

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ALDEBURGH TOWN COUNCIL  
PROPERTY & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2021 AT 8.42PM IN THE MOOT HALL**

**Present:** Cllr Jones took the Chair

**Committee Members Present:**

Cllr Digby	Cllr Fox
Cllr Palmer	Cllr Smith
Cllr Webster	

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**1. Apologies:** Cllrs Blackbourn and Piers-Hall.

**2. Approval of previous Minutes**

The draft Minutes of the Property and Finance Committee meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021 were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

**3 Matters for Discussion**

**3.1 Finance and Property**

Cllr Jones reported on the Income and Expenditure Report and the Financial Variance Report previously circulated. Cllr Jones and TC are about to start work on budget setting for 2022-2023. She requested that Cllrs let her know if there are any items to be considered for inclusion.

**3.2 Sports**

Cllr Jones is sorry to report that since the successful application for new goalposts, the Saturday football team has folded, leaving Aldeburgh with just the Veterans team. However, ATC has been approached to ask if the Council is willing to support youth football in the form of a 7-a-side and a 5-a-side team moving here (under 8s and under 11s). They would use the existing pitch, marking out 2 pitches side by side facing the marshes. The veteran's team would relocate to the new pitch and the existing goalposts would need to be moved. The youth teams would play on Saturday mornings. They would either use the existing goal posts currently stored behind the Groundsman's Cottage or bring goals with them. If necessary, the football foundation can be re-approached with a view to purchasing smaller goals. Pitches running in an East -West direction would also alleviate the problems with balls going into the

allotments, a continuous bone of contention. Cllrs were wholly supportive of youth football being played on King's Field.

### **3.3 Management/Maintenance of Council Property and Land**

The successful contractor for the planned refurbishment to the toilets on Kings Field cannot start until January/February. This start date is a relatively quiet time for the toilets to be closed and portaloos can be put in place for the duration of the works.

No further progress to report for works to the outside of the Moot Hall.

Cllr Jones reported a report has been received from the contractor regarding the damp in the Museum office. The problem is with the roof. Water is penetrating and has caused damp to the ceiling and beam. The recommendation is that a roofing contractor removes the tiles from above the area over the toilet to see if there are any obvious areas needing repair and to replace the broken tiles to ensure sufficient overlap. Once this is done a quote to carry out repairs to the damaged plaster and to provide ongoing monitoring has been submitted. The quote allows for two visits with an inspection in between visits to ensure the issues with the tiles and felt have been addressed.

A confirmed date for sowing the grass on Kemp's Field is awaited. It is too late to respray the bracken as it will no longer be absorbed this late in the season. Trees will be with suppliers next month and David Forestier-Walker has been in contact to progress ATC's selection.

The new drain installed on Park Road at the top end of the tennis courts is working and coped well with last week's rain.

Cllr Jones reported on Dial House Garden. The planning application required fencing along the path to Gallery Cottage. There are a couple of gaps needed to be blocked off. Cllr Jones will contact one of ATC's contractors to deal with this. The TC is arranging to collect the plaque from Mrs Harrison, which ideally should go up after the fencing is completed.

The community bulb planting event is scheduled for 30<sup>th</sup> October, meeting at 11am at the Tennis Courts. If those helping could bring spare trowels it would be helpful as they were needed last year. Planting will take place on the wide bank opposite the allotments.

Those of you who walk the marshes will have noticed there has been an exceptional amount of water on the fields. Unfortunately, this was caused by a failure of the sluice which was blocked open by some wood which had been thrown in it. It has been reported to the IDB as did ATC's tenant. The problem then is that water flows onto the marshes at high tide and there have been very high tides. This will take some time to recede. The tenant has also had some damage to the adjacent pump, which appears to be being repaired today. The waterlogged fields are clearly a problem for the farmer and the Council as the ground is now prematurely soft where ditch draining works would have been scheduled.

**4. New Property and Finance Business**

There was nothing to report this month.

**The Committee meeting ended at 8.53 pm**