

## LYTCHETT MINSTER & UPTON TOWN COUNCIL

A meeting of the **AMENITIES COMMITTEE** was held on **TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2023** which commenced at 7.00pm.

**PRESENT:** Cllr M Pryor (in the chair)  
Councillor R Griffin  
Councillor J Sheldon  
Councillor D White  
Councillor S McKell

**Also in attendance:** Mrs K Cane, Town Clerk  
Mrs K Osborne, Deputy Town Clerk  
Councillor S Gabriel (left at 7.30 pm)

### Democratic Session

No members of the public were in attendance. At this juncture the Chair updated those present on the successful allotment inspection and advised that ULMAA had elected not to attend this session, as everyone was satisfied with the management of the allotment and there were no issues to raise with the committee. It was noted that Wessex Water need to be contacted regarding the water meter which has appeared to have sunk.

### 157/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no declarations of interest.

### 158/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs K Austin (family commitments).

### 159/23 CLERKS REPORT:

- a) **Minute 357/23 Remembrance 2023** DC Safety Advisory Group (SAG) have informally accepted the Council's recommendations for the format of the 2023 Remembrance Parade based on the event plan and risk assessment. SAG have a meeting scheduled for 14/9/23 where they will formally confirm this decision and advise us in writing. The Council can then liaise with the RBL and update the public.
- b) **Minute 43 /23/Warbler Park Play Area** Enquiries have been made establish the ownership of the land behind Otter Close and it has been established that this is not the local authority and may be Aster Housing. This will be pursued. Dorset Council have said that there is the possibility of using the overflow car park at the Recreation Ground should the Town Council put together a feasibility plan, which will include site survey and planning input. If this were to be accepted, Dorset Council would assist with the land transfer via the Asset Transfer process. There would be additional land costs for this as well as the costs for the creation of a skatepark.
- c) **Minute 360/23 Cemetery – Resident/No Resident Burials-** see minute no 164/23.

**160/23 CORRESPONDENCE:**

The current edition of the ICCM Magazine was made available.

**161/23 TO DISCUSS THE REFURBISHMENT OF REDWOOD ROAD PLAY AREA:**

Members noted the contents of the report provided to give an update on the progress to refurbish this area. A meeting has been arranged on site with the potential funder, after which they will make a decision and notify the Council of the outcome by November 2023. Should this be successful the tender process will commence. Public consultation about what sort of play equipment to be sited will commence at the end of September.

**162/23 TO CONSIDER QUOTATIONS FOR THE RESURFACING OF THE GROVE FRONTAGE:**

Members noted the contents of the report and the specification and quotations for these works as contained therein.

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **RECOMMENDED** to accept the lowest value quotation which was Dorset Council.

**163/23 TO CONSIDER QUOTATIONS FOR THE RESURFACING OF UPTON CEMETERY**

Members noted the contents of the report and the specification and quotations for these works as contained therein,

It was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **RECOMMENDED** to accept the lowest value quotation which was Dorset Council.

**164/23 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON INVESTIGATIONS INTO ADDITIONAL BURIAL LAND AT UPTON CEMETERY.**

Members noted the contents of the detailed report that had been prepared. It was agreed that this was a complex issue with no immediate available solutions in future proofing burial provision for the town.

After discussion it was **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **RECOMMENDED** not to pursue the purchase of the land opposite the existing cemetery on the basis of unsuitable ground conditions and cost.

Members requested that further enquiries be made within Dorset and nationally about how other local authorities are meeting these challenges and for this to be reported at the October meeting.

**165/23 TO DISCUSS CHRISTMAS EVENT ARRANGEMENTS:**

Members noted the contents of the report. It was then **PROPOSED, SECONDED** and **RECOMMENDED** to accept the event plan and associated costs subject to:

- a) Commencing the event 15 mins earlier and adjusting ensuing timings
- b) Requesting that Upton Junior School incorporate a sing-a-long for all at the end of their section with two Christmas carols.

**166/23 TO APPOINT A CHAMPION FOR REDWOOD ROAD AND THE RECREATION GROUND PLAY AREAS AND RECEIVE UPDATES FROM AMENITIES CHAMPIONS AS BELOW:**

It was agreed to defer the appointment of a champion for Redwood Road and Recreation Ground play areas to the next meeting.

**Allotments:**

Cllr Mikka Pryor

No issues identified at the Inspection this evening. Both parties to the Management Agreement are happy.

**Recreation Ground and Pavilion**

Cllr Mrs Kerry Austin – no update available.  
Nothing to report.

**Cemetery:**

Cllr Mrs Mikka Pryor  
Nothing to report.

**Redwood Road Play Area:**

Vacant  
This matter is in abeyance until a further Committee member has been appointed.

**Recreation Ground Play Areas:**

Vacant  
This matter is in abeyance until a further Committee member has been appointed.

**Play Area Working Party:**

Cllr Kerry Austin - no update available.

**167/23 TO RECEIVE THE LATEST FINANCIAL UPDATE FOR THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE AND RESERVES UPDATE:**

Members noted the contents.

**168/23 ITEMS OF REPORT AND MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

The Clerk reported an increase in ASB at the Recreation Ground and had logged a Police Report.

Lots of compliments about how good the Town was presented, and credit from the public to the Outside Operations Team.

Public complaints about grass verges, which had only had one cut this season from Dorset Council.

**There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 7.50 pm.**

**Chair.....**

**Date.....**