

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREENS & BUILDINGS SUB-COMMITTEE OF
BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 29 OCTOBER 2018 AT 7.30 PM IN THE TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: The Town Mayor Councillor J P Zalot
Councillor D W Gallichan
Councillor K M Jones
Councillor D R Owen

The Town Clerk was in attendance

APOLOGIES: The Deputy Mayor Councillor C J Theakston
Councillor G Evans-Jones
Councillor J A Rowlands

Councillor D R Owen took the Chair

1.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Town Mayor declared an interest in item 3.1 since he is a user of the Contractors' parking area.

2.0 THE CEMETERY

The Town Clerk reported that work on the landslip had been completed and trees in the woodland at the lower end of the Cemetery had been thinned, with dying and damaged ones removed.

The grass was being cut on a regular basis and recently the paths had been treated with weedkiller as a follow-up to an earlier application during the summer.

Members commented that they felt the Cemetery generally looked tidy.

In response to a question, the Town Clerk reported that the staff made periodic checks on the memorials when carrying out the grass cutting.

A member said there was limited space left in the Cemetery and wondered how much longer space would be available for new burials. The Town Clerk said he would not anticipate a problem for some 30 or 40 years, probably longer.

Members noted that the pre-sale of burial plots was no longer permitted. The Town Clerk said that the pre-sale of plots had been stopped following complaints about soil being placed on adjacent occupied graves in preparation for burials. This had attracted adverse publicity in the press. He had contacted other local burial authorities and found that the normal practice was not to sell plots in advance. From the past practice a number of plots remained unused.

There was a discussion concerning the old bell above the Chapel of Rest and an earlier desire to get it to work. Unfortunately staff had been unable to reach the bell even when a cherrypicker had been used. A member commented that a bigger cherrypicker might allow access.

Members noted that the Freemasons had played a leading role in the construction of the Chapel of Rest and it was wondered if they would help to restore the bell. A member indicated that he would make some enquiries.

3.0 THE GREEN

The Town Clerk said that aeration work was continuing on a regular basis and this had alleviated some of the drainage problems.

At present a planning application was being submitted to construct a path near the entrance to the Green around the barrier. A question arose as to why planning permission was needed for a path. The Town Clerk said that he had been surprised but the Administrative Assistant had made enquiries and was told that one was necessary. It was agreed to ask Council's Planning Consultant if this was correct.

Cracks that had appeared in the Promenade earlier in the summer were now being repaired by a contractor engaged by Anglesey County Council.

An earlier meeting had suggested that steps should be constructed at the end of the wall close to the old Baths site. It was felt that the steps should be made of stainless steel and a price should be obtained for their construction.

A member asked if there had been any further developments in relation to the old Baths site, since some Councillors had been of the opinion that the Town Council should purchase the land. The Town Clerk said he had no further information following the site visit with a local resident who had expressed an interest in the site. The mortgage company who owned the site were asking for a high price which seemed unrealistic since there was no right of vehicular access across Council's land.

There was a discussion concerning the possible future use of the old Baths as a Lido with heating. Maybe this could be achieved with grants. One member also said that it would fit in with plans recently aired by the County Council about the use of open spaces.

Recommendation to Finance and Planning Committee:

That the possibility of making a Lido at the site of the old Baths be investigated.

It was reported that the flood gates had been damaged and the County Council informed, since they were now difficult to operate. It was also noted that the seating area around the RAYC Control Building was not in a good condition. Flagstones previously placed there as seats had been removed by persons unknown.

It was noted that some of the stonework on the sea wall had been damaged with some of the rendering washed out. Anglesey County Council had been informed and had agreed to repair it. An earlier meeting had asked for metal ladders leading from the beach on to the Promenade to be replaced. It was noted that this was the responsibility of Anglesey County Council. It was agreed to check that a request had been made.

The grass near to the entrances on the Green had been worn away. Much of this had been replaced by sand and gravel. A member suggested that more entrances should be constructed so that the present ones could be left to recover.

Recommendation to Finance and Planning Committee:

That another set of entrances be constructed on the Green

A member said that cars frequently parked on the exit road

Recommendation to Finance and Planning Committee:

That new yellow lines be painted on the exit road up to the junction with the main road, and that a 'No Entry' notice be placed on the road.

