

**Minutes of the Town Projects Committee meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at 7pm in the Old Courthouse, Jaycroft Road, Burnham-on-Sea.**

Present: Cllr Young (Chairman), Cllr Burridge-Clayton, Cllr Tolley, Cllr Mrs Ripley,

Mrs D Emery – Town Clerk, Mrs L Williams – Deputy Town Clerk, Beverly Milner Simonds – Town Centre Manager (TCM)

25/15/TPC Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Cllr Cox (holiday), Cllr Parkes (family), Cllr Ms Lawson (unwell)

There were no declarations of interest

The Chairman invited registered speaker Mrs Popham to the table.

Members NOTED her comments:

- Request for 2 planters either side of the newly installed Railway Buffers
- SDC have informed her that the Town Council would need to give permission as this section on land is now their responsibility under the sub-lease agreement
- There would be no cost to the Town Council as the History Project have obtained a sponsor for supplying the planters and Burnham in Bloom to plant them

Members considered the request and Cllr Burridge-Clayton Proposed, Cllr Tolley Seconded and ALL AGREED

**RECOMMENDATION** that in principle 2 planters could be installed next to the buffers, and look forward to receiving further information on the style and exact position that will be considered by the Town Council

26/15/TPC Tesco 106 Project

Members NOTED the reports from the Town Centre Manager.

- World Paper Aeroplane Championships – June 2015
- Request for Research funding – proposed by Cllr Tolley and seconded by Cllr Ripley and ALL AGREED that expenditure for this research would come from the Tesco 106 budget. However the research is to concentrate on similar size seaside towns to Burnham i.e. not Torquay which was one of the suggested visits
- Expenditure on the Tesco Projects, expenditure so far is just over half of the budget at £270K – this report will be put on the Town Council website.

VAT claimed back is currently going back into the Town Council general reserves. The Clerk is taking advice to see if the VAT can go back into the Tesco budget.

- The invoice from Paul Martin Associates was approved for payment. This took the spend a little over the £20K budget
- Proposal of benches for the esplanade – the painted benches would create a linkage to the High St. and provide accessibility to people with disabilities or limited mobility. Members were concerned that the lawns wouldn't be so easily maintained around the benches, there would be more litter and thought there were covenants in place on some sections.

The TCM will gather further information from Sedgemoor.

- Road closures for Night on the Town. Members decided that there was not enough time to get traders support by 14<sup>th</sup> Aug for this and ALL AGREED to postpone this event. Members suggested the possibility of having a Victorian week in September.
- Roller Shutter Project. The average cost per shutter was between £2K - £2 ½ K, and 6 shops will be having the painted designed shutters. The committee had previously agreed that businesses should contribute 20% of the cost. Members ALL AGREED to reduce this contribution to a minimum of 10%. The TCM was asked to get the cost of ordinary paint so that other shops could have their shutters painted plain blue.
- The TCM gave a verbal update on other projects e.g. bunting, hanging baskets, flag poles, cycle racks, banners, the shelter & Tuckers garage site etc.
- Flyposting – although the TCM reported there was a right to deface a poster i.e. writing ‘cancelled’ on the poster, the Town Clerk suggested that this needs to be used as a very last resort as it was likely to escalate any problems and required input from enforcement at SDC.
- £10K from the Coastal Communities fund has been awarded from an application submitted by the TCM in partnership with SDC. It is to fund work on research & reports that may be able to spring board other grants up to £50K
- The TCM produced a Newsletter each month and suggested that she added the committee to the circulation list.

27/15/TPC Firework Display 2015

The Clerk gave a verbal update and members NOTED the e-mail from Skyburst on the costs to provide the event. The Clerk informed members that as Skyburst manage the event they use the same scaffolders each year at a cost of £2K as they are local, reliable and always do a good safe job, in compliance with Skyburst requirements.

28/15/TPC Management of Seagulls

Members NOTED the report and considered various options

- Not in favour of doing a long term cull
- Possible by-law to be introduced on the Esplanade
- Introduce a fine for feeding seagulls
- Educate holiday makers
- Seagull proof containers
- Change collection times to later in the day for properties that have to leave out black bags

**ACTION** The Clerk was asked to contact SDC legal department to ask about creating a by-law for The Esplanade stating that it is an offense to feed the seagulls

29/15/TPC Town Guide

Although this had in the past been produced and updated by councillors, members ALL AGREED to let the Clerk & staff make minor changes to the guide as time allows and be ready for a print and distribution in the Summer of 2016. The publisher produces 8,000 copies free of charge, if more are required then the council has to pay. Local groups e.g. scouts, carnival club have in the past delivered the guide at a cost of approximately £600.

30/15/TPC Lighting columns on the North Esplanade

The Clerk gave a verbal report on the general condition and ownership of the lights on The North and South Esplanade

- They are outside the 20 year life span
- South Esplanade – owned by SDC
- North Esplanade – owned by SCC
- One of the lanterns had dropped off and been had been picked up/stored by a resident for collection by SCC lighting contractor.

**RECOMMENDATION** That the Clerk write to both councils informing them that the lights appear to be getting into a dangerous state of repair and asking them to renew all the columns as a matter of urgency.

31/15/TPC Recycling bins in Lynton Road Car Park

Members NOTED the report by the Clerk and the e-mails between Cllr Tolley. Cllr Tolley tabled a report that also contained many photographs of the area in question.

- 2 large recycling bins were moved earlier in the year and this has spread the problem further along the carpark
- People are not walking over to these 2 bins, but are dumping the rubbish in bags by the central bins
- Overnight campers have used the shielded area by the pumping station

**RECOMMENDATION** That the Clerk write to SDC – James Presdee to see if they would consider moving the 2 large recycling containers back to their original position by the pumping station.

32/15/TPC Date of the next meeting

Members NOTED the date of the next meeting of the Committee would be Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21:00