

BILLERICAY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Health, Well-Being and Environment Committee meeting
held in the Council Chamber, The Chantry Centre, Chantry Way, CM11 2AP
on Tuesday 23rd May 2023 at 7.00pm

Councillors: L Clark, M Dear, C May, M Moore, K Mordecai, M Mordecai,
E Sainsbury, M Thomas

Also in attendance the Town Clerk

In the Chair - Cllr M Thomas

1. Election of Chairman

Cllr M Moore was proposed by Cllr K Mordecai and seconded by Cllr M Mordecai. There being no other nominations it was;

RESOLVED: That Cllr M Moore be elected Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

In the Chair - Cllr M Moore

2. Apologies for absence

Cllrs K Herlock, D Spencer and J Tutton

3. Appointment of Vice-Chairman

Cllr K Mordecai was proposed by Cllr M Moore and seconded by Cllr E Sainsbury. There being no other nominations it was;

RESOLVED: That Cllr K Mordecai be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

4. Declarations of interest with regard to items on the Agenda

None.

5. Public Participation session with respect to items on the Agenda

None.

6. Minutes of the Health, Well-being and Environment Committees held on 11th April 2023

Members received and considered the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th April 2023

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting be approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

7. Health, Well-Being & Environment Committee Accounts

Members received and considered the following:

(a) a copy of the accounts in respect of the Health, Well-Being and Environment Committee from 1st April 2023 to 18th May 2023.

(b) a request has been received from Emmanuel Church for a retrospective contribution towards the £400 cost of the PA system for Remembrance Sunday in 2022. Cllr Dear reminded members that local councils are not permitted to make grants to churches for any purpose (Local Government Act 1894 ss. 6 & 8). Following discussion it was:

RESOLVED: (a) financial information noted, and; (b) that no donation is made for 2022, but the Town Council will pay a supplier directly for the hire of a professional PA System for use at the War Memorial Remembrance Service from 2023.

8. Working Parties/Project Groups

Members considered the following minutes:

(a) **Christmas Lights Working Party** meetings held on 19th April and 22nd May 2023. Cllr K Mordecai presented the minutes and said the final decision on the new supplier would be made at the next meeting on 7th June. The Working Party have seen some good design proposals and have decided upon wrap around lights on the lamp columns so that each column in the High Street can be lit and thereby provide a uniform scheme with no gaps.

(b) **Events Working Party** meeting held on 11th May 2023. Cllr K Mordecai said that the meeting was held to review the Coronation decorations and the best decorated window and street party competitions. The next proposed event is D-Day 80 on 6th June 2024 when we are due to light the beacon. However, the Council can't move forward as event guidelines are still awaited from Pageant Master Bruno Peek.

RESOLVED: information noted.

9. Festival Gardens

Members considered the following:

(a) whether to respond to a resident's request and remove a bench to deter anti-social behaviour. Members discussed whether this wouldn't just push the problem to another location and that it could potentially deter people from using the green space. All present were sympathetic to the resident's concerns, and felt that raising awareness of the facility to get it more widely used may be beneficial in deterring the littering and drug taking behaviour. Cllr Moore proposed that the benches are renovated rather than removed.

RESOLVED: that the Council's caretaker repairs/renovates the existing benches in Festival Gardens.

(b) members were also informed that the Council's caretaker will be undertaking repair/maintenance work to the sign and plinth which have recently been subject to vandalism.

RESOLVED: information noted.

10. Essex Wildlife Trust Wilder Communities Programme Scheme

Cllr May presented his report on the Woodland Condition Assessment Workshop he had attended on 11th May 2023. He said he had found it interesting, and it was certainly worth members keeping a watching brief on the information that comes out of these sessions.

RESOLVED: information noted.

11. Items for Information

Members received the following:

(a) Tree Wardens newsletter

(b) Update on anti-social behaviour in Chapel Street which has been passed onto the Basildon Council ASB team and local Community Policing Team by Cllr Andrew Schrader.

RESOLVED: information noted.

12. Items for consideration for Social Media/Press Release

- Promotion of Festival Gardens

13. Questions from the Press and Public

None.

Cllr M Moore

Chairman of the Committee

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.35pm

Chairman:..... Date: