

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREENS & BUILDINGS SUB-COMMITTEE OF
BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 1 JULY 2014 AT 7.00 PM IN THE TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: The Town Mayor Councillor I Davies
The Deputy Mayor Councillor J P Zalot
Councillor F R Carr
Councillor J Carr
Councillor D W Gallichan
Councillor D G Jones
Councillor R J Parry

The Town Clerk was in attendance

APOLOGIES: Councillor C M Brimecombe (Fire Brigade call-out)

The Deputy Mayor took the Chair

1.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

2.0 TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR

Councillor F R Carr was elected Chairman for the forthcoming year

Councillor F R Carr took the Chair

3.0 TO ELECT A DEPUTY CHAIRMAN FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR

Councillor R J Parry was elected Deputy Chairman for the forthcoming year

4.0 THE CEMETERY

4.1 The Town Clerk gave a report.

A handrail had been installed on the steps leading to the upper Cemetery and repairs to the Chapel roof had been completed.

A first dose of weedkiller had been applied to all paths and, where appropriate, within grave surrounds.

Overall, the Cemetery gave the appearance of being well maintained.

There was a need to allocate a further space for cremated remains and this would be done.

4.2 A member asked if there had been any further complaints about the Cemetery road.

The Town Clerk stated that he had received no complaints. In response to a suggestion from staff, extra chippings had been placed on the roadway around the Chapel of Rest. It was stated the problems with the road were normally reported in winter, and were a result of rainwater drainage. It was suggested that if hardcore was put down during the summer months it would bed in before the winter. The Town Clerk agreed to look at the condition of the road.

4.3 There was a discussion concerning cracks in the Cemetery wall.

Three cracks were identified, and Councillor Gallichan had monitored these over the past few years, noting there was no additional movement in the wall.

Recommendation to the Finance and Planning Committee:

That the cracks in the wall be re-pointed with cement during the winter. Subsequently, the pointing could be monitored for any further movement in the wall.

4.4 Comment was made that the workshop was much tidier than in previous years, with tools and other equipment being housed on racks. It was suggested that the inside of the Chapel could be painted over the winter months to provide a better working environment for staff.

5.0 THE GREEN

5.1 Members commented that there were still problems with the drainage of water from the Green, and there was a need for a long-term contingency plan with money being set aside to install a good drainage system. The Town Clerk said that a considerable amount of work had been carried out on the Green in recent years. This included the provision of more hard-standing to relieve the pressure on the grassed areas. Drainage contractors had been engaged and three schemes had been presented to Council for improving the drainage of water from the Green. Council had chosen an interim scheme rather than the most expensive. The work had been properly carried out by the contractor but clearly there were still problems. The point emphasised by contractors was that cars and grass do not mix over the long term. There was only a small depth of soil over the whole Green and this was very much compacted. Some work had been carried out to provide further aeration of the soil, but this was a long-term project.

Recommendation to the Finance and Planning Committee:

Further assessment of the drainage problems on the Green be obtained, and a long-term contingency plan developed, and sufficient funds set aside to carry out the work.

5.2 There was a discussion concerning motor homes being parked on the Green overnight.

The Town Clerk said that this had been discussed at a recent meeting of the Audit & Personnel Sub-Committee. It had been decided not to recommend a special overnight parking fee for motor homes as this would only promote the Green as a camper van site. A price was to be obtained for erecting a height barrier at the entrance to the Green, which would operate when the Car Park Attendant was not present. However, there were some reservations about installing such a height barrier because it could prevent access by legitimate vehicles with residents' passes. At present all camper vans coming on to the Green were given a notice pointing out that it was not permitted to stay overnight. There was also a similar notice on the 'pay and display' machine. The purchase of a sign stating that there was a fine of £50 for parking overnight was under consideration.

5.3 A member suggested that a few disabled parking bays should be created near to the entrance of the Green.

Councillor Parry declared an interest in disabled parking arrangements as a badge holder, and left the meeting.

Use of these bays would not be policed by Council staff.

Recommendation to the Finance and Planning Committee:

That three disabled parking bays be designated near to the entrance of the Green.

5.4 There was a discussion about charges for persons with disabled badges.

Many people in the town felt that there should be no distinction, that all vehicles should pay to use the Green. There were no shops or services on the Green for members of the public. It was proposed and seconded that charges for disabled badge holders should be discussed as an item at the Finance and Planning Committee. There were three votes for the proposal and three against, and the Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of the item going on to the Finance and Planning Committee Agenda to allow full discussion by all members.

Councillor Parry returned to the meeting.

5.5 The Town Clerk reported that there had been a problem with a person leaving the gate from the slipway to the Stones area of the Green open on repeated occasions.

The Deputy Mayor declared an interest in this item as a user of the commercial parking area of the Green and left the meeting.

Four different Councillors had reported incidents of the gate being left open by the same person, and on Monday evening after it had been closed by two of them on separate occasions, the Town Clerk had again had to close it when he found it open at 8.30 pm

He intended to have a word with the person concerned, and if the problem persisted writing a final letter threatening withdrawal of this concession should the problem continue further.

In a separate incident, a person with a 4 x 4 with trailer had found themselves locked into the area and had driven over the flood defence bunds to get out. Upon being challenged, that person had claimed to have been let on by a beach warden. The Town Clerk had spoken to the Pier Master, who had agreed to take the matter up with Anglesey County Council staff.

A further statement had been made suggesting that the Yacht Club had a key that it made available to people to use the area. Councillor Gallichan agreed to investigate this matter.

The meeting agreed that the Town Clerk should be given powers to act to resolve the problems with the commercial parking area on the Green.

The Deputy Mayor returned to the meeting.

6.0 HAPPY VALLEY

The Town Clerk reported that there were no problems with the Happy Valley.

A group of Art & Design students from Coleg Menai had drawn up a plan to renovate the Happy Valley play areas, and a full design with costings was now being produced for Council to view.

7.0 THE TOWN HALL

The Town Clerk said that the renovation programme was on hold because of pressures of other work on staff. The architect was still trying to resolve the Fire Escape issues with Mr Jump and despite asking the recommended companies for quotes for the new Town Hall doors, he had not received any.

Recommendation to the Finance & Planning Committee:

The front walls of the Town Hall be re-painted.

There was a discussion on the toilet facilities in the town, and the Town Clerk confirmed that a pay on entry system was to be installed in the near future.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 7.55 pm