and actions taken from the Minutes: Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair that the progress of the following matters raised at the last meeting be noted:

Amen 39.16 Trees in Joanna Close and Marie Avenue: The Clerk was continuing to chase Graham Axtell at Wiltshire Highways.

Amen 30.16 Trees and undergrowth along the boundary of the Moot Lane Recreation Ground: The Clerk was awaiting a date from Active Tree Care to carry out the further work to remove the lower branches of the Leylandii trees on Moot Recreation Ground boundary.

Amen 30.16 Willow Trees overhanging the footpath on Tannery Bridge: A response had been received from the fishing club regarding the overhanging willows agreeing to trim them but there was no offer to refund the Parish Council for the previous work so Cllr Brentor will be following this up.

Amen 32.16 National Lottery ‘Awards for All’ grant scheme application: The ‘Awards for All’ grant application was progressing and the Clerk would be reviewing the previously provided preferences for fixed adult sports equipment.

Amen 40.16 Parking report and Actions:

- The report has been approved and noted by the Parish Council and Cllr Brentor has been contacted by Mr John Halski, the school governor responsible for parking and travel issues, and they have agreed to be in regular contact.
- Cllr Yeates has confirmed that he is willing to raise the issue of the dropped kerb and marked parking spaces outside the Spinnaker fish shop with the Community Area Transport Group subject to the Clerk seeking an indication of the costs from the Highways Engineer and approval by the Parish Council.
- Cllr Sutcliffe raised the issue of random parking by vehicles in Gravel Close which was preventing other vehicles, and especially emergency vehicles, from accessing the road to the north of the Band Hall. Cllr Brentor asked the Clerk to include an item on this issue on the next Parish Council Agenda.

Amen 42.16 Bridge project: Mr Ian Campbell has prepared an outline for consideration to obtain costings and a meeting is to be held on the 8th February with the footpath and bridge officers and tenant farmer to gain more information and to inform the next steps for the Working Group at a meeting to be held in mid-February.

Amen 48.16 To consider a request from Ms Susan Barnhurst-Davies, on behalf of the Rights of Way Working Group, to recommend approval by the Parish Council to the formal designation of a Circular Walk of 3.5 miles around Downton parish, in partnership with those created at Alderbury and Pitton:

Following a brief discussion and confirmation from Cllr Brentor that the project was supported by Wiltshire Council and the Alzheimer’s Society from whence it would be able to seek funding, Cllr Hayward proposed, Cllr Pearce seconded and it was RESOLVED that a recommendation be made to the Parish Council that the project be supported and approved.

Amen 49.16 To receive a short verbal report from the Clerk with regard to recent reports from the cleaning and maintenance contractor for the Public Toilets and to: The Clerk advised that there had been several incidents of members of the public using the areas in front of doors as toilets when the public toilets were closed.

- **Consider the potential improvements and the cost of their implementation:** The Clerk reported that it had been suggested that the current set back doors at the entrance to the toilets be brought forward and a quote was considered.
- **Make any recommendations to the Parish Council:** Following a brief discussion and offers from Cllrs Sutcliffe and Dean to inspect the toilets and report back to a future meeting, Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair that no recommendations be made to the Parish Council at this time.

Amen 50.16 To consider and note the Inspection Reports from the Play Inspection Company on the Parish Council’s play areas and to resolve to agree on the actions to be taken: Following a brief report from the Clerk, which

advised that all issues raised in the reports were described as either low risk or very low risk, Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair that she and the Clerk agree a maintenance list to be drawn up for action by Mr Bob Moody.

Amen 51.16 To consider and resolve to agree on the actions to be taken in relation to the Memorial Hall in preparation for the construction of the proposed extension: The Clerk gave a brief report on the need to prepare risk assessments for the patrons of the Memorial Hall and others during the build as well as the need for additional insurance to cover the removal of the rear toilets and meeting room prior to construction of the new extension. Cllr Brentor proposed, Cllr Hayward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should proceed to draft risk assessments and make enquiries with Came & Company on the additional insurance cover and costs in conjunction with the Memorial Hall Working Group.

Amen 52.16 To consider and resolve to agree on the actions to be taken to progress the installation of a Noticeboard in Moot Lane, subject to the allocated budget in 2017/18, and to consider the location and the obtaining of any necessary permissions: Following a brief discussion and agreement that the best location for a noticeboard was in front of the bungalows on the corner of Moot Lane with Castle Meadow, Cllr Hayward proposed, Cllr Watts seconded and it was RESOLVED that Cllr Brentor should speak to the residents on the corner of Castle Meadow and Moot Lane and also the Wiltshire Housing Officers to seek permission for its installation. The agreed size for the board was to be 3' x 4' and smaller than the noticeboard in Charlton All Saints and the Clerk was asked to seek quotes for construction and installation from Mr Bob Moody and Mr Michael Thorne. Cllr Watts agreed to monitor regularly the content of notices displayed.

Amen 53.16 To receive a short verbal report from Cllr Watts of the Moot Lane Recreation Ground Working Group on any progress in setting up the Working Group's first meeting: Cllr Watts gave a brief report on the residents and organisations who had expressed an interest in using/supporting the Pavilion and the various sporting organisations which had been contacted by the Moot Lane Sports Club. He said he had not set up a meeting because he was aware that no money was available.

Cllr Brentor thanked Cllr Watts for his report and suggested that he set up a meeting of the Working Group with Cllrs Dean and Hayward to consider the next steps and to identify the future use of the recreation ground.

Amen 54.16 Next meeting: The next meeting will be held Monday 22nd May 2017 at 7.30 pm at the Memorial Hall.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 8.20 pm.