

# MINUTES

**Committee:** Amenities Committee  
**Date:** Monday, 12 July 2021  
**Time:** 7:00pm  
**Venue:** Younghayes Centre, 169 Younghayes Road EX5 7DR

## Present

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

## Also Present

Cllr Kevin Blakey, Cranbrook Town Council  
Tracy Simmons, Deputy Clerk, Cranbrook Town Council

## A/21/38 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

## A/21/39 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Cllr Kim Bloxham and Cllr Ray Bloxham each declared a personal interest in Agenda item 8 as their neighbour quoted for the works.

## A/21/40 MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Ray Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Colin Buchan and **resolved** to accept and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2021 as a correct record.

## A/21/41 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

## A/21/42 TREE SURVEY

The Committee considered the tree survey performed by Tony Benger Landscaping. The Committee commented that it may be more helpful to have the report state 'urgent', and 'review annually' rather than the format used.

It was clarified that the trees indicated for works within a year were considered safe for that time scale; all trees which were believed to be dangerous were dealt with as emergency works. It was suggested that the works be prioritised according to risk once quotations for the works had been obtained.

Signed .....

Date .....

It was noted that resident's permission may be required in some cases to ensure safe access and operational safety.

It was proposed by Cllr Kim Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Colin Buchan and **resolved** to:

1. continue to monitor the trees highlighted green.
2. agree to obtain quotes for the works proposed to the trees highlighted yellow that are in poor condition and return to Amenities Committee.
3. agree to monitor the trees highlighted yellow that are in normal condition range for the species and/or age.
4. note the trees highlighted blue, and to recommend to Council to increase the budget for tree works in the financial year 2022-23 in light of the advice given that many ash trees in the Country Park have now started to decline.

#### **A/21/43 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Due to the sensitive or confidential nature of the following item it was proposed by Cllr Ray Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Les Bayliss 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/21/44 YOUNGHAYES CENTRE DISTRICT HEAT COSTS**

The Committee considered the Younghayes Centre district heat costs report. The Committee noted that it would be prudent to monitor units used and costings, so that the any unusual activity could be queried with E-On.

It was commented that the future usage of the Younghayes Centre may alter, therefore monitoring the energy usage of the Younghayes Centre would be useful moving forwards.

It was questioned how often the underfloor heating system is tested and whether this formed a part of the annual service from Canings.

It was proposed by Cllr Barry Rogers, seconded by Cllr Colin Buchan and **resolved** to monitor the heating costs of the Younghayes Centre on a regular basis by a quarterly report to the amenities committee to:

1. build up historical data against which consumption can be monitored;
2. ensure that the settings properly reflect seasonal heating needs; and
3. return to Amenities Committee with clarification on what the annual service from Canings entailed.

#### **A/21/45 YOUNGHAYES CENTRE FENCING**

The Committee considered the Younghayes Centre fencing report.

It was proposed by Cllr Ray Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Les Bayliss and **resolved** to instruct Tony Bengler Landscaping to repair the fencing to the rear of the Younghayes Centre, around the GP practice car park.

#### **A/21/46 YOUNGHAYES CENTRE PLANTING**

The Committee considered the Younghayes Centre planting report.

It was proposed by Cllr Ray Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Colin Buchan and **resolved**:

1. for the Country Park Ranger to plant the area outside of the Younghayes Centre in the autumn with assistance of volunteers, costs to be agreed by the Clerk and Chairman of the Finance and Personnel Committee in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations.

Signed .....

Date .....

2. to instruct Tony Benger Landscaping to lay gravel in the edging strips around the GP practice car park.
3. that at the appropriate time during the monthly walkabout, appropriate planting be explored to deter people from walking over the planting area.

**A/21/47 WATER SUPPLY AT THE DOG WALKING AREA**

The Committee considered the water supply at the dog walking area report. It was noted that dog owners should be responsible for providing water for their own animals.

It was proposed by Cllr Ray Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Les Bayliss and **resolved** to not take any further action regarding this matter.

**The meeting closed at 7.37pm.**

Signed .....

Date .....