

## MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Monday October 28<sup>th</sup> 2019 6:30pm

Parish Office, Old School Building, Main Street, Burton Joyce

### MINUTES

**Present:** Cllrs N Orders (Chair) P Hyde (Vice Chair) and R Fife

**In attendance:** J Sherrin (Clerk) Cllr R Ringham and J Wakeling (representing Allotment Holders' Association)

- AM19/129**      **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr S Cook (Umpiring) and D List, Grounds and Amenities Manager (Holiday)
- AM19/130**      **Declarations of Councillors' interest for items on the agenda** – Cllrs N Orders and R Fife have allotment tenancies.
- AM19/131**      **Minutes of meeting held on September 10<sup>th</sup> 2019** – approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chair
- AM19/132**      **Matters arising from previous minutes not covered in the agenda** – None  
*Standing Orders were suspended and subsequently re-instated to allow item AM19/134 to be taken whilst GHA representative was present.*
- AM19/133**      **Roberts Recreation Ground**
- (i)      Friends of Roberts' Recreation Ground. Email update provided by L Clarke. Some donations have been received from local businesses and applications have been started for grant funding. Suggested by committee that the Co-op's Community Fund may be worth exploring. Newspaper article regarding funding from GBC noted. Concluded that a strategic approach needs to be taken to the development of the site, in collaboration with the Friends of RR Group. To follow up at next meeting.
  - (ii)      Equipment and maintenance update – ROSPA inspection on gate taken place following recent complaints. Noted it passed the inspection and no further action is required. Titan swing chain in need of replacement, awaiting quote.
  - (iii)      Donation of bench in memory of ex-Chair and Councillor, Richard Potter noted with grateful thanks. Cllr J Johnson attend unveiling of plaque on 2<sup>nd</sup> November.
- AM19/134**      **Allotments**
- (i)      Garden Holders' Association update – Complaint received regarding burning of plastic materials. GHA representative to advise Chair of when this takes place. Encroachment onto headlands and Leylandii hedges – to be reviewed at next inspection process.
  - (ii)      J Wakeling requested on behalf of the GHA for a DEFRA registered estates game-keeper to be hired to carry out a night-time cull of rabbits on the allotments. Noted he is insured and uses pellets, not bullets. He has advised that laying traps would not be effective. Clarified that night-vision goggles would be used and only rabbits would be killed, not hares. No fee would be charged,

instead the rabbits would be taken in lieu of payment. Request was unanimously approved, contingent on permission being given by J Jackson, Severn Trent Water.

- (iii) Allotment inspections update – 5 allotment holders have been served notice. Deadline of 16<sup>th</sup> November given to clear all belongings from the land, at which point allotments will be re-let. J Wakeling queried one decision on behalf of a tenant, but it was noted by the committee that a fair process had been followed and re-inspection had taken place following the initial letter, with no improvements being made to the plot in question. Proposed and resolved unanimously that a representative from the GHA would be included in the next inspection.
- (iv) Action to take on relinquished allotments regarding ground preparation - report from D List that costing of clearing allotment 46 needs to take place. Other allotments to be rent-free until April 1<sup>st</sup>. Cllr Orders to liaise with D List. Request from GHA that communications with new tenants make it clear that this free of charge period is for the allotments to be worked and planted.

**AM19/135 Cemetery**

- (i) Second quotation for tarmac received. D List to arrange 3<sup>rd</sup> quote before decision can be made. Proposed that this should be paid for through CIL funds – to go to next F&GP meeting in December.

**AM19/136 The Grove**

- (i) Goal post to be removed after October half term school holiday.

**AM19/137 Maintenance & Items of Capital Expenditure**

Demonstration model of Kubota mower currently being used. D List organising purchase of new one (approved at October Full Council).

**AM19/138 Budget considerations for 2020-21.** Contingency budget of 2019-20 insufficient.

Proposed that £3-5k required in future.

**AM19/139 Information update**

No other updates

**AM19/140 Date of next meeting** – Tuesday December 17<sup>th</sup> 2019 at 6:30pm (note change of date)

Meeting closed at 8:55pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of Amenities Committee

Date: \_\_\_\_\_