

Melksham Town Council

Minutes of the Community Development Committee meeting held on Monday 22nd February 2021

PRESENT: Councillor P Aves (Chair)
Councillor K Iles (Vice-Chair)
Councillor G Mitcham
Councillor T Welch
Councillor A Westbrook

**ALSO IN
ATTENDANCE** Councillor J Hubbard
Councillor R Wiltshire

OFFICERS:	Linda Roberts	Town Clerk
	David McKnight	Economic Development Manager
	Miriam Zaccarelli	Community Development Officer
	Christine Hunter	Committee Clerk

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Two members of the public and one member of the press were present.

1/21 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Illman.

2/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3/21 Minutes

The minutes of 23 November 2020, having previously been circulated, were approved as a correct record. It was agreed that these would be signed at a later date by the chair Councillor Aves.

4/21 Place of Remembrance

The Committee considered the request from Alison Sowton.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the request for the crosses to be placed in the war memorial garden, and to ask the Church to provide

laminated notices and use social media to explain the reason for the request.

5/21 Community Hub

The Community Development Officer updated the Committee on the work already undertaken and confirmed more information was required.

It was proposed by Councillor Aves, seconded by Councillor Westbrook and

RESOLVED to ask the Community Development Officer to continue with research to move the project forward. The item to be added to the next Community Development Committee Meeting agenda on 20 May 2021.

6/21 Bench Plaques

The Economic Development Officer reported on the three quotes for plaques for the Market Charter Commemorative benches.

It was proposed by Councillor Westbrook, seconded by Councillor Welch and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Community Development Officer would arrange the purchase of eight bench plaques at a maximum cost of £266.64 + VAT.

7/21 Melksham Loves Arts

Councillor Westbrook thanked the Community Development Officer for the excellent report and suggested the 'art in shop windows' displays are analysed to try and make improvements.

It was agreed that Councillor Westbrook and the Community Development Officer would organise a meeting of the Melksham Public Art Sub Group, inviting Councillor Illman, to review the project suggestions submitted and decide which to bring back to this Committee for approval to forward to Full Council.

8/21 Virtual Community Network

The Economic Development Manager confirmed the Community Development Officer had led on the survey work focusing on providing support via a virtual network for local community groups. Results from the survey showed the preference for quarterly, virtual meetings. A business consultant had agreed to present the first meeting free of charge. If the meetings are successful, the idea will be recommended to local businesses.

It was proposed by Councillor Aves, seconded by Councillor Westbrook and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to ask the Community Development Officer to organise and attend Community Groups Network meetings, hosting the first meeting online in mid-March 2021 at a time that suits the diary commitments of the presenter.

9/21 Dunch Lane

Councillors discussed the historic and current traffic issues around Dunch Lane and previous results of a survey. The Town Clerk agreed to speak to Andy Cadwallader to obtain his views.

10/21 Community Garden on Semington Road

The Committee considered the request from the Melksham Business Growth Group to create a Community Garden for Semington Road , working with the South West in Bloom Group. The Town Council would need to take on the licence from Wiltshire Council at a minimal cost. However a financial provision would be required to cover the cost of re-instating the land to its original use after the licence period or if/when the site is vacated.

Councillor Westbrooks suggested that the Community Development Officer is requested to negotiate between the Business Growth Group and the South West in Bloom Group to formulate an action plan.

It was proposed by Councillor Westbrook, seconded by Councillor Aves and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Committee is totally committed to working with South West in Bloom and the Business Growth Group to facilitate this project.

11/21 King George V Park Dog Campaign

The Community Development Officer confirmed initial posters from the campaign were being displayed and the Business Admin Apprentice was currently producing further posters.

Councillor Welch suggested the current fenced area in the King George V Park could be set aside for dogs off the lead. It was agreed that this item would be added to the agenda for the next King George V Sub Committee meeting on 17 March 2021.

12/21 Development of Young Melksham

The Committee thanked Councillor Hubbard for his report on the development and re-branding of Young Melksham. Councillor Hubbard confirmed to the Committee that this report was with the agreement of all the Trustees and not solely from himself.

Councillor Westbrook stated this agenda item was a misunderstanding as the request was for written confirmation from the Trustees that the grant funding allocated from Melksham Town Council would be spent solely on Melksham residents.

The Trustees of 4Youth confirmed that there were separate accounting facilities and all funding received had been ring fenced as appropriate.

It was proposed by Councillor Westbrook, seconded by Councillor Aves and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Town Council provide a written response to the report to the Trustees and Chair of 4Youth requesting written confirmation that all Council Grant funding allocated had been ring fenced for use in Melksham.

13/21 Date and Time of Next Meeting

20 May 2021 at 7.00 pm via Zoom.

Meeting Closed at: 7.50 pm

Signed:

Dated: