



**Minutes of the Virtual<sup>1</sup> Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 7.30 pm.**

**Present:** Cllr Brentor (Chair) and Cllrs Cornell, Pearce and Watts.  
Bev Cornish, Parish Clerk.

Six members of the public were present.

**Public Question Time:**

A member of the public raised the issues of the overflowing bins outside the Co-op, what progress had been made on the area around the Borough Cross and the grasscutting.

A member of the public said that he supported the Council's plans to renew street signs around the village and said that a sign was needed for Long Close West for those driving to Downton from Salisbury.

The Chair of the Downton Memorial Centre advised the Committee of the proposals to deter anti-social behaviour and access onto the roof of the Memorial Centre.

The Chair of the Downton Society advised that the Committee had agreed that if the planters were ordered, they needed to be in place by the end of September. She also asked whether the bridge painting was still going ahead.

Cllr Brentor responded to questions raised by members of the public which were not already on the agenda.

**16.20 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr Brentor advised that no apologies had been received.

**17.20 To consider and resolve to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020:** Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020 be approved and they were signed by the Chair.

**18.20 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:**  
Cllr Pearce declared a personal and non-pecuniary interest in Minute 23.20 but as Trustee of the Downton Memorial Centre she said she would not vote.

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

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

The Clerk advised that no dispensation requests had been received.

**19.20 To resolve to note the matters arising and actions taken from the Minutes:** Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the progress of the following matters raised at the last meeting be noted:

**38.18b. Borough Cross:** *The Clerk has chased Dave Watton about this again and asked another electrician to look at the site and at the telephone box in Charlton, although for a defibrillator to be installed this requires a BT approved electrician.*

**48.18 Emergency Plan:** *Completed as far as possible and sent to Councillors.*

**58.18 Defibrillator in Charlton:** *Still awaiting check by electrician.*

**23.19 Memorial Gardens restoration:** *This is delayed and won't be able to be completed until after August 2020.*

**25.19 Public Bins:** *Bob Moody has list of locations and will be advising when these will be done..*

**26.19 To consider whether to convert the accessible public toilet to a 'Stoma Friendly' toilet:** *Alison McGowan has sourced all equipment and is awaiting a site visit with the Council's contractor.*

**20.20: Painting of Iron Bridge and to make recommendations on how it should proceed to the Parish Council:** *This has been delayed due to COVID.*

**37.19: Signage:** *All playground and public toilet signage has been installed. Awaiting installation of signage at cemetery because it requires 2 people.*

**42.19: Play Inspection Memorial Gardens:** *Ava Recreation has yet to carry out inspection of cross bars to swings and hence the existing swings and chains cannot be replaced.*

**09.20: WW11 Memorial Bench:** *This has been delivered and is held in safekeeping at Docombe because there is no room in the Council's store. Longford Estates have given permission for its location and the Council's contractor has advised that he will install in ahead of 15<sup>th</sup> August.*

**10.20: Risk assessment for play areas and play equipment and the purchase of any equipment:** *these were completed by What No Safety and approved at 13<sup>th</sup> July PC meeting.*

**11.20: Purchase of enhanced PPE to enable to the Council's litter pickers to return to work:** *This was purchased ahead of opening of play areas on 4<sup>th</sup> July and the Clerk will be holding another Zoom meeting with litterpickers later this week to check on how they are getting on.*

**12.20 Bridge over the Avon project once drawings, topographical and ecology reports are received:** *The Contractors have been instructed and the Parish Council has deferred the decision to submit the application until 10<sup>th</sup> August meeting.*

**13.20: Footpath beside Iron Bridge:** *The Clerk has advised the Rights of Way Officer, Alex Howson, about receiving no response to a letter to request*

*that the hedge be cut and has asked him to write to the resident on behalf of Wiltshire Council.*

**14.20: Grassed area on corner of Marie Avenue and Elizabeth Close:** Cllr Hall has advised that he researched the titles of the land in question and they are in the ownership of a company which no longer exists.

- 20.20 To reconsider and resolve to agree on whether the Downton in Bloom planters should be ordered for this year or delayed:** Cllr Cornell proposed, Cllr Pearce seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Council should proceed to order the planters.
- 21.20 To reconsider and resolve to agree on the compilation of a list of street names signs which need to be replaced and whether to submit it to the Community Area Transport Group for a contribution towards their fabrication and installation:** Following a discussion, Cllr Pearce proposed, Cllr Cornell seconded and it was RESOLVED that a list be compiled and that a price be sought from the Wiltshire Council Highways Engineer. It was also RESOLVED that the funding for these signs should not be sought from the Community Area Transport Group and that such funding should be limited to larger and more significant highways projects.. Cllr Cornell agreed to send the Clerk a list of those signs requested by residents using social media.
- 22.20 Following receipt of further information, to reconsider a request from Cllr Hall to investigate the cost of adding the maintenance of the piece of ground on the corner of Marie Avenue and Elizabeth Close to the Parish Council Grasscutting contract:** Cllr Brentor proposed, Cllr Pearce seconded and it was RESOLVED that they should visit the site and assess whether there were any other similar sites within the parish. The Clerk was asked to seek a provisional cost from the Council's contractors to add it to the Council's contract.
- 23.20 To consider a request from the Downton Memorial Hall Committee to take preventative measures to deter anti-social behaviour and access onto the roof of the Memorial Centre and to make any recommendations to the Parish Council:** Cllr Cornell proposed, Cllr Watts seconded and it was RESOLVED that a recommendation be made to the Parish Council for one of the two measures proposed to be approved and that appropriate signs be erected.
- 24.20 To consider a Memorial Bench and Tree Policy and make any recommendations to the Parish Council:** Cllr Pearce proposed, Cllr Cornell second and it was RESOLVED that it be recommended for approval by the Parish Council.
- 25.20 To consider a request from a parishioner for additional equipment to be installed in the Memorial Gardens:** The Clerk advised that the parishioner would be joining the August Parish Council meeting once she had had an opportunity to speak to local parents.

**26.20 To consider a request from a parishioner to carry out maintenance to the trees and the southern boundary of the Moot Lane Recreation Ground:** Cllr Brentor proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should obtain quotes for the general maintenance/clearance work but that work to the trees should await the Tree Survey report which was imminent from the Council's contractors.

**27.20 Working Group Reports:**

**Bridge Project:** Cllr Brentor gave a detailed report on how the project was progressing, which stakeholders had been contacted, the design of the bridge, the work being undertaken in preparation for the submission of the planning application and the fact that the project needed to be progressed further before any applications for funding could be made.

**28.20 Next meeting:** Cllr Brentor confirmed the date of the next meeting as Monday 28th September 2020 at 7.30 pm.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.