



## CHEPSTOW TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of **Environment and Amenities Committee** of  
**Chepstow Town Council** held via Zoom on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.00pm

**Present:**

**Chairman:** Cllr J Becker

**Councillors:** H Beach, J Brews, C Duchet, Y Havard, T Kirton, P Pavia,  
D Rooke.

**In Attendance:** Mrs. L Allen (Town Clerk)  
Mrs K Pearce (Administrative Officer)

**31. Declarations of Interest in Items on the Agenda.**

**Cllr Dale Rooke** declared a prejudicial interest in **Item 36. Climate Emergency Projects Update – Green Bin Storage** and did not vote on the item.

**32. Suspension of Standing Orders**

Members suspended Standing Order 36(c) to allow Members to enter into discussions with the Town Council's Christmas Lighting contractor for the following item:

**33. Christmas Lighting**

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Members received a presentation on future ideas from the Town Council's Christmas Lighting contractor who detailed colour schemes, the possibility of extending the scheme in Bulwark with lamp column motifs, type of festoon lights and ideas for the Christmas tree. Members noted that final decisions will be taken at the next Environment and Amenities Committee in June when full costings and plans will be available.

***Standing Orders reinstated.***

**34. Minutes**

Members approved the minutes of the Environment and Amenities Committee meeting held on Wednesday 13th January 2021 which will be signed at the next available opportunity due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

**35. Matters Arising**

**Item 27 Markets** – Members noted that the reinstatement of the market is dependent on the Covid 19

restrictions being lifted and the earliest date of return is Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

**Item 29 Items for next meeting - The Skate Park** – work is still ongoing with finding a suitable contractor to review the works required at the skate park.

**36. Climate Emergency Projects Update.**

Members noted the following updates on the active climate emergency projects and considered the recommendations:

**Bike Racks:** Bike hoops and tyre pump stations had been installed on 8<sup>th</sup> March at the locations identified throughout town – Members requested that signage is attached to the hoops in Bulwark advising of their intended use.

**Chepstow Railway Station** – Members noted correspondence received from the Station Manager advising that they are waiting for the new franchise to establish budgets and priorities. The Town Council will be consulted as a community stakeholder.

**Green Bin / Green Screen Hard standing on land adjacent to NatWest:** The area has been cleared and cleaned and is now ready for the installation.

**Resolved:**

Members agreed:

1. To proceed with the installation of the green screen as agreed at the meeting in November 2020 and;
2. To approve the costs associated with the installation of 2 x bollards at the location at an approximate cost of £1,200 (*Highways Act 1980, s274a*).

**Green Barrier A48 (Phase 1):** Members received an update.

**Resolved:**

Members:

1. Received and noted that the S106 funding request for the green screen had been made to the Forest of Dean District Council under their scheme to help limit/reduce the NO2 levels in the Chepstow AQMA but that there had been no response received to date.
2. To find out the timescales of the allocation of S106 funding but in the meantime agreed to proceed with the project to gain the relevant consents and approved the costs associated with the installation. Cost to install a Euonymus Darts Blanket Screen, directly into the ground for easier maintenance, at a cost of £19,721.25 + VAT (*Local Government Act 2000, s2*).

**Nelson Street upgrade:** Waiting for an update from MCC regarding the Nelson Street upgrade to include installation of parking bays to include EV charging points, resurfacing, tree planting.

**Gatehouse improvements:** Future project to investigate efficiencies at the Gatehouse, boiler, solar panels etc.

**Dell Water Fountain:** Consent required from the land owner working with officers from Monmouthshire

County Council.

**Water fountain Riverbank:** Members noted that an old water fountain had been uncovered, when the boat area had been cleared out, which has running water to it.

**Resolved:**

Members agreed to investigate the costs associated with renovating the old fountain and if the existing budget is not sufficient to continue with replacement up to the agreed budget.

**Bee Keeping:** Local Bee Keeper has been instructed to scope the Gatehouse.

**Local Places for Nature:** Members considered the report regarding the installation of an Interpretation board in the area adjacent to Marks and Spencer's which would detail what has been planted and why.

**Resolved:**

To approve the purchase of an Interpretation board at a cost of £699.00 plus deliver £41.23 plus VAT (*LGA 1972, s144*).

**St Mary's Walk lighting:** A survey would be carried out on the area in April by Monmouthshire County Council to establish suitability for additional lighting and Christmas festoon.

**Library Garden:** The Town Council have reached out to the Friends of Chepstow Reading Garden about the possibility of supporting their green projects and were currently waiting for a response.

**Green Bin Store, The Boatman:** Members considered the costs associated with the installation of a green bin store to the area near the Boatman.

**Resolved:**

Members agreed to purchase Double Euro Bin shelter mesh clad with doors complete with wildlife infills and a roof meadow at a cost of £6,350 plus VAT and delivery (*LGA 1972, s144*).

**Scout Hall, Pembroke Rd:** The Scout Hall is currently undergoing refurbishment and there is a possibility of the Town Council supporting any future gardening projects.

**Water play area:** To request that the Friends of the Dell consider a water play area as part of their redevelopment.

**Play parks:** To look at enhancing the play options in Chepstow for all ages for example exercise equipment for all ages. Members were advised that Monmouthshire County Council have conducted surveys of all Chepstow play areas and will be an item for discussion at the next Environment & Amenities meeting in June 2021.

**Quarry at the end of the Mabey site:** Monmouthshire County Council and Barrett homes are looking into taking ownership with the potential of a wildlife project and an update is not expected until late summer.

**Chepstow Town Council Website:** Members noted that the website will be released on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and that the Town Council's provider were working on creating an interactive What's On page and also a Welsh translation option.

**37. Unlocking Chepstow and the Thematic COVID-19 bid**

Members received and considered the installation of market kiosks in Cormeilles Square and to noted that in order to obtain full planning permission for the permanent fixture an Impact Assessment report needs to be undertaken by a competent and qualified historic environment. The cost of this is £1,500 and MCC have agreed to add this to the grant.

**38. Energy Survey**

Members considered the report detailing the options available in carrying out an Energy Survey for Chepstow.

**Resolved**

Approved to commission a report from CAT (Centre of Alternative Technology) to help the Town Council achieve their Climate Emergency goals. The detailed report highlights energy used for the average household in the town and as well as providing alternative fuel sources. The cost of the report is £5,000 (LGA 1972, s137).

*8.45pm Cllr Duchet left the meeting.*

**39. Recycling Bins**

Members considered the report detailing a number of different options of recycling bins to be installed in the High Street.

**Resolved**

Members agreed to purchase one Advanced Eclipse Triple Waste bin for the Town centre at a cost of £895.00 plus VAT. The bin to be installed at the top of the High Street and will be a trial and, if successful, consideration will be given to a wider roll out of recycling bins in other areas (*Litter Act 1983, s5,6*).

**40. Litter & Fly-tipping Prevention Plan for Wales**

Members considered a response to the Welsh Governments Litter and Fly-tipping Prevention Plan for Wales, consultation end date 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021.

**Resolved**

Members agreed to respond to the Welsh Governments Litter and Fly-tipping Prevention Plan for Wales consultation on an individual basis.

**41. Thomas Street Public Toilets**

Members considered options and locations for better signage to the Public Toilets at Thomas Street which had been discussed at a recent Chepstow Society meeting.

**Resolved:**

To contact the Chepstow Society to ask for their input in what they think would be appropriate signage.

**42. Sustain Wales**

Members considered the annual membership to Sustain Wales to support the work of the Town Council in achieving their goals under the Climate Emergency.

**Resolved**

Members agreed to the annual membership for one year to Sustain Wales to aid the Council in achieving their Climate Emergency goals at a cost of £150.00 (*LGA 1972, s111*).

**43. High Street Bunting**

Members considered erecting bunting in the High Street during the summer/autumn months and to incorporate the bunting produced which supports the NHS, SOCIAL CARE & FRONTLINE WORKERS DAY (5<sup>th</sup> July 2021) into the festival bunting.

**Resolved:**

Members agreed to purchase bunting for the High Street to be displayed during the summer/autumn months to include a rainbow and the wording "Thank You" and to incorporate this into the Festival Bunting. Cost to erect bunting £700 (take down will be incorporated into the installation of the Christmas Lighting displays) and cost to purchase 180 meters of bunting £490.32 + VAT (*LGA 1972, s144*).

**44. Community Climate Champions**

Members noted the date of the next Community Climate Champions meeting on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> May by remote meetings and to considered Councillor attendance.

**Resolved:**

Members requested that an email be sent to all councilors when joining instructions to the Community Climate Champions are received.

**45. Items for Next Meeting**

Bandstand roof.

**46. Date of Next Meeting**

To confirm that the next meeting of the Environment and Amenities Committee will held on a date in June to be advised.

**Signed:** .....

**CHAIRMAN**

**Date**.....

**CLOSE: This completed the business of the meeting at 9.30pm**