

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ALDEBURGH TOWN COUNCIL
SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 23 APRIL 2018 AT 7.52PM IN THE MOOT HALL**

Present: Cllr Palmer took the chair.

Committee Members Present:

Cllr Bond Cllr Cox
Cllr Digby Cllr Fellowes
Cllr Harris Cllr Kiff
Cllr Osben Cllr Oxby
Cllr Walker

There were four members of the public present.

1.Apologies: There were no apologies.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The draft Minutes of the Services Committees meeting held on Monday 26 March 2018 were **APPROVED** by a show of hands. The Minutes were duly signed.

3. Matters for Discussion-SCC, SCDC and Police

The Town Clerk reported there were no specific matters to be discussed, but pointed out there was still the usual backlog of issues relating to potholes and street lighting to be resolved with the relevant authorities.

Cllr Walker asked what would happen to the brown bins used by people who did not wish to pay the emptying charge. He was told the bins would not be removed unless requested but would not be emptied. Cllr Walker complained that many residents of the town were clueless about the new arrangements.

3.1 Museum Update

Cllr Fox told the Committee that a decision about Lottery funding was still awaited and that a match-funding shortfall was being addressed by Trustees. Planning applications relating to the Museum and the Moot Hall would be discussed at the next meeting of the ATC Planning Committee on April 24, she added.

3.2 Highways

Cllr Palmer suggested establishing a consultation process to consider the merits of installing a moveable speed sign on Saxmundham Road. He was advised by the Town Clerk that there was no defined consultation process but that Highways, the Police and the District Council would all consult widely before a final decision was made.

4. Committee Finance Business

There was no Committee Finance Business.

5. New Services Committee Business

Cllr Palmer had previously circulated a paper to all Cllrs concerning the provision of new litter bins for the seafront and the town centre. He argued that it was important for a town like

Aldeburgh to maintain and enhance its attractiveness to residents and visitors and suggested replacing a large number of litter bins which were either in poor condition or vulnerable to attack from marauding seagulls. He accepted the cost of instantly replacing all the town's bins was prohibitive and felt a complete replacement scheme could be rolled out over a five-to-seven-year period. He explained that some of the cost could be recouped by encouraging sponsorship, pointing out that the new bins were designed to enable the incorporation of some marketing material. Cllr Palmer asked for Committee support to purchase an initial eight bins, with the scheme to be reviewed before future purchases.

Cllr Walker commended the research done by Cllr Palmer, saying the replacement plan was an excellent idea. He questioned the robustness of the bins and was assured they should last many years. Cllr Kiff also welcomed the idea but feared that if the project extended over a number of years, the design of the bins might change and aspirations for uniformity might not be met. Cllr Jones thought the town might look twee if all the litter bins matched, but Cllr Fox said that imaginative and well-produced sponsorship material would make each bin look different.

Cllr Harris welcomed the plan and reiterated the need for sponsorship on the first bins, to encourage the others.

A **PROPOSAL** to spend up to £5,000 to purchase eight new litter bins was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Bond and **SECONDED** by Cllr Digby.

In favour 10

Against 0

Abstentions 0

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cllr Palmer said that he and Cllr Cox had recently met one of the organisers of the Aldeburgh's Amazing Swifts campaign to discuss the installation of a nature board in the vicinity of Moot Green. In a briefing note to Cllrs, the organiser said the purpose of the board was to help residents and visitors distinguish between swifts, swallows and house martins. The oak-framed, weather-resistant board would be financed from the Suffolk Secrets/ Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Fund, Cllrs were told. It would be installed close to the yacht pond with a clear view to the Parish Church, where nest boxes had been installed in the belfry. The organiser also asked for permission to erect a temporary stall next to the nature board between June 16 and 23, to promote awareness of the swifts campaign.

Cllr Walker said he had nothing against the birds but felt the design of the board was unsatisfactory. Cllr Fellowes believed the free-standing board could represent a health and safety hazard unless it was attached to a rigid structure. Cllr Fox responded by suggesting the board should be double-sided to alleviate safety fears, an idea supported by Committee members.

A **PROPOSAL** to grant permission for the installation of a double-sided nature board on Moot Green was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Digby and **SECONDED** by Cllr Cox.

In favour 9

Against 0

Abstentions 1

CARRIED

There was nothing further to discuss and the meeting ended at 8.15pm.

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