

Minutes of the Town Projects Committee meeting held on Monday 15th December 2014 at 6pm in the Old Courthouse, Jaycroft Road, Burnham-on-Sea.

Present: Cllr Nicholls (Acting Chairman), Cllr Mrs Burge, Cllr Hancock, Cllr Jones, Cllr Miss Parkin, Cllr Young
Mrs D Emery – Town Clerk, Mrs L Williams – Deputy Town Clerk
Bev Milner Simonds – Town Centre Manager (TCM)

63/14/TPC Apologies and Declarations of Interest
Cllr Clarke (work).
There were no declarations of interest

64/14/TPC Update on the Tesco 106 Project

Business Frontage Improvements Grants

The TCM gave an update on the progress so far with the Business Frontage Grants, the grant had been given publicity in the Business Newsletter, in the Weekly News and on Burnham on Sea .com, and so far 17 enquiries had been made.

Banner/Hanging Baskets

The TCM had circulated more generic banners for consideration
It was agreed that:

- Follow the crowds
- A great place to visit all year round

Would be used

Members asked for

- One banner using the Old Poster in Courtroom one with the words
A great past, present & future
- One banner depicting the fireworks and mentioning Carnival.

Quotes for providing the hanging baskets have gone out to Burnham in Bloom, SDC and one other company

ACTION Committee agreed that Cllr Clarke & Cllr Nicholls would agree firework/carnival design on remaining banner

Roller Shutters

Members discussed the grant for the Roller Shutters

It was proposed by Cllr Jones, seconded by Cllr Mrs Burge and AGREED that the grant should be offered at 80% of the cost with 20% being paid by the property owner.

The seven points proposed by the TCM to carry out this project were AGREED by the committee.

Noticeboards

Sites had been identified throughout the town centre for 6 wall mounted and one post mounted notice boards. Members AGREED the sites.

You Are Here Boards

This is a Town Council project, which the TCM had kindly offered to help the Clerk complete. Whilst the cost of replacing You Are Here Boards in mounted boards matching the new street furniture being installed was well over the budget members AGREED the five points put forward in the report to replace the You

Are Here Boards provided this was carried out within the £5,000 budget. The board currently situated by the 99p shop would not be replaced.

Electric Pillar

Members agreed the Hire Agreement and the form for event organisers to complete to use the Electric Feeder.

There was some discussion on charging for electricity supplied.

- The TCM pointed out that the agreement prohibited event organisers using Generators or trailing cables, and thought because of this there would be an expectation of no cost for the electricity.
- Would the council wish to differentiate between charitable groups and non-charitable groups and how would not for profit groups have to pay
- The Clerk added any charges needed to be easy to manage and within an agreed policy.
- Members felt it was not unreasonable for events to pay as it would cost to run a generator

Cllr Hancock proposed a payment be made by any organisers of £25 per event to use the Feeder box and they charge the stallholders how they see fit. This was agreed. It was also agreed that the charge would be looked at after a year to see how this was working.

RECOMMENDATION

As this was a decision on something that would continue after the Tesco 106 Project finished, it is a recommendation that a charge of £25 per event is made to use the Electricity Feeder Box.

Events in the Town Centre during 2015

There was some discussion about holding events in the Town Centre, and whether events should be held that close the High Street.

The TCM pointed out that the new events area was agreed by the Town Improvements Committee as part of the Tesco Project to encourage new business in town, and attract new customers.

Therefore some direction was required by the TCM as to what was expected from them in terms of events to attract people into the Town.

Cllr Jones did not want the road closed for events, on any more Saturdays, when businesses in the town who paid rates all year round relied upon Saturday trading.

Members at Full Council had wanted Commonwealth Day celebrated – the TCM asked for guidance on what they would like to see.

ACTION

The Clerk would contact SLCC to see what other towns are doing and would report back to the committee

Expenditure against budget

Members NOTED the report on current expenditure against budget

The Chairman thanked the TCM for the comprehensive reports give on item 3 of the agenda.

65/14/TPC Results of the SID's for Berrow Rd & response to speeding in Worston Road

Members considered the figures for Berrow Road that over half the traffic was going over the speed limit but probably speeds would be slower in the summer months.

ACTION Members asked the Clerk to contact the Police to use a mobile camera on Worston Road

66/14/TPC Request for a pedestrian crossing near Apex Park

Members suggested the Clerk write to the Police & Fire Brigade to ask their thoughts as there is a possibility that both will use the same building in the future off Marine drive.

ACTION The Clerk was asked to respond to Rev Perry accordingly

67/14TPC Request for a litter/dog bin by the seat at end of Saxondale Road

The Clerk informed members that there was £500 in budget should members decide to have a bin installed and that may get some financial help from SDC for a litter bin

ACTION Members asked the Clerk to write to SDC in the first instance

68/14/TPC Update from the Clerk on previous matters

- Lease on license for street furniture has been obtained
- Lease on buffers had been received for checking – members AGREED that this was carried out by the Clerk
- Christmas Lights competition is now closed. Businesses have already been judged. It was AGREED that Cllr Nicholls and Cllr Mrs Burge would judge the Residential lights
- Festive seafront lighting - the Committee AGREED to keep their already agreed budget including the £3500 for the festive lights. The TCM informed members that a renewable programme should appear next in SDC's & SCC reports.

ACTION The Clerk will inform the Policy & Finance Committee of this decision.

69/14/TPC Date of the next meeting was Noted as Monday 19th January 2015

The meeting closed at 7.55pm