

# MINUTES

**Committee:** Amenities Committee  
**Date:** Monday, 08 February 2021  
**Time:** 7:00pm  
**Venue:** Zoom

## Present

Cllr Barry Rogers (Chair)  
Cllr Les Bayliss  
Cllr Kim Bloxham  
Cllr Ray Bloxham  
Cllr Colin Buchan  
Cllr Matt Osborn

## Also Present

Cllr Kevin Blakey, Cranbrook Town Council  
Alice Lloyd, Country Park Ranger, Cranbrook Town Council  
Tracy Simmons, Deputy Clerk, Cranbrook Town Council

## A/21/1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received

## A/21/2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were made.

## A/21/3 MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Colin Buchan, seconded by Cllr Les Bayliss and resolved to accept and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 09 November 2020 as a correct record.

## A/21/4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

## A/21/5 LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY KITS

The Committee considered the report on installing landscape photography kits in the Country Park. The Committee questioned if there were any cost implications to the Council, it was clarified that there were not. The Committee questioned how the kits would be fixed as there were no fixing points in the locations suggested. The Country Park Ranger clarified that she had wooden posts that could be used for fixing the kits.

It was proposed by Cllr Kim Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Colin Buchan and **resolved** to agree to Cranbrook participating in this project and for the Country Park Ranger to set up the photography kits.

Signed .....

## **A/21/6 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Due to the sensitive or confidential nature of the following items it was proposed by Cllr Ray Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Matt Osborn and **resolved** to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting on the basis of Section 1 paragraph 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 which stipulates that a council may, by resolution, exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings.

## **A/21/7 PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL PUBLIC BARBECUE FACILITIES**

The Committee considered the report on the provision of additional public barbecue facilities in the Country Park. The Committee questioned if it would be more cost effective to purchase bins direct from the manufacturer. The Committee questioned the costs to empty the bins; this was being clarified with East Devon District Council.

The Committee discussed the proposed site options and considered the orchard, site 1, to be the preferred option as that location already had picnic benches.

It was proposed by Cllr Ray Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Kim Bloxham and **resolved** to

1. agree in principle to provide two new barbecues in Phase 2 of the Country Park and two new bins one at the new site, one at the current barbecue site
2. apply for the Devon County Council locality budget to help fund the barbecues
3. further research purchasing options for the bins to obtain the best value for money
4. recommend to Council to delegate to the Chair of Finance and Personnel and the Town Clerk to authorize the payment difference of up to £1000; to return to Amenities Committee if the total quote is higher than this amount
5. continue to research grant funding and to return to Amenities Committee with a proposal to deliver additional barbecue sites at a later date

## **A/2/8 SHELTER IN THE COUNTRY PARK**

The Committee considered the report on the provision of a willow shelter in the Country Park. The Committee questioned the cost of the structure as the report mentioned two **prices**. The Committee discussed the proposed locations and considered site two, the orchard to be the preferred location as it already had benches in place.

It was proposed by Cllr Ray Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Kim Bloxham and **resolved** to commission Windrush Willow to plant a living willow dome up to the cost of £380 (to be clarified) at the preferred location of the orchard, site two.

## **A/21/9 TABLE TENNIS TABLES**

The Committee considered the report on the provision of table tennis tables in the Country Park. The Committee mentioned other table tennis table options were available online that were not made of concrete and may be more cost effective. The Committee commented that utilising other local Councils experience of installing table tennis tables may be beneficial, in particular Exeter City Council.

The Committee deemed more research into locations was required as the preferred location was a wet area that floods during the winter months. The Committee noted that St Martins play area, inside the maintenance gate, that was level, close to a road and didn't suffer the same flooding issues may be a more suitable location.

It was proposed by Cllr Ray Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Matt Osborn and **resolved** to

1. agree in principle to provide one or more table tennis tables around the town – locations to be determined

Signed .....

2. apply for the Devon County Council locality budget to help fund table tennis tables
3. carry out more investigation of prices and options for alternatives to concrete tables
4. continue to research other sources of grant funding to help fund table tennis tables
5. return to Amenities Committee with a complete proposal to deliver table tennis tables

**The meeting closed at 7.42 pm.**

Signed .....