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# SWANSCOMBE & GREENHITHE TOWN COUNCIL

## Recreation, Leisure & Amenities Committee

Councillor Sue Butterfill - Chairman  
Councillor Peter Harman - Vice-Chairman  
Councillor Anita Barham  
Councillor Emma Ben Moussa  
Councillor Lorna Cross  
Councillor Linda Hall  
Councillor John Hayes  
Councillor Lesley Howes

To all other Councillors: For information only

**A Meeting of the above Committee will be held on**

**Thursday 30 January 2020 at 7.00pm**

**at: The Council Offices, The Grove, Swanscombe,  
Kent, DA10 0GA.**

Graham Blew  
Town Clerk

Dated: 23 January 2020

*Should any member have any questions regarding the content of the agenda or attached papers, please put them to the clerk's office 24 hours in advance of the meeting.*

## **A G E N D A**

1. To receive Apologies for Absence.
2. Substitutes.
3. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda.

***At the Chairman's discretion the meeting will be adjourned at this point to accept questions from the public.***

4. Items as Deemed Urgent by the Chairman / matters arising from previous minutes and their position on the Agenda (for discussion/information only, not for decision).
5. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 November 2019 (*Town Council 11 December 2019*).
6. **SENIOR GROUNDSMAN/GARDENER'S REPORT (p).**

Please see the attached report.

**Recommended:** That the report be noted.

### **7. TOWN CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT.**

#### **7.1 COMMUNITY TREE PROJECT (p).**

At the 9 October 2019 Town Council meeting a member of the public enquired as to the possibility of community involvement in further tree planting opportunities via The Woodland Trust Scheme.

Subsequently meetings were held with the member of the public on 12 November 2019 and 26 November 2019 where the locations of possible trees and hedges were identified.

The trees and hedges would be planted by a community group who would then take responsibility for the ongoing maintenance etc. of the plants. Obviously this would all need to be carried out under the guidance of the Senior Groundsman/Gardener.

**Recommended:** To agree to the locations of possible trees and hedges as indicated on the attached aerial views.

## 7.2 ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN WORKING GROUP (p).

Further to minute 338/19-20 the Working Group met on 23 January 2020 with a representative from Autism South East who assisted with discussions around the Sensory Garden Project.

Attached are the action points that were discussed at the meeting, along with comments / updates.

**Recommended:** That the item be noted.

## 7.3 TREE MANAGEMENT / PLANTING POLICY – DRAFT (p).

The Environmental Action Plan Working Group have produced the attached draft Tree Management / Planting Policy for members' consideration.

**Recommended:** To adopt the Tree Management / Planting Policy.

## 7.4 GRAVESHAM COMMUNITY LEISURE LIMITED (GCLL) DRAFT PROPOSAL SCALE OF CHARGES 2020 FOR THE SWANSCOMBE CENTRE (p).

Further to minute 381/19-20 a meeting was held on 14 January 2020 between the Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor, Managing Director of GCLL and the Head of Operations, GCLL to further discuss additional discounts for concessionary groups under the local residents (S&G) Scheme.

These discussions resulted in a further reduction in the concessionary figures for Swanscombe and Greenhithe residents' memberships and the meeting also confirmed that GCLL were continuingly looking at increasing the uptake for local residents and community involvement.

**Recommended:** That the outcome of the further discussions be noted.

## 7.5 COMMUNITY BOOK SWAP AT THE OLD FIRE STATION COMMUNITY CAFÉ (p).

Just before Christmas the Vice-Chairman approached the Town Clerk with this idea which was agreed to and began in January 2020.

**Recommended:** That the Community Book Swap scheme be endorsed/agreed.

## 7.6 RECREATIONAL FACILITY CHARGES 2020 – 2021 (p).

Please find attached the proposed price increases; the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) has increased them by 2.5% overall and rounded up appropriately. As previously agreed, the allotments have been increased by 15% to include the staged recovery of the administration costs of the Allotment Association.

\*\* All of these figures were taken into account when members previously agreed the Estimates for the forthcoming 2020 – 2021 financial year (*minute 415/19-20 Finance and General Purposes Committee and minute 415/19-20 full Council 9 January 2020.*)

## 7.7 VE DAY 75<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY (p).

The 8 – 10 May 2020 is the period for the VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. As well as the Community Events Working Group investigating holding an event to celebrate this the attached are x2 ideas for projects that the Town Council could run.

**Recommended:** To agree to run the x2 projects to celebrate the VE Day 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## 7.8 CAPACITY BUILDING FUND (DARTFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL (DBC)) – FUTURE APPLICATIONS.

At its meeting on 13 January 2020 the DBC General Assembly of Council agreed that they would continue to operate the Capacity Building Fund and make a contribution of £40,000 into the fund in 2020/21 (there are x8 parish councils).

Members are asked to begin considering suitable / appropriate projects for this year's scheme.

**Recommended:** To discuss and advise accordingly.



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Swanscombe and Greenhithe Town Council Website:  
<http://www.swanscombeandgreenhithetowncouncil.gov.uk>

