

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 24th JUNE 2019 COMMENCING AT 8.22 pm

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

Attending: Mrs S Cowie (Assistant Clerk)

Minutes Taken by: Mrs S Cowie

19/102 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Councillor Mr N Day

19/103 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None

19/104 MATTERS ARISING

The two hawthorn trees in Norman Road which were growing at an angle have now been removed. Councillor Thomas advised members that the contractor has stated that he believes the trees have not caused damage to the residents fence.

19/105 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 29th APRIL 2019

Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the Leisure committee held on 29th April 2019 **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon with **4 in FAVOUR and 2 ABSTENTIONS**.

19/106 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WEEKLY INSPECTIONS OF THE PLAYGROUND AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT

The inspections of Norman Road play area undertaken on 7th and 16th June were acknowledged. It was noted that the benches are in need to attention, the Groundsman has this on his list.

The inspection of the Fitness equipment on 17th June was acknowledged. Everything was in order.

The inspection of Arnold Recreation Ground on 17th June was acknowledged. It was noted that the pod swing was taken out of action following the failure of the chain. This item would be discussed later in the meeting.

19/107 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE HORTICULTURAL SHOW SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26th FEBRUARY 2019

Councillor Gardner **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the Horticultural Show sub-committee meeting held on 26th February 2019, **SECONDED** by Councillor Paxton with **3 in FAVOUR and 3 ABSTENTIONS**. For future minutes Councillor Gardner asked that Mr A Low be listed as a resident rather than a volunteer.

19/108 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE PURCHASE OF TWO TROPHIES FOR THE 2019 HORTICULTURAL SHOW AND AGREE NAME FOR TROPHY

Councillor Gardner **PROPOSED** that the 110 mm Hunter Starts trophy be purchased for the overall winner of the children's section at a cost of £5.50 (including engraving), **SECONDED** by Councillor Paxton and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

In addition to the trophy for the children's section, members considered a new trophy for the allotment completion Best Newcomer as the 'Dingly Dell' trophy is now full. At the Full Council meeting on 10th June it was suggested that the new trophy be named after Councillor Dave Gunter. Members were in favour of the suggestion but asked Councillor Davison-Williams to speak to the family before approving the purchase. Item to be agreed at the July Full Council meeting.

19/109 TO CONSIDER QUOTATIONS FOR THE REMOVAL OF WOODEN UPRIGHT POSTS AROUND THE JUNIOR AND TODDLER SWINGS IN ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND

The RoSPA report has again flagged up the wooden uprights around the swings as they are in poor condition and are splitting. Two quotations for the removal and re-seeding/turf were considered and following discussion Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** the quotation from Barton Countryside Conservation for the removal of 14 metres of timber posts and concrete then turf be accepted at a cost of £677.20. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

19/110 TO CONSIDER/AGREE QUOTATION FOR WELDING OF METAL PLATE TO DAMAGED GATE POST AT ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND

Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** the quotation from Project Metalcraft to make a metal plate (300 mm) for 3 sides of the gate post and weld to existing at a cost of £100 + VAT be accepted. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

