

Dorchester Town Council

Management Committee

9 September 2019

Present: Councillors S. Biles, A. Canning, L. Fry, J. Hewitt (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), S. Jones, A. Lyall, R. Major, R. Potter, M. Rennie, R. Ricardo and D. Taylor.

In Attendance

Councillor T. Harries.

Apologies: Councillors D. Leaper and F. Kent-Ledger.

17. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 9 July 2019, adopted by Council on 23 July 2019, were taken as read and were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

18. **Management Arrangements – Outdoor Services**

The Committee considered a report from the Outdoor Services Manager updating it on the work undertaken and the achievements made by the Outdoor Services Team since the last meeting of the Committee. The Outdoor Services Manager responded to Members detailed questions.

The Committee wished to thank the outdoor staff for all of their work over the summer to keep the Council's open spaces and the Gardens so well maintained. Members also felt that the new fencing at Poundbury Cemetery was excellent.

Resolved

That the Outdoor Services Team update be noted.

19. **Consultation on Extension to Dorset Council Dog Related Public Spaces Protection Orders**

Members were informed that it was the intention of Dorset Council to have a single dog-related PSPO, drawing all former 5 Orders into one. To do this a 12 week public consultation exercise needed to be undertaken. The time line for producing a new Order was in the region of 12 months. To enable this to happen it was proposed to extend the present West Dorset Dog related PSPO (due to expire in August 2020) until 31 December 2020.

Resolved

That no objection be raised to extending the existing West Dorset PSPO to 31 December 2020.

20. **Requests for Financial Assistance**

The Committee considered various requests for financial assistance.

Resolved

(1) That the grant application from Dorchester Community Plays Association in the sum of £5,500 be agreed, to be payable once the Association has sufficient financial support to proceed with the production and that the Town Clerk be authorised to offer free use of the Municipal Buildings for large scale rehearsals at times when the building would not otherwise be generating an income.

(2) That the grant application from the Volunteer Centre, Dorchester in the sum of £500 be agreed.

(3) That the grant application from the Dorchester Town Ladies Football Club, in the sum of £112 be agreed.

21. **Dorchester Food Bank – Grant Feedback**

The Committee received a report back from John Weir of the Dorchester Food Bank – the Committee had previously allocated a grant of £500 to the Food Bank.

Four hamper distribution days had been provided on each of the four Thursdays during August. Families who were eligible for free school meals during term time were invited through their schools to come along for tea/coffee/cakes and a chat and to collect their food parcels containing fresh food and non perishable items. Eighty Eight families (over 160 children) were supported and 425 parcels distributed in total.

£9000 was spent directly on families and nearly £1,000 remained to provide parcels at Christmas. Expenses totalled £35. There were a number of families who had stated that they or their children would have gone hungry during the summer holiday without the extra help and others who were grateful that they could use the money they had saved on buying food to provide small treats or excursions for their children - something that most people would take for granted.

Resolved

That the grant feedback be noted.

22. **Cemetery Matters**

(a) **Exclusive Right of Burial and Interments and Burial of Ashes**

The report which detailed the Grants of Exclusive Right of Burial for grave spaces and the number of interments and burials of ashes together with South Chapel usage at Dorchester Cemetery, since the last meeting of the Committee had been placed on the Council's internet.

Resolved

That the report on the Grants of Exclusive Right of Burial and Interments and Burial of Ashes since the last meeting of the Committee be noted.

(b) **Headstones and Inscriptions**

The Committee received and noted applications for the design of headstones and inscriptions.

Resolved

That the action of the Town Clerk in approving designs numbered 5082 to 5090 be confirmed and the Register of Memorials be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

23. **Buildings Monitoring Reports**

The Committee received the monitoring reports for the Municipal Buildings and Borough Gardens House.

The Committee expressed concern regarding the reduction in income this year compared to the same period last year. The reasons for the reduction were reported.

Members also felt that a decision regarding the future home of Dorchester Arts was required soon so as to enable the Council to plan its refurbishment and maintenance schedule.

Resolved

That the Buildings Monitoring Reports be noted.

24. **Dorchester Arts**

The Committee noted the minutes of the Dorchester Arts Board meeting held on 24 July 2019.

25. **Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960**

Resolved

That in view of the fact that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the following matters the public and press representatives be excluded from this meeting during their discussion.

26. **Dorchester Christmas Market**

The Committee considered a report by the Town Clerk on the proposed the proposed Dorchester Christmas Market.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

Chairman