

Towyn & Kinmel Bay Town Council

Minutes of the Environmental Improvement Committee held on Monday 13 March 2017 at the Community Resource Centre.

Present Cllrs: E Bateman, D Johnson, L Knightly, B McLoughlin, M Smith, N Smith (Chairman) & S Anderson
Clerk: H Stewart BEM

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S Evans (illness). Cllr Corry was absent without any apology.

2. Declaration of Interest

There were no interests declared.

3. Public Participation

There were no applications to address the Committee.

4. Minutes

Resolved that: The minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2017 be approved and signed.

5. Matters Arising

170109/5 Bench in Clwyd Park - A meeting had been arranged for 29 March at 2pm to agree a new location for the bench. Mr Bibby had been invited to attend.

170109/7 Green Flag – Conwy County Borough Council (CCBC) had been contacted about the Award Scheme. It was unable to offer any resources to the Town Council if it decided to pursue an award. The Committee confirmed that the no further action on this matter would be taken.

6. Grounds Maintenance

Quotes had been invited from twelve experienced contractors for the grounds maintenance work within the Town Council's area of responsibility. The contract period was for twelve months after which the Council would decide whether to extend the contract by a further two years.

Only two companies had responded. The contract price, evidence of risk assessments, insurance cover and experience of such work for a larger council made the decision obvious for the Committee. The price quoted was surprisingly low but with the company having experience with another council the Committee were of the opinion that the quote submitted must be correct.

Resolved that: subject to contract clarification that Greenfingers be awarded the grounds maintenance contract for one year with an option to extended for a further two years.

7. Christmas Lights

With an additional twenty sockets having been installed on lighting columns in Towyn (8) and Kinmel Bay (12) a cost for additional motifs similar to the designs currently used on the existing columns, was requested for the remaining year of the contract.

The cost of £4269 was within the budget allocation and was approved.

Cllr Knightly was still very keen to encourage businesses to support the initiative and it was agreed that a letter would be available post elections in May so that Cllr Knightly and other Councillors could use it to introduce the idea of sponsorship when visiting the businesses.

The sponsorship would be for a contribution towards the cost of having Christmas lighting in the area rather than for a specific motif.

It was suggested that the Christmas trees could each have another set of lights to enhance the visual presence. The cost of a set of blue lights for each tree, plus the installation and removal would be obtained for discussion at the next meeting.

Quotes were also to be obtained for lights on the two trees outside the Resource Centre at Kinmel Bay. There was an electricity supply but the lights found in the store room did not work.

Cllr McLoughlin informed the Committee that St Mary's Church would also like a tree outside of the Church. It was requested that the Council organise both the tree and the lighting and then invoice St Mary's so that all cost would be met by the Church.

Resolved that: the additional twenty motifs as per the quotation be approved for one year.

8. Woodland at Chester Avenue

The report on the current state and suggestions for the future management of the woodland had been received from Nick Perrin and circulated to the Committee.

The cost of the work was discussed and although Councillors noted that Elwy Working Woods Ltd was a not for profit company the Committee agreed that a comparative quote should be sought from Greenfingers, the Company that had just been awarded the grounds maintenance contract in Agenda Item 4 of this meeting.

The cost for repairing and maintaining the bridge was expensive and with the high probability of further damage through both wear and vandalism it was agreed that the bridge be removed.

Resolved that: a) A quote for the work as identified in the maintenance schedule be obtained from Greenfingers.

b) The bridge be removed and the ground made good.

9. Flooding

The report of the Morfa Rhuddlan West Flood Partnership dated February 2017 was noted.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm

Signed by the Chairman of the Environment Improvement Committee held on