- 19/111 TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF NEW SINGLE BIN OR USE OF EXISTING REFURBISHED BIN FOR ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA AND AGREE LOCATION**
Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** that the damaged bin be removed and the refurbished bin be sited within the play area, 2 metres away from the picnic table as per RoSPA recommendations. The proposal was **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.
- 19/112 TO CONSIDER REMOVAL OF THE METAL POST BY THE BASKETBALL NET IN ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND**
The metal post by the bench/basketball net previously housed a litter bin however following the recommendations from RoSPA regarding recommended distances between bins and benches a new litter bin cannot be positioned on the post. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** that the post be removed, **SECONDED** by Councillor Paxton and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. Work to be carried out by the Groundsman.
- 19/113 TO RETROSPECTIVELY APPROVE THE COST FOR 2 NEW HANDLE GRIPS FOR THE FITNESS RIDER EQUIPMENT, ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND**
Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** retrospective approval for two new handle grips from Caloo at a total cost of £13.00 + VAT, **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.
- 19/114 TO RETROSPECTIVELY APPROVE THE COST OF SILICON FOR SAFETY SURFACING REPAIRS**
Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** retrospective approval of the cost for 2 silicon tubes from Online Playgrounds at a cost of £10.00 + VAT, **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.
- 19/115 TO CONSIDER ACTIONS REQUIRED FOLLOWING THE ROSPA INSPECTION OF 22ND MAY**
A summary of findings and actions required and completed was provided to members prior to the meeting. The majority of tasks have now been completed, the Groundsman was thanked for his hard work completing the tasks so swiftly.
- 19/116 TO CONSIDER ACTION REQUIRED AND QUOTATION FOR REPLACEMENT PLAY EQUIPMENT IN ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND**
The RoSPA report highlighted a number of issues with the pod swing and since the inspection one of the chain links had failed and the equipment has been taken out of use. The pod swing is a popular piece of equipment and members agreed that it should be replaced. Two outline quotations for a replacement pod swing were considered by members. Members felt that before a decision could be made it was important to establish the costs for replacement parts i.e. chains and asked the Assistant Clerk to look into this. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** that the equipment should be replaced, item to be discussed further at the July Full Council meeting once the cost of replacement items is known. The proposal was **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.
- 19/117 TO CONSIDER ACTION REQUIRED TO HEDGEROW FOLLOWING THE REMOVAL OF THE GARAGE BEHIND THE VILLAGE HALL**
Once the garage is removed a 3 metre gap in the fence line will be left. Members considered a quotation from Reynolds Landscaping to install fencing, Barton Countryside Conservation advised that they have materials available to fence the gap, work to be carried out at no cost to the Council. Members agreed that Barton Countryside Conservation should be asked to carry out the work to make the site secure, hedgerow planting to be considered at a later date.
- 19/118 TO ACKNOWLEDGE PPM'S PEST CONTROL VISIT OF THE ALLOTMENTS ON 23RD MAY AND CONSIDER ANY ACTION REQUIRED**
The Pest Investigation Report stated that no rodent activity was recorded, all baits were replaced using non-toxic bait. The next inspection is due in July.
- 19/119 TO AGREE THE ALLOTMENT FEES FOR 2020/2021 AND REVIEW OF TENANCY AGREEMENT**
The allotment fees for 2020/2021 and the tenancy agreement were reviewed. Minor amendments to the tenancy agreement were made:
Clause 2.6 add *"any trees planted must be a dwarf variety of espaliered"* and
Clause 2.15 to read - *Not to connect any sprinkler system "and/or make shift sprinkler" to the allotment water supply"*
Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** the tenancy agreement with the amendments as detailed above be approved, **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

With regard to the fees for 2020/2021, Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** the fees for a 5 pole plot should be increased to £16.00 and a 10 pole plot should be £32.00. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Paxton and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

19/120 TO CONSIDER THE RISK ASSESSMENTS AND ACTIONS REQUIRED

The risk assessments for the allotments, play areas, open spaces and drainage were considered. At the allotments it is noted that a risk to the groundsman's safety when using and storing machinery, this will continue to be tackled under the Groundsman ongoing training. Councillor Davison-Williams raised concerns over the ditch at the allotment entrance and the chance that a vehicle could fall into it. It was suggested that this item should be discussed further at a later meeting.

19/121 TO CONSIDER ACTION REQUIRED REGARDING THE DISUSED PLAY AREA BEHIND THE CO-OP

Following comments of Facebook, Councillor Paxton asked the committee to discuss the disused play area behind the Co-op Food store. It was noted that the land is owned by Aldwyck Housing Association and all play equipment was removed some years ago at the request of residents, following incidents of anti-social behaviour. The Parish Council has little say over the area agreed to contact Aldwyck Housing to ask that they consider removing the railings and make the area more aesthetically pleasing.

19/122 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

None

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm