

Minutes of the meeting of the **Amenities Committee** held
on **Monday, 11 January 2021 at 7:00p.m via Zoom.**

PRESENT: Councillors Jim Bryan, Gavin Harris, Menna Jones, Anne Roberts and Heather Williams.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Gavin Harris continue as Chair of the Amenities Committee for the remainder of the civic year.

RESOLVED: *unanimously that Councillor Gavin Harris be elected as Chair for the remainder of the civic year.*

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Jim Bryan and Anne Roberts declared interests as they had been involved with the initial discussion regarding the Town Clock restoration project.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members reviewed the Committee's Terms of Reference. It was suggested that the date of adoption and next review be shown in the footer of the page containing the Terms of Reference as well as on the cover page.

RESOLVED: *to adopt the Committee's Terms of Reference.*

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 7 December 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.*

6. MATTERS ARISING

A member referred to the Coach Friendly status request for extension to the award. The Clerk to follow this up.

7. PRICE FOR ART TRAIL TREE

Members were requested to consider the price provided by Cambrian Woodland Services, in the sum of £332 + VAT for supplying a 3-4 foot replacement tree and £30 + VAT should a root irrigation system be required. The letter stated that the price was valid until 15 January 2021 as prices were expected to increase due to unfavourable weather earlier in the year causing lack of supply. Councillor Heather Williams asked if any other prices had been received and the Clerk confirmed that no response had been forthcoming from the other companies contacted.

RESOLVED: *to accept the price of £332.00 + VAT for the replacement tree and £30 + VAT for the root irrigation system, if required, from Cambrian Woodland Services.*

8. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS MOTIFS

Members were requested to consider whether to return the motifs as the hire period had come to an end at a cost of £1,800 + VAT or to extend the hire for a further 12 months at the same cost as 2020, namely £3,157.71 + VAT. Members were of the opinion that the motifs were tasteful and suited Ruthin.

RESOLVED: *to extend the hire of the current Christmas light motifs for a further 12 months.*

9. TOWN CENTRES COVID-19 RESPONSE GRANT SCHEME

Details of the grant scheme had been circulated to all members of the Council previously, and a paper with proposed items that could be submitted for the grant circulated by the Chair, which included benches, finger post signs to direct walkers and cyclists to the town's attractions and a water fountain at the rear of the Old Courthouse. Applications for the £12k grant, with 25% match

funding, need to be submitted by 22 January, with successful applications to evidence spending the grant funding by 8 March 2021. Members agreed with the principle of having a bench on Clwyd Street, but wished to preserve the Tom Pryce memorial setting. It was agreed to have discussions with Denbighshire County Council's Streetscene Department regarding the most suitable location for a bench on Clwyd Street.

RESOLVED: *to undertake further work on costing and potential locations prior to submitting the bid by 22 January, with match funding provided from the Amenities budget.*

10. PROPOSED TOWN CLOCK RESTORATION PROJECT

A briefing paper and photographs had been circulated to members regarding the proposed project, and this would be an item on the agenda of the January Council meeting. Councillors Anne Roberts and Jim Bryan, who have been involved with the initial discussions, stated that funding would be applied for from various sources to enable the project to proceed, to preserve this notable feature of the town's square.

RESOLVED: *that members supported the proposed project.*

11. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED: *that the date of the next meeting will be Monday, 8 February 2021 at 7:00pm.*