

ASSET & SERVICES COMMITTEE
SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ASSETS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING in the Town Hall, Saffron Walden.

Date of meeting: Monday 27th June 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Freeman, Light, McLellan, Porch and Roberts

Officers: Lisa Courtney, Town Clerk and Colette Kerr, Events Officer

Public: Mr David Barrs with regards to Min Ref A & S 069-22

A & S 065-22	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Coote, de Vries, Frost and Toy</p>
A & S 066-22	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Cllrs Freeman and Light declared non-pecuniary interests as District Councillors for Uttlesford District Council and as substitute Members of UDC's Planning Committee</p> <p>Cllr Porch declared a non-pecuniary interest as a Trustee of SW Cricket Club</p>
A & S 067-22	<p>Minutes of the last meeting of the Assets & Services Committee 23.05.22</p> <p>The minutes of the last Assets & Services Committee meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair</p>
A & S 068-22	<p>Public Speaking Time</p> <p>There were no questions or matters arising from the public.</p>
A & S 069-22	<p>Saffron Walden Cricket Club</p> <p>Mr David Barrs was present to speak further to the extension proposals for the Cricket Club which would provide additional storage space. Permission was sought from SWTC as the owner and landlord of the land, noting that specific planning permission may need to be sought from UDC, being the Local Planning Authority. It was Resolved:</p> <p>To approve the principle of the development, subject to the Cricket Club seeking any formal planning approval which may be required for works to continue.</p>
A & S 070-22	<p>Proposed Balloon Policy</p> <p>Committee reviewed the policy as presented; it was Resolved:</p>

	To approve the policy, with the addition in the first paragraph that the policy also seeks to protect wildlife and endangerment to animals.
A & S 071-22	<p>Youth Outreach Application</p> <p>Committee noted the application as received and that it would be sent to the Youth Initiative Working Group in the first instance for their review and consideration.</p>
A & S 072-22	<p>National Association of Local Markets</p> <p>Committee noted the article, congratulating all Officers involved in the running and management of Saffron Walden's successful market</p>
A & S 073-22	<p>Jubilee Events</p> <p>The Events Officer was present and further spoke to the report and of the success of the Jubilee Event. Committee received and noted with thanks the comprehensive report from the Events Officer and gave thanks again to all staff members involved in the weekend of celebrations.</p> <p>Members asked if the beach on the Common could become a more regular feature and if it be installed for the school summer holidays. The Clerk advised that the beach had been a hugely successful part of the Jubilee weekend and there was a real keenness and desire to provide a beach for future occasions. She noted the time needed to open and close the beach each day (every morning the sand needs to be meticulously raked) and that there were insufficient staff at the present time to manage this on a more regular basis. It was noted that this type of activity must be staffed in order for it to be successful and this needed to form part of an overall review of staffing levels and resourcing.</p>
A & S 074-22	<p>Grass Cutting and Re-Wilding Projects</p> <p>The Clerk updated on correspondence and training to be undertaken by Operational staff to ensure that any areas left for re-wilding are safely managed. It was noted that leaving an area for re-wilding, does not just mean leaving the grass to grow; for the best results, the area should be actively but discreetly managed, with the sowing of wild flower seeds and other pollinators.</p> <p>The following matters were noted for progression:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Trees at Lime Avenue require watering (Clerk to inform Operations team) (b) Trees at the Green Mile require watering and/or replacing (noting these are the responsibility of UDC) <p>The Committee acknowledged the impact of tree planting on operational works, in particular the additional resourcing required in watering and managing newly planted trees; it is a labour-intensive task and consideration should be given to the employment of summer, casual staff if the Council is to continue planting a significant number of trees</p>

A & S 075-22	Urgent Information Items No urgent information items were raised.
A & S 076-22	Date and time of Next Meeting 25 th July 2022 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, Saffron Walden

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm.