

REPORT TO: Town Council – 29th June 2020
REPORT ON: Recommendations from Committees
REPORT BY: Responsible Finance Officer
REPORT DATE: 25th June 2020

Finance and Policy Committee – 8th June 2020

FP2008.5 RE-OPENING OF HIGH STREET'S SAFETY FUND.

RECOMMENDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) That a working group be appointed to scrutinise the scheme should funding be made available.(ii) That Cllr Taylor, Arnold, Wesley and Knape be appointed to the working group.(iii) That on allocation of funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDP) being made available approval be given for the recruitment of a Town Manager, salary circa £30k.
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FP2008.7 POLICIES

RECOMMENDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Training Policy be approved.(ii) Expenses Policy be approved.(iii) Communications and Community Participation be approved.(iv) Communications Protocol be approved.(v) Social Media Policy, be approved.
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Planning & Development Committee – 17th June 2020

No recommendations to report.

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Report on: Operational Matters
Report by: Chief Officer
Date: 11 May 2020

And due to its popularity, the forward plan recognises the opportunities online media gives to digitally promote the museum and supplement the current museum service and inform the longer-term forward plan for 2020-25.

On reviewing staff resource, and current government guidelines the Operations Officer and Museum Officer are preparing for the museum to open 09:30 – 13:30 Monday to Friday from Tuesday 8th September 2020. Saturday openings will begin from October, but these maybe managed via Eventbrite, with booked viewings.

Town Centre Vision – Consultation

Work is ongoing to launch the consultation on 7th July. Due to the pandemic the consultation is going to predominantly be online. Workshops are planned with key stakeholders, and dates for these will be advised early next week. The Town Council has provided funding for the distribution of a leaflet to all residents and businesses in the Town, to signpost where they can find the consultation and to contact the office for a hard copy, should they not choose not to use the web version.

Re-Opening High Streets Safely Fund

No further news has been received in relation to proposals to temporarily close the High Street.

Daventry District Council and Northamptonshire County Council has produced numerous stickers and signage and with the help of the DTC Ranger these have been strategically placed around the Town.

4th July – Re-opening of Parks and Pubs

The Operations Officer is to work, along with the DTC Ranger on Saturday 4th July, as we anticipate the Town to be busy with people using the parks and visiting the pubs for the first time since 20th March 2020.

A meeting has been requested with the Neighbourhood Sgt., to agree strategies and communication, to ensure this day is remembered fondly and public safety in the Town is given a high priority.

Town Council Office

All members of staff continue to work from home and the workplace.

Assuming Government guidelines continue to show a reduction in risk, all members of staff will return to their normal working hours, in the office as of 7th September 2020.

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Town Landscaping

We are now fully up and running and engaging with our new contractor Daventry NORSE. Day to day operations are going well, conversations with Daventry NORSE are flowing well with positive feedback.

Play Areas are scheduled to open on 4th July. Daventry NORSE will carry out a thorough operational inspection, commencing Wednesday to finish Friday. Informational signs will be placed on every play area, advising of social distancing, sanitising, littering, respect, etc.

Trees

A draft tree policy has been created for the members to approve. Once approval has been given, Daventry Town Council will retract the DDC Tree Policy 2010 which is in current circulation.

The Council have received 14 tree enquiries to date, however we are confident with our new venture with Daventry NORSE and new policy, residents will have a better understanding of the foliage around them.

Customer Service Enquiries

Enquiries are being received via Daventry District Council Customers Services Team, these are being logged and investigated in conjunction with Daventry NORSE.

- Trees

Numerous enquiries are being received in relation to trees, these are being logged and investigated in conjunction with Daventry NORSE.

- Dragons teeth

There are copious amounts of Dragon teeth within the Town, the forward plan is to inspect and rectify the defects, ensuring the security of council property.

- Play equipment

At present all play areas are out of bounds, and contractor instructed to monitor daily.

Cemeteries

The Town Council has been approached by a nearby parish council with regards to taking on the management of their burial service. A proposal has been generated to include administration, enquiries and setting up their burial department, this will be submitted to the next F&P Committee.

Burials occurred through lock down – 12 (below average compared with previous years).

Daventry Town Council are successfully working with Enquires raised have been action within 24hrs.

Museum

The Museum forward plan for 2020/21 has been amended to include provisions for dealing with the pandemic. The online work has been well received by the public and other museums.