

8th December 2020

AGENDA

Dear Councillor

You are summoned to the:

Extraordinary Meeting of
Warminster Town Council
on Monday 14th December 2020 at 7pm
to be held online

Membership:

Vacancy (Broadway)	Cllr Macfarlane (West)
Cllr Brett (East)	Cllr Nicklin (West)
Cllr Davis (East)	Cllr Pitcher (Broadway)
Cllr Doyle (East)	Cllr Ridout (West)
Cllr Fraser (West)	Cllr Robbins (East)
Cllr Fryer (Broadway)	Chairman of the Council and Mayor
Cllr Jeffries (Copheap)	Cllr Spender (Broadway)
Vice Chairman of the Council and Deputy Mayor	

Normally, the council would meet in person and provide an opportunity for members of the public to attend. However, during the current emergency this is not possible, and the Government have put in place Regulations that allow 'virtual' council and committee meetings to be convened and held to conduct local authority business.

The council has adopted appropriate procedures to ensure the smooth administration of such virtual meetings.

If you wish to address members in public participation via a written submission please contact admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk at least a day prior to the meeting to enable this to be facilitated. If you wish to view the meeting please see the link on the Warminster Town Council website www.warminster-tc.gov.uk in the meetings diary.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Chris Robbins
Chairman of the Council and Mayor of Warminster

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive and accept apologies, including reason for absence, from those unable to attend.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of interest under Warminster Town Council's Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

3. **Questions**

To receive questions from members of the council submitted in advance to the Clerk.

***Standing Orders will be suspended
to allow for public participation.***

4. **Public Participation**

To enable members of the public to address the Council with a written submission, an allowance of three minutes per person regarding any item on the agenda and **to receive** any petitions and deputations. The Mayor will read any statements submitted

***Standing Orders will be reinstated
following public participation.***

5. **Ride on Mower**

PR/20/041 refers:

Members had a lengthy debate about the purchase of a ride on mower. The Park and Open Spaces Manager answered all the questions members asked.

Members referred to the battery powered mower being in line with the council's green policies.

Cllr Robbins proposed to recommend to Full Council the purchase of the battery powered Mean Green Mower at a cost of £25,839 plus VAT, seconded Cllr Davis, voting in favour 4, abstention 1, against Nil.

Motion carried.

A supplementary report is attached for members perusal. (See attached).

Members are requested to approve the purchase of a battery powered Mean Green Mower at a cost of £25,938 ex VAT.

6. **Paul Batchelor**

Following the resignation of Paul Batchelor from Warminster Town Council, members are invited to recognise his contribution to the council over the period of his time as a councillor.

7. **Communications**

The members to decide on items requiring a press release and **to nominate** a speaker for any item on the agenda if required.

Next meeting: Monday 18th January 2021

Minutes from this extraordinary meeting will be available to all members of the public either from our website www.warminster.uk.com or by contacting us at Warminster Civic Centre.

REPORT FOR DECISION

Parks and Recreation Committee 23rd November 2020

Purchase of ride on mower

Recommendation

The committee resolves to recommend to Full Council to purchase the battery-powered Mean Green Mower.

Purpose of the Report

To provide members with information to make an informed decision.

Background







At the meeting of the Full Council on 21st September 2020 members decided to provide the grounds maintenance services 'in house'. As part of this Warminster Town Council (WTC) now need to purchase equipment to provide this service.

Findings

Officers demonstrated ride on mowers from various manufactures. The demonstrations were carried out in October and November in various weather conditions Councillors Brett and Fraser as chairpersons of the Parks and Recreation and Environmental Services Committees were present at the demonstrations.

The mowers were tested in average length grass. Conditions were less than optimal for the demonstration of the Mean Green Mower, with heavy rain present throughout the demonstration. The mower performed well in these conditions. All other demonstrations were carried out in average weather conditions with all mowers performing well.

The John Deere, Kubota and Ramsoms mowers are from dealers within an hour of Warminster and officers are confident that the after-sales service would be excellent from them. The Mean Green Mowers dealer have a mobile engineer covering our area and have informed officers that they would usually respond to a call-out within 24 hours.

Manufacturer	Machine description	Cost	
Mean Green Mowers	Rival-52, Zero Turn mower, Lithium Iron Battery Powered. 52" rear discharge deck with Mulching kit. Road Registered and Road Legal	£25,839 + VAT	
Kubota	F3890 Rotary Mower, Diesel Kubota engine, 60" rear discharge deck. Road Registered and road legal	£18,864 + VAT	
Kubota	ZD1211 Zero Turn Mower, Diesel Kubota engine, 60" rear discharge deck. Road Registered and road legal	£13,416 +VAT	
Ransoms	HR380 Rotary Mower, Diesel Kubota engine, 60" rear discharge deck. Road Registered and road legal	£24,854 +VAT	
John Deere	1580 Rotary Mower, Diesel Yanmar engine, 60" rear discharge deck. Road Registered and road legal	£22,305 +VAT	
John Deere	Z997R Zero Turn Mower, Diesel Yanmar engine, 60" rear discharge deck. Road Registered and road legal	£20,370+VAT	

Average Running Costs per year:

Fuel Type	Fuel cost	Servicing cost	Repair/maintenance cost	Total cost
Diesel	£1,000	£250	£1,350	£2,600
Battery	£200	£0	£700	£900

The battery mower will be £1,700 less expensive per year to run. Over 5 years this will equate to £8,500.

Conclusion

Officers are confident that the mowers demonstrated would be capable of carrying out the required works. Officers believe the best option will be the Mean Green Mowers Rival-52 battery-powered zero turn mower. This is in line with the council's policy on climate change and the grounds maintenance policy to use battery equipment whenever possible.

Financial and Resource Implications

The cost of £25,839 +Vat is a capital cost. This has been budgeted for in 2021-22. The payment will not be made until the new financial year.

Legal Implications and Legislative Powers

The Council has the power to provide this service under the General Power of Competence.

Environmental Implications

Officers are not aware of any issues the council should consider, but will take into account the council's policies.

Risk Assessment

Warminster Town Council will carry out a risk assessment as part of moving to an in-house team.

Crime and Disorder

Officers are not aware of any issues the council should consider under the Crime and Disorder Act.