

RECREATIONS & AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Recreations & Amenities Committee meeting held in the Skyrm Room, Public Hall on Wednesday 12th February 2020 at 7.00pm.

136 PRESENT: Cllr Cheeseman (Chairman), Cllr Dawkins, Cllr Drinnan, Cllr Mrs Page and Cllr Turner also Christine Bright (Town Clerk), Mr R Martin, Mr S Nikolov and Mr M Runyard.

137 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Beswarick, Cllr Mrs Cooke and Mr D Williams.

138 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Members had previously been circulated with the minutes of the meeting held on 15th October 2019. Minutes confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Cllr Cheeseman enquired of Mr Martin whether the Allotment Association had discussed the climate change emergency at the November Committee meeting. Mr Martin confirmed discussion had taken place however the consensus of members felt there was little more they could do. Cllr Cheeseman enquired the Associations views on the use of pesticides/insecticides to which Mr Martin advised in the past there had been resistance from plot holders to introduce a ban.

139 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

No declarations of interest were received.

140 PROGRESS REPORT

(a) Picnic benches/BBQ facility

Members **NOTED** an order had been placed for the picnic bench and litter bin, delivery date to be advised. The Town Clerk asked members to consider a site for the new bench and recommended the hard surface area at the bottom of the path, re-siting the existing wooden bench within the play area. Following due consideration **AGREED** the recommendation.

(b) Extension of path

NOTED work delayed due to adverse ground conditions.

© Water supply

Members **NOTED** Beaminster Community Centre Partnership were in agreement with the proposal to install a metered water supply from the pavilion. **AGREED** to carry out the work in conjunction with the skate park and public toilet project.

(d) Tree Works – Furland Allotments

Members **NOTED** work had been completed.

141 MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD

(a) Boundary Hedge

The Town Clerk advised infilling of the gaps in the boundary hedge adjacent the field gate had not been resolved. Following discussion members **AGREED** to seek two quotations to install the pedestrian gate, infill with posts and plant with suitable hedging.

(b) Play Area Sign

The Town Clerk reminded members of the requirement for a sign to acknowledge the funding from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and circulated a draft design. Following due consideration members **AGREED** the design and quotations to be sought.

Under this heading the Town Clerk advised the Quarterly Play Area inspection had been received in which the lack of signage detailing the operator of the site and emergency contacts had been raised. The Town Clerk circulated a draft design, **APPROVED** and quotations to be sought.

(c) Dog Warden

Two years ago the Town Council considered the appointment of a Dog Warden to enhance the service offered by, at that time, West Dorset District Council. During this time reports of instance of fouling in some areas of the town had increased, to determine the general consensus of the Town as to whether a dog warden would be an appropriate use of precept funds the Town Clerk recommended an initial consultation exercise via the website and social media. **AGREED.**

The Town Clerk drew members attention to an article in the press reporting on a meeting of Dorset Council's Place Scrutiny Committee at which dog related problems had been discussed. One of the suggestions put forward the possible use of town and parish council staff in areas where the authority would be willing to assist. Subsequently an approach had been made to the relevant Cabinet Brief holder to express the interest of Beaminster Town Council, a response was awaited. **NOTED.**

(d) Football goal posts

The Town Clerk advised of a further complaint with regard to the placing of goal posts adjacent a neighbouring property fence together with an enquiry as to whether a suitable site had been found for a single goal post. Mr Runyard advised the goal posts had subsequently been moved.

Discussion ensued with regard to a suitable site for a single goal post however the consensus being negative due to ground conditions and the disruption to existing sports pitches. However it was **AGREED**, to site a single goal post at the end of the football season during the summer months.

142 CEMETERY

No issues were raised.

143 FURLANDS ALLOTMENTS

Mr Martin, on behalf of the Association, thanked the Council for undertaking the tree works

Mr Martin advised Western Power had damaged the water pipe during excavation work this had been very quickly resolved and the repair undertaken.

144 PUBLIC ADMISSION TO MEETING

Members **RESOLVED** public and press be now excluded from the meeting whilst discussion took place on the on the following items on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

(a) Upgrade and extension of the CCTV system in Memorial Playing Field

Members had previously been circulated with an estimate for proposals to upgrade the current CCTV in the Playing Field.

Mr Runyard advised the estimate had been considered at a BCCP meeting where it had been considered that Phase 5 would facilitate regular monitoring of footage and should be included in the upgrade.

Following discussion members **AGREED** an extension of the current CCTV to be considered in conjunction with the Skate Project as it progressed. With regard to the upgrade of the existing cameras members **AGREED** to pursue a quotation for Phase 1 and 2 together with details of the relevant maintenance contract.

(b) Tree works – Memorial Playing Field

Mr Nikolov advised members of a small number of Elm trees that had been affected by Dutch Elm disease, a quotation for felling had been received in the sum of £400, with funds available in the budget members **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation.

The Town Clerk was asked to establish whether planning permission would be required.

145 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting in June 2020 to be confirmed.

146 MEETING

The meeting which started at 7.00pm closed at 8.30pm.

CHAIRMAN

