

MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Monday February 17th 2020 6:30pm

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

Present: Cllrs N Orders (Chair) P Hyde (Vice Chair) R Fife, R Ringham and D Wright

In attendance: J Sherrin (Clerk) David List (Grounds and Amenities Manager) A Chippindale (representing Allotment Holders' Association) G Dignum (Representing Friends of Roberts' Recreation Ground)

MINUTES

- AM20/152** **Apologies for Absence** - None
- AM20/153** **Declarations of Councillors' interest for items on the agenda** - Cllrs N Orders and R Fife have allotments.
- AM20/154** **Approval of minutes of meeting held on December 17th 2019** – Approved as a true record and duly signed by the Chair.
- AM20/155** **Matters arising from previous minutes not covered in the agenda** – Membership fee of £3 to GHA clarified. Profit from seeds used to pay insurance. Progress on issues of leylandii and hazel hedges queried. Deputy Clerk to send letters to tenants requesting cut back of hazel hedge and complete removal of leylandii hedge, including roots and stumps.
- AM20/156** **Allotments**
- (i) **Garden Holders' Association update** – No further updates
 - (ii) **To consider requests for poly tunnels** on Plots 11A and 2A – Approved unanimously
 - (iii) **To consider requests for repairs or replacements** following recent storms – No requests other than like-for-like shed replacement.
 - (iv) **Waiting list update** – 5 Residents and 5 Non-Residents on waiting list. Vacant plots have been offered to residents.
 - (v) **Maintenance and inspection update** – D List aims to turn water back on at beginning of March, depending on the weather / frost. A Chippindale and N Orders to survey allotments together to agree common ground. Formal Parish Council inspection to be carried out in March.
 - (vi) **Correspondence from allotment holders** to request for Severn Trent Water to reduce tree canopies. Deputy Clerk to write to Severn Trent Water to request crown lift of trees as per request.

A Chippindale left at this point

- AM20/157** **Roberts Recreation Ground**
- (i) **Friends of Roberts' Recreation Ground update.** Review of funds raised to date provided by G Dignum. £1,000 Lottery bid won for wooden stilts. Noted there would be installation and maintenance costs associated with these.

Approximately £2,500 has been raised to date. The target is £10,000 over the next 12 months with the aim of using this to apply for £100,000. Community feedback has been launched via Facebook and a “Plan my Park” competition for children to design ideas and suggestions, with a closing date of 28th February. A quiz night in October and sponsored walk in March are also being organised.

- (ii) **Equipment and maintenance update** – Titan Swing chains have arrived and will be installed as soon as possible. Front area has been pruned. Tree has been removed by Chestnut Grove. Ground is currently very wet.
- (iii) **Strategy for funding and developing the site** – Parish Council wishes to replace and refurbish existing equipment and explore some degree of re-surfacing, rather than undertaking a wholesale re-design of the site. Noted that maintenance costs need to be borne in mind when deciding on new pieces of equipment. Agreed that the most urgent issue to address is the grassy mound / tunnel area. The Clerk and Parish Councillors to meeting with the GBC Parks team to explore planned expenditure of Section 106 Funds. Working Group meeting to be organised between Parish Council and Friends of RR.
- (iv) **Donation from 3 Villages Gala of £1000** – Agreed that these funds should be spent on re-landscaping the grassy mound and tunnels area, with the plan to install a slide on it. Grounds and Amenities Manager to liaise with Chair of 3 Villages Gala to agree on precisely how the funds will be spent.

G Dignum left at this point

AM20/158 Cemetery

- (i) To review repairs required to cemetery portacabin – Portacabin is used as a mess room for grounds staff working in the cemetery. D List noted that the roof needs repairing, the plumbing is not working and the cabin needs deep cleaning. D List to obtain quotes and bring to next meeting.
- (ii) To receive maintenance updates – Tree works required at cemetery and other sites.
- (iii) To update cemetery policy to include specification for ashes memorial stones – Clerk to add 18” x 18” size limit to policy.
- (iv) To receive progress report on updating cemetery records – Cllr Orders and Clerk have now updated all records electronically. Suitability of fireproof cupboard in cemetery to be reviewed for transfer to Parish Office.

AM20/159 The Grove – No updates

AM20/160 Fees and charges - To review rates and charges for:

- (i) Allotments – proposed to increase by 3% to the nearest £1
- (ii) Cemetery and Garden of Rest – proposed to increase by 3% to the nearest £5

AM20/161 Maintenance & Items of Capital Expenditure - None

AM20/162 Information update – Cllr Orders raised concerns regarding threat of closure at level crossing at Lee Road. Proposed GHA raise awareness of the need for safe crossing and avoidance of further near misses.

AM20/163 Date of next meeting – Monday 6th April 6:30pm

Meeting closed 7:28pm

Signed: _____
Chair of Amenities Committee

Date: _____