



Howden Town Council

Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities Committee meeting held on Tuesday August 9th 2022 at 7.15pm at the Shire Hall Howden.

Present: Councillors Drury, Hart, Roberts, Howard

In Attendance: L Smith (Town Centre/ Events Officer)

Clerk: S Hardcastle

Chair: Councillor Drury

2022-30-AM: Election of Chair.

Councillor Hart proposed Councillor Drury for position of Chair. There were no other nominations and Councillor Drury accepted. Resolved.

2022-31-AM: Election of Vice Chair.

Resolved to not elect a Vice-Chair for this Committee.

2022-32-AM: Apologies for absence – to receive and accept.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Chiswell and Casey.

2022-33-AM: Declaration of Interest –

2022-33.1-AM Declarations of Interests, in respect to Agenda items, to be made and recorded in the minutes even if an interest has been declared in the register.

None

2022-33.2-AM For the Council to note any dispensations presented to the Clerk prior to the meeting and their resolution.

None

2022-34-AM: Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday April 6th 2022 – to agree and approve as a true record.

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday April 6th were agreed and approved as a true record.

2022-35-AM: Derwent Park. To receive an update from the Clerk and make any recommendations to Council.

As a standing agenda item and with other agenda items to discuss Derwent Park, it was agreed to defer this agenda item.

2022-36-AM: Derwent Park Play Inspection. To receive report and make any recommendations.

The report compiled by The Play Inspection Company was received. Noted all actions are either low risk or very low risk. Agreed to ask the roadsweeper to undertake additional hours



to clear away any moss, algae and graffiti and keep an eye on the bin situation. To note the graffiti issue under agenda item 2022-44-AM.

2022-37-AM: Howden Marsh LNR. To receive an update from the Clerk and make any recommendations to Council.

The Chair spoke in depth regarding the problems facing the Marsh in the immediate future and the need to think about a large budget in the next financial year for urgent works. Willow trees are starting to crack and become dangerous all around the site and there will be the need to upgrade the boardwalk at some point. The water level is extremely low due to climate change and parts of the site are dying. Councillor Howard and Councillor Roberts to put together a paper for next Committee meeting. Spoke about the idea to start a 'Friends of Howden Marsh' group to undertake smaller jobs on the Marsh on a regular basis to keep on top of maintenance once the urgent works have been done.

2022-38-AM: Streets and Amenities. To receive an update from the Clerk and to agree any short or long-term actions.

As a standing agenda item and streets and amenities being discussed under item 2022-41-AM it was agreed to defer this item.

2022-39-AM: Town Events. To receive an update from the Town Centre/Events Officer and make any recommendations to Council.

Committee heard that plans are well underway for the Howden Christmas Market on Thursday December 1st. Remembrance Sunday plans for Sunday November 13th are also underway and updates will be fed back at the October meeting. The Town Centre/Events Officer noted she has been asked to join a Howden Minster Focus Group who are being formed to engage the Minster in the community more. Councillor Howard noted Christmas and Company would once again be organising and offering a Christmas Day meal in the Shire Hall. More details to follow at the October meeting.

2022-40-AM: Howden Minster Grounds Vandalism. To receive an update from the Clerk and agree any actions.

The Clerk had been approached by members of the Minster who reported an increase in vandalism and most recently a fire which had been started using discarded rubbish in the grounds. Agreed to ask the Grounds Maintenance Contractor to clear away any rubbish each visit, particularly the area adjacent to Marsh drain where groups of people appear to be congregating and leaving rubbish.

2022-41-AM: Roadsweeper Holiday Cover. To receive an update from the Clerk to discuss the need for additional / holiday roadsweeper cover and make any recommendations.

Committee agreed the need for additional roadsweeper/handyman/employee to take on additional work and be cover for the existing roadsweeper/handyman. Agreed to recommend to Council.

2022-42-AM: Howden Litterpick. To receive request from MOP for a Town Council organised Howden litterpick and agree any actions.

The Clerk to initially speak to the Howden Ladies group to see if they had any further litter picks organised and to report back at the October meeting.



2022-43-AM: Site Safety Sheets. To receive a report from the Clerk and agree any actions.

The Clerk thanked members of the Committee for continuing to produce the sheets and reminded all they need returning monthly.

2022-44-AM: Health and Safety Audit. To receive recommendations from the Health and Safety audit and make any recommendations.

The report and recommendations were received. 1) Agreed not to put warning signs up regarding water at Howden Marsh as it was felt by identifying and advertising an individual issue this increased the risk. 2) The Clerk to receive topple testing training in September. 3) To Clerk to speak to the Anti-Social Behaviour Team at ERYC and send them the Inspection report highlighting specific issues.

2022-45-AM: Project Loo. To receive an update from the Clerk and make any recommendations to Council.

The Clerk reported it is still on track for an early September build. More details should be available by the next Full Council meeting on August 23rd.

2022-46-AM: Correspondence.

None. Items for next meeting were noted as Old Fire Station Lease, Howden Marsh Document, Hanging Baskets Contract and Grounds Maintenance Contract.

2022-47-AM: Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday October 11th 2022 at 7.15pm.

The meeting closed at 8.36pm.