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# Minutes

**Meeting of** : Services Committee  
**Date** : 12 February 2018  
**Meeting held in** : The Guildhall, Salisbury  
**Commencing at** : 6:30 pm

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Present:

Chair: Cllr S Hocking

Vice Chair: Cllr A Hoque

Cllrs: C Corbin, K Daley, M Dean, J Farquhar, A Foster, S Jackson and M Osment  
Cllr T Corbin substituted for Cllr J Walsh  
Cllr M McClelland substituted for Cllr C Rogers OBE  
Cllr Nettle substituted for Cllr F Moody

Officers: Annie Child, Neil Lucas and Cathy Titcombe

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## 500. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Dalton and Sirman.

## 501. Public Questions/Statement Time:

There were no questions submitted by the public.

## 502. Councillor Questions/Statement Time:

There were no questions submitted from members.

## 503. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting of the Services Committee held on 16 October 2017 were approved and signed by the Chair.

**504. Declarations of Interest:**

No Declarations of Interest were received.

**505. Dispensations:**

No Dispensations were requested.

**506. Chairman's Announcements:**

The Chairman gave the following report

506.1. The City Stewards operate around the city for eighty hours a week, times vary according to local events such as the Markets or evening activity targeting anti-social behaviour. They patrol the council's estate including the parks and public toilets answering questions from the public and generally directing people. In particular they have been involved in monitoring drug abuse being conducted in public spaces and dealing with the paraphernalia left behind keeping the areas safe for others. Officers have worked on a broader piece of work gathering information which will eventually create a card which can be handed out to rough sleepers on all the services available. In January 233 incidents were reported by the City Stewards.

Cllr Hocking agreed to discuss with Cllr Osment further to this meeting.

**507. Crematorium Annual Update:**

Mr Neil Lucas, Crematorium & Cemeteries Manager was introduced and invited to present his report. Questions relating to the cold storage facility were raised and Mr Lucas was able to confirm that although its usage has proved to be less than was originally thought the environmental benefits are significant and the gas usage has reduced. Another point was raised concerning ethnicity however it is not a legal requirement and is not recorded.

Councillors praised Mr Lucas on the sensitive manner in which he and his team operate and this is further acknowledged by positive comments made by Funeral Directors and families. The Crematorium Team were thanked for all their hard work and it was

**Resolved to:**

507.1. Note the report

**508. Salisbury Playhouse:**

Louise Dancy, Head of Take Part and Tim Croall, Head of Communications & Sales from Salisbury Playhouse were introduced.

Ms Dancy gave an extremely informative insight into how the grant funding from the City Council has been spent during the last year. Several projects

benefit ranging from Youth Theatre Hubs offering weekly workshops which over 300 young people attend, to events for those over 55 which seek to engage with those who may be experiencing social isolation. The money was also used to develop free activity packs for 'early years' users which are given away in-between productions. Another project that the grant supports are workshops held at Exeter House School which have held two recent productions helping the students to develop in confidence and self-assurance which in turn benefits the families so much as well. The group also work closely with the Councils own Community Development Team and have recently held a poetry event at the Bemerton Heath Centre which was noted for its diversity.

Councillors congratulated Ms Dancy on the splendid work they do with the community and the range of arts on offer. Councillor Dean wished to note that unless anything untoward happens with the Council's finances that the Council will endeavour to continue to support their work during the current administration until 2021.

**509. Matters, if any, which by reason of special circumstances the Chairman, decides should be considered as a matter of urgency:**

No matters were raised

There were 2 members of the public present

The meeting closed at 7:05pm