

MINUTES

Committee: Amenities Committee
Date: Monday, 15 November 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
Janine Gardner, Clerk, Cranbrook Town Council
Alice Lloyd, Country Park Ranger, Cranbrook Town Council

A/21/67 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

A/21/68 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were made.

A/21/69 MINUTES

It was proposed by Cllr Colin Buchan, seconded by Cllr Ray Bloxham and **resolved** to accept and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2021 as a correct record.

A/21/70 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public in attendance.

A/21/71 PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL BARBEQUE FACILITIES

On 4 October 2021, the Amenities Committee had decided to deliver two new barbeques for installation in Phase 3 of the Country Park in Cranbrook and to delegate responsibility to the Council's asset delivery working group for the delivery of the barbeque site, to ensure installation would take place in a suitable location which would not interfere with the new play area or trim trail in the Country Park and that the collection of the new bin could occur (ref. minute A/21/64).

An application to the Devon County Councillors' locality budget for the full amount of £2,566.96 to purchase the barbeques and signage had been successful and the Committee noted that the Council's asset delivery working group would now proceed as per the recommendation from the Committee's previous meeting on 4 October 2021.

Signed

31 January 2022

A/21/72 ELM TREE PLANTING

The Committee considered a report regarding the reintroduction of elm trees into the Cranbrook Country Park.

Funding from the Tree Council of £1,500 had already been obtained and an application to the Devon County Councillors' locality budgets of £2,000 to purchase 35 trees which were resistant to Dutch Elm Disease had also been successful.

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

- a) purchase trees resistant to Dutch Elm Disease with the external funding which had been secured.
- b) use some of the trees to commemorate those residents in East Devon who had passed away because of Covid-19.
- c) delegate to the Chairman of the Amenities Committee and the Country Park Ranger to finalise the location of the trees.
- d) protect the trees from vandalism as much as possible.

A/21/73 ARBORICULTURAL ASSESSMENTS

The Committee considered a report regarding the Council's options relating to arboricultural assessments of trees on Town Council land.

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

- a) adopt a method of zoning for Cranbrook's trees (option 3 in the report accompanying the agenda).
- b) adopt a method of passive assessment in addition to zoning and to approve the expenditure for the tree assessment course in the region of £300 to be undertaken by the Country Park Ranger.

A/21/74 PLANTING SCHEME AT SHAREFORD WAY

The Committee considered a report following a suggestion by a resident that a parcel of public open space could be planted in Shareford Way as urban habitat.

It was proposed by Cllr Kim Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Les Bayliss and **resolved** to agree to

- a) plant an area of public open space in Shareford Way with appropriate plants, potentially including trees, up to a value of £2,000.
- b) delegate to the Country Park Ranger to finalise the planting scheme.
- c) use this scheme as an example to demonstrate how parcels of public open space could be utilised to improve the urban environment during the continuing discourse with the planning authority East Devon District Council regarding the design of future pieces of public open spaces in Cranbrook.

A/21/75 COUNTRY PARK PATH EXTENSION

The Committee considered a report following a request by the Cranbrook Running Club that a surfaced path be extended around the drainage basin adjacent to Stone Barton.

The Council's grounds maintenance contractor had advised that due to the area being narrow and sloping to the water, any scheme would require significant levelling/terracing of the ground before any path could be installed.

It was proposed by Cllr Kim Bloxham, seconded by Cllr Colin Buchan and **resolved** to not install the surfaced path as per advice received by the Council's grounds maintenance contractor.

Signed

31 January 2022

A/21/76 METAL DETECTING

The Committee considered a report regarding the East Devon Metal Detecting Club's metal detecting activities in the Country Park in Cranbrook.

The Committee agreed with the suggestion to purchase a display cabinet to hold the collection for posterity and display them in a publicly accessible location.

It was proposed by Cllr Barry Rogers, seconded by Cllr Colin Buchan and **resolved** to agree in principle to the purchase of a display cabinet and to report to a future meeting of the Amenities Committee with details of possible designs and potential costs.

A/21/77 AMENITIES MONITORING REPORT

The Council noted the amenities monitoring report.

The meeting closed at 7:51pm.