**Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee of St Ives Town Council**

**held at the Town Hall St Ives on Wednesday 23 January 2019**

**Present:**

Chairman: Councillor D Rowe

Vice-Chairman: Councillor M King

Councillors: J Davies, R Fuller, Dr C Pegoraro, L Davies, B Luter

**In attendance:**

Amenities Manager: C Allison

A52.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor R D'Souza (Personal).

A53.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

A54.00 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No persons present wished to address the meeting.

A55.00 MINUTES

It was agreed that it be noted in the Minutes that Cllr L Davies and Cllr M King had been in the building for the last Committee Meeting and were awaiting the end of the Planning Committee. The Chairman suggested that they sit in on the Planning Committee in future so their attendance would be noted.

Members expressed disatisfaction with the timings of meetings and wished this to be looked at by the Council.

**RESOLVED: A55.01** that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Amenities Committee held on

 28 November 2018 are confirmed as a correct record and signed by

 the Chairman.

 **A55.02** that a Recommendation be made to Council to examine timings and

 scheduling of meetings.

A56.00 USE OF PLAY PARKS

Requests had been received from two parties wishing to use the play parks for events:

**Circus Tyanna/Circus Savanna** requested use of either Warner's Park or Slepe Hall Field for a Circus during 2019.

Members expressed concerns about damage to grass by heavy vehicles, possible contamination of the land and a general objection to the use of performing animals.

A request had been received from the Armed Forces Day Working Party to use Slepe Hall field on 29 June 2019.

Members expressed concerns about the loss of a town centre based event, whether field conditions would be appropriate and what arrangements would be made for parking.

**RESOLVED: A56.01** that the request from Tyanna/Savanna Circus be refused.

 **A56.02** that the use of Slepe Hall field for Armed Forces Day be approved, in

 principle, subject to receipt of further information on the event and a

 plan of the proposed layout.

A57.00 FARMERS' MARKET UPDATE

Consideration was given to an update report on the Farmers' Market covering business rates, the future viability of the market and taster days.

In terms of viability it was noted that the decision made in early 2018 to open the market up to other specialist food retailers has so far had limited impact on new regular traders.  Members were mindful of the need to maintain a viable market but it was noted that the market would need to be widened carefully and not extended to a general market.   It was agreed that Councillor L Davies discuss with the Town Clerk how this could be achieved.

Members agreed that the business rates now payable on the gross income from the market payable for the 2016/17 and 2017/18 financial years should be paid from operating surplus in the current financial year.  It was noted within the report that the *[he*] cost of the business rates per pitch equates to £2.50 per pitch per year.  However the proposed increase of £2.50 per pitch to cover these business rates going forward and any other increase, over and above the standard inflation rise should be deferred until a future meeting.

It was agreed that a marketing campaign be instigated in the next year to raise the profile of the

market to traders and customers and that the Taster Days be held on 1 June and 6 October 2019.

**RESOLVED: A57.01** that the report is received and noted.

 **A57.02** that the Farmers' Market Co-ordinator and the Town Clerk be given

 delegated authority to source alternative traders for the market that

 complement the original ethos of a Farmers' Market.

 **A57.03** that the requirement to pay business rates on income is noted and is

 a national requirement by the Valuation Office and not HDC.

 **A57.04** the above payment to be taken from existing surplus in Year 1 with

 further consideration being given on how to improve and pay these

 rates in future.

 **A57.05** that a decision on whether to implement the two proposed additional

increased pitch prices be deferred pending further consideration

 **A57.06** that a marketing campaign be instigated to publicise the market

 **A57.07** that Taster Days be held on 1 June and 5 October 2019

A58.00 ROLLING PROGRAMME

**RESOLVED: A58.01** that the Rolling Programme be received and noted

 **A58.02** that the Amenities Manager provide an update to the next Meeting

 on Land Transfers and investigate possibilities for acquisition of the

 unadopted hedging and trees area in Warner's Park from the Land

 Registry

A59.00 BUDGET REPORT

**RESOLVED:** that the Budget Report be received and noted.

Chairman: Date: 27 March 2019

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