

**BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Recreation & Amenities Committee**  
**held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7:00pm in the Corn Exchange**



**PRESENT**

Cllr L Lindsay – Committee Chairman	Cllr C Stevens – Committee Vice Chairman
Cllr H Mieville – Chairman of Council	Cllr S Hitchings
Cllr N Lacey-Clarke – Vice Chairman of Council	Cllr H White
Cllr L Hitchings	

**SITTING IN**

Cllr R Holmes

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Town Clerk	Operations Manager
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**10. PUBLIC SESSION**

Cllr L Hitchings advised the Committee that, at weekends, cars are parked in the EVCPs but they are not charging their vehicles. The Town Clerk confirmed that the football club had raised this with the Operations Manager and additional signs have been purchased and installed.

The Town Clerk informed the Committee that a large bill had been received for the EVCPs. An investigation is currently underway and the first payment from JoJu is expected in November 2023. More information will be brought back to the Committee in due course. Cllr Lacey-Clarke shared the email address of the DC officer who deals with EVCPs with the Town Clerk.

Cllr Stevens praised the Mayor, Cllr Hugo Mieville for his civic day on Friday and the staff involved. He attended the lunch at Woodhouse Gardens and received positive feedback from attendees. Cllr Mieville noted that he was very pleased with the day and felt it was a great success and was aware that compliments had also been received by the office.

**11. APOLOGIES**

Cllr S Chapman	Cllr R Carter
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**12. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

None were submitted.

**13. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2023**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke and AGREED (6 in favour, 1 abstention) that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED.

**14. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE**

- 14.1 Bastard Brother Tomb – The Town Clerk informed the Committee of damage to the tomb in the closed churchyard, which was raised by the Mace Bearer. The Town Clerk has replied, including the church office, asking if any next of kin are known and a quote has been requested from a local stonemason. This will be brought back to the Committee in due course.

<b>ACTION: TOWN CLERK</b>
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**15. REVIEW OF RECREATION & AMENITIES BUDGETS TO 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2023**

**15.1 Analytical Review of Revenue Budget**

The paper was noted (see Appendix A).

**15.2 Review of Earmarked Reserves**

The paper was noted (see Appendix B).

**15.3 Reserve Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

The paper was noted (see Appendix C).

The Chairman thanked the RFO and Town Clerk for the reports.

**16. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR A MEMORIAL SEAT AT BLANDFORD CEMETERY**

The paper was noted (see Appendix D).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr L Hitchings, and AGREED unanimously that

**The Committee states that it does not object to the memorial seat subject it being of solid construction, securely installed and pre-approved by the Town Council.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**17. TO RETROSPECTIVELY APPROVE CHANGES TO THE CEMETERY REGULATIONS**

The paper was noted (see Appendix E).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lindsay, SECONDED by Cllr Stevens and AGREED unanimously that

**The Committee approves the amendments to the cemetery regulations.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**18. REPORT BY THE OPERATIONS MANAGER JUNE – AUGUST 2023**

The paper was noted (see Appendix F) and the Chairman thanked the Operations Manager for his report.

The Chairman took the opportunity to thank the grounds and caretaking staff for such beautiful amenity areas and floral displays throughout the town.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**19. AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS TO SUGGEST ITEMS FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN THE 2024/2025 BUDGET TO ENABLE TIME FOR OFFICERS TO INVESTIGATE COSTS THAT CAN BE BROUGHT BACK TO THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING IN NOVEMBER**

The Committee did not have any matters to add, with the focus being on the Corn Exchange project.

The meeting closed at 7:31pm.

**SIGNED: ..... DATED: .....**