

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE**  
**OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE ALLOTMENT SITE AND ARNOLD RECREATION**  
**GROUND ON MONDAY 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019 COMMENCING AT 7.30 pm**

**Present:** Councillors Mrs B Thomas (Chair), Mr A Channon (Vice-chair), Mr J Paxton,  
Mr L Davison-Williams (ex-officio)

**Attending:** Mrs S Cowie (Assistant Clerk)

**Minutes Taken by:** Mrs S Cowie

**18/693 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Councillor Mrs G Gardner

**18/694 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None

**18/695 MATTERS ARISING**

Councillor Thomas updated members on:

Minute point 18/601 - Replacement kissing gate, Arnold Recreation Ground.

Central Bedfordshire Council's Rights of Way Officer confirmed that the current kissing gate was not compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act, therefore the current kissing gate post could not be repaired and left in place. A new barrier replacement was agreed by a majority of Councillors via email votes, then at the 8<sup>th</sup> April Full Council meeting. Work installing the three staggered barriers, side fencing, new culvert and surfacing has now been completed. The project was funded 50/50 with Central Bedfordshire Council. This was inspected by committee members during the walk around.

Minute point 18/603 - Repair of bench by basket ball net, Arnold Recreation Ground.

The Groundsman has now rebuilt the bench and it now looks as new. This was inspected by members during the meeting.

**18/696 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019**

Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the Leisure committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**18/697 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WEEKLY INSPECTIONS OF THE PLAYGROUND AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT**

The inspections of Norman Road play area undertaken on 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup> April was acknowledged. All was in order.

The inspections of Arnold Recreation Ground on 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April was acknowledged. The hinge on the green gate into the play area has not yet been repaired, the inspection sheet needs updating as the safety surfacing has now been installed under the aeroskate.

The inspections of the Fitness equipment on 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April was acknowledged. Everything was in order.

**18/698 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE HORTICULTURAL SHOW SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2019**

It was not possible for the minutes to be approved as only two of the sub-committee members were present, therefore the committee was not quorate. Item to be included at the next Leisure committee meeting.

**18/699 WALK AROUND THE ALLOTMENT SITE AND CONSIDER ANY ACTION REQUIRED**

During the walk around, the wild area, boundaries and security of the site were discussed. Councillor Thomas and the Assistant Clerk recently met with a fencing contractor to discuss the options and costings for fencing and gated access to the allotment site. Councillor Thomas highlighted potential issues regarding access to plots 9 - 14 as these are located a lower level than the central roadway. She asked the committee to consider installing steps to this area. Members agreed to look at these items at future committee meetings. It was noted that the ditch along Hexton Road is not free flowing and needs bottoming out. **ACTION: Assistant Clerk to contact Highways regarding this, items to be discussed at future meetings.**

**18/700 TO CONSIDER ALLOTMENT SECURITY AND IT'S BOUNDARIES**

This item was covered in minute point 18/699

**18/ 701 TO CONSIDER THE NEXT STAGE OF THE NEW HERITAGE GARDEN**

The area has now been ploughed, levelled and seeded ready for the next stage. Following concerns from allotment tenants, members agreed that installing hedging along the existing chain link fence should be investigated further. Councillor Paxton advised that he had recently been contacted by 'the Green Gang' a group of local children who recently undertook their own litter pick of the village. They are interested in getting involved with tree planting within the village. Once availability of hedging is known 'The Green Gang' will be asked whether they would like to assist with the planting. At the next meeting members should agree the purpose of the area so that the project can move forward.

**18/702 WALK AROUND ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND AND CONSIDER ANY ACTION REQUIRED**

It was noted that the hinge on the gate into the play area is yet to be fixed. The newly installed swings and safety surfacing were viewed, all agreed that the installation had been carried out well and the project had been received well within the community. The location for the new double litter bins was agreed. The single bin in the play area is in a poor state of repair, costings for a replacement bin to be discussed at the next committee meeting. Advice has been sought from Proludic regarding maintenance of the wooden uprights on the aeroskate and multi-play equipment. The Groundsman should be able to carry out the work at an appropriate time. In addition the Groundsman was asked to fill four dips in the surface by the multi-play equipment. Members looked at the bench by the basketball net, this has recently been refurbished by the Groundsman. Next to the bench the old metal post which housed a litter bin is still in place, this should be discussed further. One of the metal fence posts at the entrance to the recreation ground (by Washbrook Close) is rotten and needs re-welding. Quote to be arranged. In addition one post of the main gate in to the area has been damaged and the lock does not align. A padlock and chain has been installed which has secured the gate. No further action needed at present. Concerns were raised over the use of BBQ's in the play area as they could cause a fire risk, this should be discussed further.

**18/703 WALK AROUND NORMAN ROAD PLAY AREA AND CONSIDER ANY ACTION REQUIRED**

The walk around was cancelled due to lack of day light.

**18/605 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA**

The contractor who installed the play equipment laid the left over road chippings on the mud verge along Old Road creating a firm, mud free surface. The Assistant Clerk was asked to contact Highways to see if they are willing to continue this further along the road.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm