

MELTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF PROPERTIES, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE HELD ON MONDAY 16 JULY 2018

Present: Councillor Haigh (Chair), Councillor Bampton, Councillor Keighley, Councillor White and Councillor Wrathall.

PUBLIC SESSION: There were no members of the public present. The Council's grounds maintenance contractor was in attendance for the item on the Robert Ashton Memorial Park.

18/30 NOTICE OF MEETING

Public Notice of the meeting was taken as read.

18/31 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Councillor Noon.

18/32 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

18/33 ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC

As printed agenda.

18/34 ROBERT ASHTON MEMORIAL PARK

Councillors discussed the condition of the park with the Council's Grounds Maintenance Contractor who had attended the meeting. The contractor reported that a large number of bedding plants had been put into the Italian garden area and circulated some photographs. The difficulties of planting in the pond area were discussed. The issue of the theft of plants was also revisited. The contractor confirmed that she was still undertaking quite major works to open up the views in the park by lifting trees and cutting back. Councillors discussed the issue of security regarding the possible reinstatement of Mercury. The Chair asked if there was anything the contractor required from the Council but the contractor confirmed all was well at present. The Clerk was asked to contact Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing about the property in the park off Huddersfield Road and what they intended to do with it as it was a useful security feature when occupied.

Councillors discussed the results of the site visit / inspection of the Robert Ashton Memorial Park which had taken place prior to the last meeting. It was noted all the points had been actioned except for enquiries to reinstate the street lamp in the park by the Meltham Mills entrance. The Clerk said she would make enquiries.

Councillors considered a request from the Council's contractor to brighten up the wooden fenced park play area with brightly coloured dinosaur shapes. The Clerk reported that the costs were approximately £10 per shape and that the contractor was donating his labour for free. It was suggested that 10 or so shapes be authorised, and the necessary costs be approved.

RESOLVED: That Councillors approved the installation of 10 or so brightly coloured dinosaur shapes in the wooden fenced play area at a cost of £10 each and that the necessary costs be approved

Councillors considered the costs of painting the metal uprights and supports surrounding the tennis courts. The Clerk reported that the estimated costs were in the region of £480 and some photographs of a sample post before and after painting were circulated. The Clerk reported that the contractor was concerned that unless the metal was taken back sufficiently the rust would penetrate through. However the job of taking the posts back to bare metal would be very time consuming and difficult with the fence in situ. It was suggested that the application of anti-rust paint did however slow the damage by rust and would prolong the life of the supports as well as improving the aesthetic of the tennis courts. Councillors agreed to authorise the painting of the supports and the costs involved.

RESOLVED: That the painting of the supports around the tennis courts and the costs involved be authorised.

18/35 BUDGET MONITORING, NET WORTH AND INTERNAL CONTROLS

Councillors considered the budget monitoring report for the first quarter of the financial year circulated with the agenda and approved the report.

Councilors noted the Net Worth report circulated with the agenda.

Councillors considered and approved the Schedule of Payments for June 2018 in the sum of £7279.05 circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED: That the Schedule of Payments for June 2018 in the sum of £7279.05 be approved.

In accordance with the internal control checks agreed by Council the committee checked that the petty cash balanced with the petty cash book and that the monthly bank reconciliations matched the relevant current account bank statements.

18/36 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS:

Pursuant to section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of the following: -

As determined under Agenda Item 4.