**Minutes of a meeting of the Towns Improvements Committee held on 25th March 2024 in the Council Chamber, The Old Courthouse, Jaycroft Road, Burnham-on-Sea at 7 pm**

**Present:** Councillors J. Warren (Chair), P. Clayton, M. Murphy, C. Searing, B. Vickers.

**In attendance:** K. Noble (Town Clerk) and four members of the public.

**Public Participation:**

A member of the public asked if the issues raised at the recent Finance and Resources Committee regarding the bus shelters had been looked into.

Another member of the public reminisced about the Committee and its achievements and thanked all those who had been part of the Committee over the years.

**110.0.I24 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors Gudka, Facey and Wynn.

**111.0.I24 To receive any declarations of interest on items included on this agenda**

There were no declarations of interests.

**112.0.I24 To receive and approve the minutes of the Towns Improvements Committee meeting held on 22nd January 2024**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Towns Improvements Committee meeting held on 22nd January 2024, were presented by the Chair.

**Resolved** that the minutes be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**113.0.I24** **Matters arising from previous minutes**

The continental market had withdrawn the request to hold a market in Burnham-on-Sea this year, but may submit a request next year.

The order had been placed for a dog bin to be sited on the lane leading to St Joseph’s School. However, Somerset Council have requested that local residents are consulted before it is installed.

**114.0.I24 To receive the Chairmans report**

The Chairman stated that the Committee had undertaken a lot of good for the towns and hoped it would continue through the Council.

**115.0.I24 To receive report from the Town Rangers**

The SIDs being installed were welcomed.

The report was noted.

**116.0.I24 To note the most recent committee income and expenditure report**

A concern was raised regarding the towns’ floral displays and the budget available.

**117.0.I24 To note the most recent footfall and vacancy reports**

The footfall report was noted.

A member of the public advised the Committee that the MRI Springboard had withdrawn its service, so the comparison data for the vacancy reports is no longer available. The local data would still be collated.

**118.0.I24 To receive update regarding D-Day 80/Armed Forces Day 2024 and agree any further events/purchases**

The Royal British Legion are organising an event on 15th June at Oaktree Arena Grounds and have requested that, due to the number of personnel involved, the Armed Forces Day Parade be incorporate into this event and a separate parade is not held this year, which the Committee agreed.

Brit Chips will have a D-Day Special on 6th June and Councillor Warren is encouraging other chip shops to take part and to donate monies raised to the Royal British Legion.

A D-Day flag is now available, which could be flown for one week from 9am on 6th June.

**Resolved** that two suitably sized D Day flags are purchased at a maximum cost of £57.60 to be taken from the events budget.

To coincide with lighting of the beacon the Committee considered providing music.

**Resolved** that the town band is asked to play on 6th June for one and half hours (1 hour before and 30 minutes after the beacon is lit), at a maximum cost of £300 to be take from the events budget.

**119.0.I24 To consider replacing dog bin at St Johns Road alley instead of relocation**

Alternative locations had been considered and none were found to be suitable.

A discussion took place whether the bin should be taken away or replaced. The current bin in is poor repair and the lid doesn’t fit, which is part of the problem.

**Resolved** that the bin should be replaced at a maximum cost of £384.50.

**120.0.I24 To confirm renewal of annual contract for Town Centre Footfall Counters for 2024/25**

**Resolved** that the contract is renewed for one year at a cost of £1,896 and reports are continued to be monitored.