Minutes of the meeting of the Amenity Committee held in the Council House, 44 Old Street, Clevedon at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 12 March 2008.

Present: Cllr C Francis-Pester – in the CHAIR Cllrs C Blades, E Blades, L Little, T Morgan, G Watkins
In Attendance: Cllr D Jones

7.30 pm INFORMAL BUSINESS

1. NSC UPDATE – Mr S Banbury Senior Area Officer (North) on holiday. No report.

2. HILL ROAD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2008/2009 – Mr N Shepherd, Christmas Lights Contractor, Mr R Hughes and another member of Hill Road Traders in attendance. Mr Hughes hoped a permanent solution to the Christmas lights provision in Hill Road could be achieved this year. The Traders had investigated erecting permanent purpose made aluminium poles on the Alexandra Gardens side of the road where the pavement is wider. The poles would be similar to those in Nailsea and could hold the strings of Christmas lights, also hanging baskets in the summer. He considered 10 poles, 15m apart, would be required at a cost approximately of £360 + VAT per pole. Mr Hughes had been unable to obtain information on the installation cost of the Nailsea poles. It was felt installation could be as much as £4,000 and would probably have to be carried out by a NSC authorised contractor. Mr Shepherd advised that the poles should be at least 5-6m high to discourage access by vandals. The Hill Road Traders hoped to assist with half of the cost of providing the poles from funding specifically raised for the lights. Mr Hughes is investigating the possibility of sponsorship for either the poles or hanging baskets.

The Chairman observed Clevedon Town Council had no funding specifically set aside for new displays only a sum for annual maintenance and erection of the lights. See min AM/08/15 for further actions agreed.

3. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2007/08 Arising from last season's installation the Christmas Lights Contractor could foresee no major maintenance/safety issues in connection with the Triangle lights this year. To be able to extend lights further down the shopping area another location for an electric meter was required at the Great Western Road end of Old Church Road.

8.00 pm FORMAL BUSINESS

AM/08/11 MINUTES The minutes of the Amenity Committee meeting held on 23 January 08 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

AM/08/12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – none were made

Min No.		Action
	PART 1 items - REQUIRING APPROVAL BY COUNCIL	
AM/08/13	HERBERT GARDENS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT The 3 year maintenance contract is due end in May 08. The Committee considered whether the contract should be advertised for tenders, as had been for the last contract, or renewed with the current Contractor. As Members were satisfied with the standard of work by the current Contractor. **RESOLVED:** TO RECOMMEND COUNCIL renew the Herbert Gardens Maintenance Contract for a further 3 years on the same terms and conditions. First year's contract being in the sum of £1,967.	Office to action after full Council
	PART 2 items - ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE UNDER DELEGATED POWERS	
AM/08/14	AMENITY AREAS & NSC UPDATE	
14.1	HAZELL CLOSE PLAY AREA Work completed. Slide still awaited.	
14.2	MUGA & REFURBISHMENT OF TENNIS COURTS – NSC had responded that the sum previously allocated towards a youth shelter could not be used for changing facilities at Marine Lake. It could only be used to enhance the provision of play facilities for children and young people. **RESOLVED:** To ask NSC whether this funding combined with Section 106 funding could be used to reinstate the MUGA project at Salthouse Fields.	Office to action
14.3	CHANGING FACILITIES FOR USERS OF MARINE LAKE – See AM/08/14.2 above	
14.4	QUEENS SQUARE 4.1 Proposals for pond area Architects instructed by DTZ had put forward proposals to remove the pond, install a piece of public art, modify and open up this area of the Square. **RESOLVED:** To continue to express an interest in the proposal and a wish to see the sketch plan. Also to have an input in the proposed public art and enquire the envisaged timescale for this work.	14.4.1 Office to action

AM/08/14 cont….	AMENITY AREAS & NSC UPDATE continued	**Page 558**
14.4	QUEENS SQUARE 4.2 Non-compliance with original planning permission NSC Compliance Monitoring Officer is following this up and had enquired about the extent of the problems concerning the pond and is affect on the amenity of the area. **RESOLVED:** To suggest the Officer liaise with the Planning Officer dealing with the above proposals for the pond area.	14.4.2 Office to action
14.5	DOG BINS AM/08/05.8 & SALTHOUSE FIELD CAR PARK AM/08/05.10 Mr S Banbury had provided information on the above issues raised at the last meeting.	14.5,14.6, 14.7 noted
14.6	BENCHES/MEMORIALS AND DONATIONS NSC had provided a leaflet detailing practical advice on donations of trees, plaques, bulbs and seating in parks and open spaces in North Somerset.	
14.7	LETTER FROM YOUNG RESIDENT Letter highlights; litter/cleaning problems in the subway near Tesco, Poets Walk, pond in Queens Square; broken rope tower in Salthouse Fields; lack of dog bins in Marshalls Field. Reply cannot be sent as full address is not given.	
14.8	FLAGS ON CLEVEDON SEAFRONT Request from Cllr Shopland that the flags are removed at the end of the summer. **RESOLVED:** To enquire how the current contract for the renewal of the flags is managed.	14.8 Office to action
AM/08/15	HILL ROAD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2008/2009 AM/08/07 See Informal Business above **RESOLVED:** 1. Committee Chairman to investigate at NSC what permissions are required to erect the poles in Hill Road. 2. Enquire on the insurance cover required and/or amendments. The Hill Road Traders are; • Sourcing the poles, ascertaining installation requirements, also which NSC authorised contractor can carry out the work. Along with a firm idea of anticipated costs involved. • Investigating other sources of funding eg YANSEC, Civic Society and floral events. • Making arrangements and taking responsibility for maintenance of hanging baskets.	1 Ctte Chairman 2 Office to action Deadline; next meeting
AM/08/16	HERBERT GARDENS SITE VISIT – Arranged for 10.30 am on Saturday 5 April 2008. TREE WORKS – by the Tennis Courts has now been completed	Office to provide reminder
AM/08/17	REPORTS FROM TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES	
17.1	COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION Cllr Norton-Sealey provided a written report on the possibility of getting a grant for disabled access by end of March. Bid for Local Sector Voluntary Transfer qualification is awaiting result of challenge by NSC.	
17.2	STRODE CENTRE USER CTTE – Now meets annually at different sports centres.	
17.3	N SOMERSET SAFETY & COASTAL ADVISORY GROUP – No report on meeting on 11 March 2008. Minutes of previous meeting available.	
17.4	CURZON CINEMA – Cllrs Blades unable to attend. Trustees concern reported regarding availability of Town Council matched funding set aside for the Curzon.	
17.5	TOURISM GROUP – Cllr Dagnal unable to attend last meeting.	
17.6	PIER TRUST – next meeting in the forthcoming week. Information on funding arrangements	
AM/08/18	NORTH SOMERSET PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL EVENT 2008 Invitation to all Councillors to attend this year's event entitled 'Improving our Communities Together' on Tuesday 22 April 2008 from 9.30 am – 1.00 pm at the Winter Gardens WSM.	Cllrs wishing to attend to let office know by 3 April 08
AM/08/19	FOR INFORMATION The Committee received and noted; PUBLIC CONVENIENCES AM/08/06 Summary of result of NSC questionnaire. A formal review is now being carried out by NSC Executive Committee.	

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD CHAIRMAN: ……..

The meeting finished at 8.40 pm DATE ……..