3.1 Complaints concerning parking near Lifeboat Station and general use of Contractors' area

The Town Mayor declared an interest and left the meeting.

The Town Clerk said that the Mayor had raised the issue and had submitted several letters plus photographs of vehicles parking in the 'No Waiting' area outside the Lifeboat Station. There had been further reports of some contractors not closing the gates to the contractors' area after using it. It was noted that new locks had been purchased with keys that could not be copied, and a meeting of Council had resolved to charge a £100 deposit to each contractor wishing to hold keys and use the area. The requirement for a deposit would also apply to other users of the area.

In response to a question, the Town Clerk said that he had not received any complaints directly from the Lifeboat Station concerning parking issues. A member noted that this

subject was due to be discussed at the December Finance and Planning meeting, and it was agreed to defer the matter until then.

Recommendation to Finance and Planning Committee:

That the office prepares a list of complaints in relation to use of the area, and a copy of Council's policy for use of the contractors' area.

4.0 HAPPY VALLEY

The Town Clerk said that generally the Happy Valley was in a tidy condition, but there were jobs outstanding that had been put on a list for attention during the winter period. He said that the Bowling Club had requested a meeting with the Greens and Buildings Sub-Committee to discuss a number of issues. He had been contacted on Friday concerning this meeting but it had been too late to place it on the agenda. It was agreed that the present meeting would discuss the issues that the Bowling Club wished to raise.

In relation to the disabled access, it had been agreed that a handrail should be put on the steps leading from the Coach Park into Happy Valley. The Town Clerk said that he had spoken to Sir Richard Williams-Bulkeley as owner of the land and obtained agreement for a handrail to be constructed. This was now on a list of winter jobs.

The Bowling Club had asked for shared insurance cover for the Bowling Green mower and cassettes that had been jointly purchased by the Town Council and the Bowling Club. Depending upon the cover required, there might be issues about non-Council staff using equipment on our insurance policy.

A member said she felt that this should be put to Council in the form of a donation request.

A question had been raised about progress with the construction of a new pavilion. The project had been put on hold along with all other Capital Expenditure projects when Council had to allocate funds to resolve the landslip problem and deal with the repairs to the Church Clock. Earlier in the year, there had been discussions with the architect following concerns raised by Cadw about the height of the proposed new structure. At this meeting it had also been agreed to look at designs which would make the new pavilion more affordable and the desire by Cadw for a non-obtrusive structure.

The Bowling Club had asked for some netting to be placed inside the fence around the Bowling Green to prevent access by rabbits. Councillors agreed to this request, and it was hoped the work would be completed during the winter period.

The Bowling Club had raised the issue of Risk Assessments for Happy Valley. The Town Clerk said there were regular inspections of the Happy Valley and manual work was covered by general risk assessments for all of Council's grassed areas. Despite this, there was a winter programme in place through which all risk assessments of the Council were being reviewed and revised in preparation for the next summer season. A member said as part of this process, the Bowling Club should be required to send in copies of its own risk assessments and method statements for their activities, just as other organisations had been required to do before using Council's land for events. The paperwork could then be included in Council's documentation. In doing this, the aim was to assist the Bowling Club.

5.0 THE TOWN HALL

A member asked if there had been any progress in obtaining a design for a new fire escape. The Town Clerk said that this had been an ongoing issue with the Conservation Officer in the Planning Department at Anglesey County Council. A Conservation Architect had been involved in the discussions but no agreement had been reached. He agreed to consult the Conservation Architect to make a further attempt at resolving the issues.

A member said that the atmosphere in the Council Chamber was not conducive to good debate. It seemed to be too hot in summer and cold in winter and air conditioning was needed.

Recommendation to Finance and Planning Committee:

An air conditioning system be installed in the Council Chamber

Members noted that storage of paperwork was an increasing problem within the Council Chamber and offices. It was felt that staff should be asked how the problem might be resolved.

Recommendation to Finance and Planning Committee:

Staff investigate the reason that records are kept and the time-scale for keeping them.

It was noted that Ellis Whittam might be able to assist with this

Recommendation to Finance and Planning Committee:

A price to be obtained for an electronic archiving company to be engaged to reduce the paper burden within the Council offices.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm