

FLITWICK TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the 47th Meeting of the Community Services Committee held on
6th March 2019 at the Rufus Centre**

Present: Cllr J Dann (Chairman) Cllrs M Sheehan (Vice Chair)
A Lutley M Platt J Blakeman

In attendance: Interim Town Clerk, Amenities Officer, Amenities Assistant and
Community Services Officer

528 Open Forum No items raised

529 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

No interests were declared and no request for dispensation had been received.

530 Apologies for Absence

None received.

531 Chairman's Announcements

The chair had met with the Amenities Assistant and Cllrs Lutley and Williams to discuss annual fees and policies for community services, including burials, football pitch hire and allotments. The suggestions relating to the services will be progressed and considered by Members at the April Community Services Meeting.
Action: Amenities Assistant

The chair wished to welcome the Amenities Officers back as she was attending the meeting as some of her 'keeping in touch' time during her maternity leave.

532 Agree any actions required after reviewing the Clerk's Report

The Interim Town Clerk reported that the Mayor had asked her to report that the Judging Panel for the Community Awards had suggested enhanced meal options for the Awards Night based on feedback from last year and the positive feedback received from the recent Quiz Night. Finance had confirmed that there was funding available from the Community Events Earmarked Reserve.

It was **recommended** with no objections but that the kitchen staff should be consulted as to whether they have the staff available.

Action: Community Services Officer

533 To review and agree quotations for the play area improvements

Cllr Sheehan provided information about the three quotes received. Two of the companies had taken into account how the areas were currently used and both used wooden equipment which was less likely to be vandalised and could be sanded down. The Amenities Officer reported that there was £10,000 in the 2018/19 budget which had not been used which could be carried forward into 2019/20.

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It was **recommended** with no objections that the £10,000 be carried forward to the 2019/20 play area equipment budget. *Action: RFO & HR Officer*

Cllr Blakeman asked if this was only for the Millennium Park and whether some of the existing play equipment will be reused. Cllr Sheehan confirmed that this was only for the Millennium Park but there were separate monies available to update the other parks and that the existing equipment will be re-used but that some equipment would be unusable.

Cllr Lutley asked how long it would take to install and it had been confirmed that for one of the companies it would take 8 to 10 weeks. After discussions, it was agreed that the preferred company would be contacted following ratification of full council to find out when they would be able to start and if it could be started after the Carnival on the 8th June 2019.

Action: Amenities Assistant

It was **recommended** that the Kompan proposal was the most comprehensive and offered the best value for money with no objections. This was subject to confirmation that the money was available in the 2019/20 budget and it being ratified at full council. It was also agreed that a display would be available at the Annual Town Meeting so that residents could give their views.

Action: Amenities Assistant

534 To note the funding criteria and agree quotation for Manor Park fencing and other works

Cllr Platt raised that the Manor Park fence on the road had been damaged and the Amenities Assistant would raise it with the Ground Team. Cllr Lutley asked what progress had been made regarding the Dipping Pond and the Amenities Assistant confirmed that they were awaiting reports but that she would investigate the delay.

Action: Amenities Assistant

After reviewing the proposal from the Ground Team, it was **recommended** with no objections that they were all in favour of applying for Greensand Country funding for the new fencing for the Dexter cows and a bridge at the Manor Park.

Action: Grounds Team/Acting Town Clerk

535 Discuss request for permission to metal detecting on town council land

Following discussion of the possible implications of different sites which would need special permission, also being able to police what residents were finding and the fact that this would be setting a precedent, it was **recommended** with no objections that permission should not be allowed.

Action: Amenities Assistant

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536 Agree permission for the annual 10k run

Cllr Lutley confirmed that there had not been any previous issues with the 10K run and that it had always been well organised. It was **recommended** with no objections that permission should be allowed.

Action: Amenities Assistant

537 Discuss proposed community event

The Communities Services Officer gave details of the 'Street Food' event and that it was proposed it would be once a month between 4pm and 9pm to be held on the Hub Car Park on the last Friday of every month. It was noted that Street Food Heroes would organise the event including obtaining a TENS licence, supplying bins and clean up afterwards. They currently hold events including in Leighton Buzzard, Tring and Baldock with no issues.

Cllr Lutley asked about toilets and noise - they did not provide toilets but they have confirmed that they work normally within residential areas and that the music level is loud enough to set an atmosphere but kept to a level where conversation can be easily held and it can be adjusted if it is too loud. Street Food Heroes paid Leighton Buzzard TC £200 per event and they are held from April to September.

It was **recommended** with no objections that permission should be allowed to proceed but that permission can be cancelled at any time.

Action: Communities Services Officer

538 Questions

No questions raised.

539 Next Meeting

Next scheduled **Community Services meeting** will be held on Wednesday 3rd April 2019 at 7.45pm.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed
(Chairman)