Minutes of Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 6 September 2023, 11.30pm

Sensol Golf Club

Present : P Gelling (PG) [Chairman]

Gordon Cockburn (GC) [Vice Chairman]; Jayne Miller (CJM) [Secretary]; Colin Barton (CB) [Treasurer]

Also: Silvana Buxton (SB), Councilor and Paul Drury (PD)

* 1. Apologies for Absence

All Present

* 1. Welcome Councilor Silvana Buxton

Update on Relevant Issues with Mazarrón Ayuntamiento

PG enquired how SB was coping with her re-appointment. On standing for Council, Gaspar had enquired whether she would be able to cope and offered a support team - Peter Pons, Julie at CompuServe, Paul - Gaspar has met all the team and is happy. These all have a contract from the Ayuntamiento. Mazarrón today and Camposol Today is for English residents mostly served by Paul. All are supervised by Silvana.

Surfacing and repairs to public roads (not just the dual carriageway) and D sector rambla situation. -

SB has repeatedly tried to contact responsible parties without success. The option 4 project for the rambla had discussed by CARM who have offered to contribute €1.8 million. SB has requested re-costing to this promise. So far as contractor EM4 is concerned, their contract is to draft project at a cost of €108 000. When drafted contract will go out with budget figures (it is anticipated 4 months will be required to draft the project) which is then adjudicated by Ayuntamiento engineers. This could take a week or a month, or more. Following which it will go out as a tender to do the work, which again could take one month or four and then have to wait for tenders 11k to draft contract It may be impact considerations need to be taken into account. These are initial timescales which in themselves are difficult to predict - final allocation of the contract to undertake the work is even more difficult to predict.

Emptying of green garden rubbish skips (eyesore and health hazard). -

SB recommended complaint be made on Linea Verde for all issues on missing and over-full bins.

Gardening contractors - nothing has actually happened - other than immediately following appointment but that had been unnecessary since all relevant works had already been done.

Only scheduled to visit twice a year, should be here again probably November to February, when weather more appropriate for pruning and clearing.

Street lighting in general (when can we have some)

Is the Council going to continue renewing lighting. Some lighting done on C. Report on lighting has been made and administrator has claimed that as street lighting is deficient and therefore responsibility of original contractors, this is where the ‘3 million’ can be spent. Noted that of course street lighting that was on — was on fraudulently.

Gaspar has requested update on lighting a report has been revised but inadequate. Indeed there have been several reports written which almost as soon as issued are out of date.

Up-date on the new re-cycling area (will the existing garden skips be moved there)

Re-painting of road markings. Pedestrian crossings outside the commercial area have almost disappeared.

The T junction on B by the garden centre entrance is dangerous. Cars turning left towards the commercial centre regularly cut the corner and an accident will happen.  There is room on that corner for a mini roundabout which would solve the problem.

This is a police matter, from whom the response has been: complete the roads first then the police can be requested to mark the roads. A request could be made through Linea Verde for line marking and improvement of those existing. PG had approached the Police who responded they are waiting instruction from the Ayuntamiento

Mazarrón Website - English pages do still exist but not much included Silvana ensures important items are sent for publication on Camposol Today.

PA expressed concern that writing on the Ayuntamiento website form for information was not resulting in responses - was it because he writes in English? Probably not - just not getting redirected to correct solution. It was noted he had enquired about the gardening contract, lighting, rambla project etc.

Gines meeting being arranged by Gerardo - certainly on his list

Next RoundTable? Region only just signed coalition at the weekend - no information as to internal issues

CHS under control of national government and again coalition still not taken in hand. Possibly- days to sort out both regional and national issues. Personalities involved being determined. Coalition arrangements may not be determined for another few weeks.

Rambla - noted that in the event of a Gota Fria in any scale, there should be less problems following changes upstream in Totana etc. This still needs to be addressed. Working Party in respect of the rambla project has been requested at the end of July and will again be requested. SB confirmed that requests go to region and CHS and we need to await reply - all these items will have been delayed by political activities and the recent elections

Silvana was plainly listening to all the conversations and interjected with useful comments.

After a flurry of promises at pre-election meetings we wish to know what is happening, notably as it is understood that in the past the Opposition have blocked street tarmac, lights and rubbish.

PG suggested we start afresh - our biggest issue is not getting responses - easy to say project in place but we do not get updates and progress. SB suggested that is expected is not provided from public service office there is rarely voluntary information available. Silvana says everybody is asking same questions and no answers are available

Example provided by Paul - Alicia in 2016 put stop on all development because Plan Partial was so inaccurate. 2016 suspended - 2018 had to re-drawn completely - budget originally for €48 000 now budget is now €100,000 - only one company tendered and therefore waved through. Ayuntamiento intervened using same company as legal advisers therefore creating a conflict of interest. Therefore the whole process was started again - budget increased to €108,000 again only one tender which nevertheless was accepted by Mazarrón but the late arrival of the tender caused rejection by the national bodies.

Major problem is lack of communication and information. CRA would like to keep residents informed and would be grateful to have more information : timescales on major projects/current state, including position on plan partial which has already been 48 months in the re-writing - what is the current position?

Gerardo had requested a timeline of procedures which have to be followed within the Ayuntamiento - anything less than 40 can pass through on a plenum. Recently things have been held up by political elements surrounding the recent elections. Small project through junta. There then must be a technical report which takes several weeks or months. Council are aware of the length of the consultation process but are very risk aware. Need to ensure everything is done by the book eager to ensure that everything is transparent - thereby there can be no timescales supported by technical exports then to plenum and then procedures for out to tender - cannot be to ‘mates’ they have to be open to all through national websites.

Hotel - PG has written without response - Silvana. PD sowed plan with areas lined off - Hotel bought - has spent 600k to bring up to spec - Murcia would not provide licences now uncertain as to what will happen.

Suspension is on hotel because the whole are is subject to change.

* 1. Minutes of previous meeting held 5 July 2023, having been circulated, and there being no further comment, were duly signed by the Chairman.
  2. Matters Arising

No items which would not be covered by the agenda

* 1. Financial
     1. Treasurer’s Report - attached
     2. Tarjeta Fiscal / PayPal Account
     3. Tax exemption still in progress - Ana dealing delayed due to summer holidays. CRA sig done and is available and can be passed to those requiring it.
  2. Round Table (last meeting 14 September 2022)

Gerardo attempting to set up meeting -having apologized - delays due to holidays. (Need to find out what is happening in respect of Option 4)

* 1. Update on progress by C Team None, all have been on holiday. Awaiting update.
  2. Any Other Business

PA co-opted to committee with thanks for his attendance this morning. Does not want active position but wishes to take role as challenger as new member.

Minutes in future to be better scrutinized to ensure language used will be plain and provide clear and correct picture for the residents. C team to be clearly instructed in Mazarrón their ability to apply political pressure is not possible. Be more assertive/professional be aware of the way in which we make our publicity.

Question to be raised again concerning ruling in respect of 2.9million.

GC tendered resignation with immediate effect. Will seek to find other members to co-opt.

Restrict postings on Facebook and endeavor to block general chatter. Provide clear route for ‘how to join’ and ‘this is what this group is for’. Website also to be restricted to paying members. Ensure that members realize the benefit of membership and how the FB and website provide value for money.

Write to everyone and advise changes of introduction and why fees had to be introduced - lay out why we have advice and do you want to be a member or not —- sign up here - offer half year?? If you want representation with Mazarrón Ayuntamiento, Regional and National bodies we need money - this is our fee, not really a lot but if you do not wish to pay then we will take you off the circulation.

Silvana to be invited every two months