

Woodbridge Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities Committee** held at the **Shire Hall** on **Tuesday 22nd November 2022** at 5pm

Councillors:

Present: D Adelson, Lady C Blois, P Gillard, J Jewers, S Miller, R Sanders, S Rawlings, and C Walsh.

Apologies: E O’Nolan and M Wilks

In Attendance: Town Clerk and no members of the public.

464. Apologies for absence

Apologise for absence were received from Councillors O’Nolan and Wilks.

465. To receive declarations of interest

Councillor Adelson declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 477 as a member of the Woodbridge Growers.

466. To consider requests for dispensations

There were no requests from Councillors with a Pecuniary Interest in an item on this agenda for a dispensation.

467. Public Question Time

There were no members of the public present.

468. To receive and approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2022

The Committee received and approved the signing of the minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2022 as a true record.

469. To consider the future of the Council’s Grounds Maintenance

The Committee agreed that the Town Clerk is delegated to make the necessary cost-effective changes to the Grounds Maintenance Contract for submission to the QS firm working with the Council on this project.

470. To consider an offer of trees from Notcutts

The Committee agreed to accept the offer of fifty trees from Notcutts, with the Town Clerk asked to discuss with Notcutts the most suitable species for planting in the current climate (drought resistant).

471. To consider requests from Woodbridge in Bloom

The Committee considered the request from Woodbridge in Bloom and agreed the following:

- The Town Clerk is asked to investigate the possibility of attaching hose fittings to the taps within the Shire Hall, which if possible would be an agreeable solution for the watering of planters on the Market Square. Any costs for this work to be met from the Amenities Committee budget.
- That Woodbridge in Bloom are asked to provide more detail on their request for planters on the Market Square.

472. To consider how to promote the use/ hire of the Council's estate

The Committee proposed the following ideas for the promotion of the Council's estate:

- Create an advertising brochure and pay for adverts on social media and websites.
- Reach out to event organisers about the availability of the Council's estate.
- Consider licensing the Elmhurst Park bandstand for wedding ceremonies.
- Offer the Town Council estate as a setting for filming.
- Create digital imagery of the Council's building and make available for purchase.

473. To consider project funding requests for the 2023/24 budget

The Committee agreed the following funding requests for the 2023/24 budget:

- Market Square – Like for like replacement of the seating in situ; Officers to seek updated costs.
- Improvements to Tide Mill Way – Replacement of the dated concrete planters on Tide Mill Way will modern plants – Officers to seek updated costs but suggested to be in the region of £5000.
- Public events – Funding for a Christmas (market) event in Woodbridge incorporating an ice-skating rink; Officers to seek updated costs.

Previously included items such as the promotion of Woodbridge as a tourist destination, improved security and visibility of the Woodbridge Growers area and the improvement of Elmhurst Park for young people will be undertaken by the Committee using their own budget.

474. To note the receipt of the annual tree survey and the recommendations therein

The Committee noted the receipt of the annual tree survey and the recommendations therein.

The Town Clerk was asked to enquire if the dead willow on Fen Meadow could be felled and left in situ as habitat.

475. To consider a request from Woodbridge Football Club regarding Kingston Pavilion

The Committee considered the request from Woodbridge Football Club and agreed the following:

- To permit the Woodbridge Football Club to update the store cupboard into a changing and private toilet facility. The payment of any shared costs to be met from the Amenities Committee budget.
- To further discuss with the Woodbridge Football Club their requirements for a shed/storage facility.

476. To exclude the Public and Press from the remainder of the meeting in accord with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 because of the confidential information being discussed

The Committee agreed to exclude, in accord with the Public Bodies (Admission To Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press on account of the confidential matters to be discussed.

477. To consider a report from Suffolk Constabulary regarding Elmhurst Park and to the consider the implications of the recommendations therein

The Committee considered the report from Suffolk Constabulary and agreed the following actions:

- To seek costs to remove the park furniture from Scouts Corner.
- To install 'Eyes on' signage in the park.
- To not seek planning permission for the Melon Pit sensory garden project, and not to proceed with any development in the Melon Pit area. A sensory facility elsewhere in the park remains a consideration of the Committee.

478. Closure

The meeting was closed at 6.38pm.

Councillor Miller
Chair