

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION GROUNDS, PUBLIC LANDS & LIGHTING COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11th October 2023, AT 7.00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GREENACRE CENTRE

Committee Members present:

Mrs M Cooper (Chairman), L Anderson, J Hyde, S Hayes, B Saunders, J Smith, N Vennear,

Also present:

H Child – Environmental Services Co-ordinator

134/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors, Buck and Talbot.

Cllr Cooper welcomed Cllr Nigel Veneer to his first RGPL committee meeting.

135/23 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS INTERESTS ON MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE AGENDA AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no disclosures of members interests or requests for dispensation.

Members were reminded that if at any time during the meeting they feel they have an interest in an item being discussed, they should declare it at that point.

136/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & RESPONSES

There were none.

137/23 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED The Minutes of 13th September 2023 were agreed at last week's Full Town Council meeting.

138/23 CLERK'S REPORT, CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED & MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION

The Clerk's summary report, pertaining to items arising from previous meetings was submitted to Councillors prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED Repairs to the slide area, to come out of the GAC 106 funding.

RESOLVED that the siting of the two speed indicator devices would initially be installed by Sparkx on existing streetlights, outside St Marys School, facing west on Rook Tree Lane and on The High Street just to the west of the dentist, facing west. Consideration should also be given to the placing of the illuminated Christmas trees.

RESOLVED CPM quote for the repairs to the play equipment has been approved, except for the Zip Wire at Riverside, which should be replaced with a spring stop, rather than a new tyre stop, as quoted. Office to raise PO for works to be carried out.

RESOLVED Hedge laying at Norton Road Allotments, office to pass on contractors, details, Metson and Metson to Richard Meredith Hardy for them to liaise directly. Work to be booked in, to take place between November and February.

Culvert work would be carried out in the winter.

RESOLVED Office to pay a licence fee of £50.00 to IDB.

Adoption of Jubilee Meadow – office to chase Taylor Wimpey to confirm a suitable meeting date.

139/23 COMMITTEE BUDGET 2024-25

RESOLVED The budgets will be discussed at next month's meeting, as we are awaiting final figures for the last quarter.

140/23 DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OPEN SPACES

CBC are currently accepting new applications for CIL funding, (Community Infrastructure Levy) which is available to enhance open spaces. Unlike 106 funding, which is tied to a particular community, CIL generally provides greater flexibility, as it is not area specific. Cllr Hyde explained that it can be used to fund planned projects, such as the Skate Park, or to replace existing play equipment.

There was discussion as to whether CBC are planning on replacing 106 funding with CIL, some clarity is needed, as CIL funding was dropped many years ago by CBC.

The original documents, outlining the terms, were released on 14th September, with feedback requested by 27th October. The time scale for the on-line introductory session has elapsed.

RESOLVED: Office team to progress quotes for replacing existing play equipment and to apply for the skatepark, using the approximate figures that have already been submitted.

Community and Village Hall Schedule for the Memorial Hall, also needs filling in. Documents to be left with the office team to work their way through.

141/23 POND AND BUND AT RIVERSIDE

Since we have now got the ponds at the back of Taylors Road, the planned dredging work is considered superfluous.

RESOLVED Agreed to leave everything as is, Town Rangers to litter pick and trim back where appropriate.

142/23 RIVERSIDE MUGA CONDITIONS OF USE

RESOLVED That weather permitting, the tennis nets would be put up by the Town Rangers, two days per week, year-round, between 8am – 3.30pm. Conditions of use and opening times are to be advertised in the Stotfold News and displayed on the notice board adjacent to the MUGA.

143/23 PEDESTRIAN GATE FROM FOOTBALL CLUB CAR PARK

It is necessary to provide safer pedestrian access for children, to keep them away from cars, as there is currently no pathway for pedestrians.

RESOLUTION Defer to next meeting to provide an opportunity for on-site visits to take place, to enable the committee to review various options.

144/23 HIGHWAYS REPORT

A list of current issues was provided prior to the meeting. Repairs to Brook Street pavement, by the Bowls Club, is on their schedule. Repairs outside The One Stop were completed quickly.

Tansy Avenue exit is going to The Traffic Management meeting at the end of November, the majority of residents are in favour.

Nothing has been done about the overhanging trees along Arlesey Road that are blocking lights and signage. Some work has been carried out on the bushes, but as yet not on the trees.

State of footway and weeds on Hyde Avenue (top end) where it joins Highbush Road, area needs weeding.

145/23 PUBLIC REALM WORKS

146/23 WORK PROGRAMME

Submitted for information purposes prior to the meeting. Future Agenda items will be added to the spreadsheet as they arise.

147/23 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES

When the five-bar gate was installed at Millenium Green, there was a gap between the gate and post, meaning that the existing chain didn't fit. As a temporary measure Robert Smith has put his own chains on it, but it still requires a longer chain.

RESOLVED STC to purchase a sufficiently long, heavy weight chain, with one combination lock. Town Rangers to fit.

148/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 8th November, 2023 @ 7pm

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.20pm

MINUTES APPROVED (date):

SIGNED BY CHAIRMAN: