

MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Tuesday 8th December 2020 11am on-line via Zoom link

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

In attendance: J Sherrin (Clerk) J Savage (Deputy Clerk) D List (Grounds & Amenities Manager) J Wakeling and A Chippindale (Garden Holders Association) and L Smith and G Dignum (Friends of Roberts' Recreation Ground)

MINUTES

- AM20/190** **Apologies for Absence** Cllr D Wright (Convalescing)
- AM20/191** **Declarations of Councillors' interest for items on the agenda** – Cllrs N Orders and R Fife have allotments.
- AM20/192** **Minutes of meeting held on October 6th 2020** – Unanimously approved as a true record. To be signed by the Chair.
- AM20/193** **Matters arising from previous minutes not covered in the agenda** – A Chippindale queried issue regarding the portaloos. Noted that facilities are needed at the allotments, but the use of chemicals can have a severe and detrimental impact. Unanimously agreed that Tenancy Agreement should include a clause stating “portaloos or similar units which use chemicals are strictly prohibited”.
- AM20/194** **Allotments**
- (i) **Garden Holders' Association update** - Compost has been delivered by STW on the 'muck plot' and all utilised by allotment holders. Seeds will be a little late because of high demand. 3 x A3 laminated and 2 x A3 non-laminated maps of the site to be given to J Wakeling once number post installation is complete. A large skip is being ordered for the spring, with volunteers to police what is being put into it. To be sited on the muck plot if delivery allows. Request has been made to STW for allotments holders to have keypad access through farm gate when installed for harvesting next year. GHA to send reminder to allotment holders not to cut through allotments to access their own. Also to ask users to avoid the use of peat in compost as part of a drive for ecological improvement. J Sherrin to send GHA contact details of Climate Change Group. Understanding of access arrangements for deliveries was requested. J Savage noted that she receives requests and contacts STW directly, who open the gates. Time scales depend on current farming requirements.
 - (ii) **Waiting list update** – 7 residents, 13 non-residents. 1 plot becoming available in April. 3 have date to be confirmed once crops are lifted.
 - (iii) **Maintenance and inspection update** - Inspections to take place at the end of February 2021. J Savage to arrange date and to advise relevant ploholders that the inspection will be taking place and the tenancy will be terminated if improvements have not been made. Photographs to be taken of condition of plots during inspection process. Number posts have been installed, but sub-lettering still to be completed. D List and N Orders to agree date for 1st of monthly maintenance site visits.
 - (iv) **Request for installation of 3m x 6m polytunnel on plot 59** – unanimously approved.
 - (v) **Tenancy agreements** – J Savage reported she had been in contact with the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and the National Allotment Society (NAS) for

advice on joint tenancies. The Parish Council is now a member of NAS for future guidance and advice. Proposed and resolved unanimously that all tenancy agreements have a maximum of two named tenants. A list of authorised users is instigated, clarifying that the authorised users have no rights over the plot. Any new tenant must be on the waiting list before being allocated a plot.

AM20/195

Roberts Recreation Ground

- (i) **Friends of Roberts' Recreation Ground** – L Smith provided an update. Three suppliers have been approached in collaboration with the Parish Council to provide outline designs and estimates for a re-vamp of the whole park. £10,750 is needed for the application to the FCC for a £100k grant. £3,610 has been raised by the Group to date. The Group will endeavour to continue to raise funds to a total of £5k. G Dignum will approach the Co-op in Spring 2021 and L Smith will approach Cllr N Brooks (NCC). The Parish Council is due to be ratifying the proposal to make up the initial shortfall to enable the application to be made at the December meeting. G Dignum will formulate the project plan and get it to the Amenities Committee by January. The Group was congratulated on their success in raising the funds in the short space of time before lock-down and their continued support and work was appreciated, particularly under the current Covid-19 restrictions. Membership of the Group currently stands at 4.
- (ii) **Judging of playground design competition** – This competition will be relaunched by the FoRR Group before the Christmas break to ensure wide community support.
- (iii) **Progress with tunnel / mound section** – D List reported that the tunnel is in place and the soil will be built around it this week and will then require a 6 week settling period before being re-turfed and the new slide being installed. Improved pathways to access the area will be built into the longer term project.
- (iv) **Donation from 3 Villages Gala** – D List reported that due to reduced revenue from Covid restrictions, the sum to be donated towards the improvements to the tunnel / mound section will now be £750.
- (v) **Equipment and maintenance** – Replacement rubber triangle for toddler multi-play is on order. Welder for slide and fence still to be sourced.

AM20/196

Cemetery

- (i) Portacabin repairs – Completed by Parish Council staff
- (ii) Other maintenance issues – D List presented a plan of how the front boarders can be managed to allow sections to be looked after by community groups. To organise shredders and stump grinders to commence works.

AM20/197

The Grove

One quote received to date for felling of diseased beech tree. D List to seek 2 more. J Sherrin has contacted Cllr S Smith regarding GBC funding for replacement trees. To apply in new tranche of funding in April 2021.

AM20/198

War Memorial – Replacement hedges to be considered in budget setting.

AM20/199

Millennium Sun Dial – Resident been contacted for update on restoration of lettering.

AM20/200

To consider review of dog control orders – J Sherrin to contact GBC for guidance on Public Space Protection Order relevant to BJPC open spaces, which has replaced Dog Control Order.

AM20/201

Maintenance & items of capital expenditure – Covered in item AM20/202 below.

AM20/202

Budget Considerations for 2021 – Cemetery: Lychgate, improvements to front boarders and tarmac paths. Other: war memorial hedges.

AM20/203

Information update – No further information.

AM20/204

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 26th January at 11am via Zoom

Meeting closed 12:30pm

Signed: _____
Chair of Amenities Committee

Date: _____