

MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Tuesday 23rd February at 2pm on-line via Zoom link

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

In attendance: J Sherrin (Clerk) J Savage (Deputy Clerk) D List (Grounds & Amenities Manager). J Wakeling (Garden Holders Association) L Smith, G Dignum, G Hadjigeorgiou and S Adams (Friends of Roberts' Recreation Ground) P Smith (Environment Group)

MINUTES

- AM21/202** **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr Richard Fife
- AM21/203** **Declarations of Councillors' interest for items on the agenda** – Cllr Orders has an allotment
- AM21/204** **Election of Chair (and if appropriate Vice-Chair) of the Amenities Committee**
Cllr P Hyde unanimously elected as Chair.
Cllr R Ringham unanimously elected as Vice Chair.
- AM21/205** **Minutes of meeting held on January 26th 2021** – Unanimously approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.
- AM21/206** **Matters arising from previous minutes not covered in the agenda** – J Sherrin to chase progress on sundial.
- AM21/207** **Allotments**
- (i) Garden Holders' Association update – J Wakeling gave apologies for A Chippindale. Noted the meeting with J Smith (Environment Group) regarding ceasing the use of peat at the allotments had been postponed and rescheduled. D List had investigated the issue with Gate 2 not opening properly and had spoken to STW about replacing the rotten post. He will ask STW for likely time-scale on repairs. Problems with people cutting through plots has been resolved. Notice regarding tenants keeping dogs on leads to be sent out by GHA along with other notification regarding peat use.
 - (ii) Waiting list update – 6 residents and 17 non-residents
 - (iii) Maintenance and inspection update – J Savage reported that 7 plots had been identified as needing work before being served notice. 3 had made excellent progress, 1 slight improvement with 1 week extension to make improvement before notice is served. 2 have been served notice. Plot 47 will need work on it before it can be made available. D List to assess requirements. The Scouts have requested an extension due to restrictions on meeting in Covid Pandemic. Proposal to be put to them to reduce the plot to a more manageable half plot. Decision required by 22nd March 2021.
- (i) Requests for replacement of 7'x5' shed on plot 4A – unanimously approved.
- J Savage and J Wakeling left at this point*
- AM21/208** **The Grove**
- (i) Update on diseased beech tree felling – D List to action lowest of 3 quotes. J Sherrin suggested looking into carving the tree stump into a feature to compensate for the loss of the tree – to explore feasibility and costs. Funding request for replacement trees to be made to GBC in new budget year this April.

- (ii) Request for use of The Grove for birthday celebration in August 2021 – approved contingent on all rubbish being cleared and the park left in the condition it was found.

P Smith left at this point

AM21/209 Roberts Recreation Ground

- (i) Disability Access Assessment – Approved unanimously.
- (ii) 3 Quotes received for equipment and pathways – J Sherrin provided Excel summary of 3 quotes in appropriate categories for the funding application. Application includes stated criteria for selecting the supplier, which will be used after the grant application has been submitted. Visits to existing installations to take place over coming weeks to make final decision on supplier.
- (iii) FCC grant application – Unanimously approved to be submitted to the Full Council. The Friends of Roberts Rec were thanked for all their hard work and effort in carrying out the consultation process, fund raising and competition coordination and their input into the grant application. Noted that the FoRR will be organising a raffle in the park on Easter Monday and have been working with the local craft group for further on-line fundraising.
- (iv) Progress with tunnel / mound section – D List to have decision this week regarding the voluntary donation of the earthworks. If it is not possible for this to be completed in the next week, he will organise an alternative to keep the project moving.
- (v) Donation from 3 Villages Gala - £750 to be donated to the new slide project.
- (vi) Equipment and maintenance – Rubber triangle for the toddler slide has now arrived from the supplier and will be fitted as soon as possible.

FoRR group left at this point

AM21/210 Cemetery

- (i) Maintenance issues, including repairs to front wall – quotes to be sought by D List for repairs.

AM20/211 Fees and charges - To review rates and charges for:

- (i) Allotments – Agreed unanimously to increase allotment plots by £1, £2 and £3 for one third, half and full plots respectively and for non-resident fees to remain 2 x resident fees. Making fees £22, £32 and £48 for residents and £44, £64 and £96 for non-residents.
- (ii) Cemetery and Garden of Rest – Agreed unanimously to increase resident fees by 2% to the nearest £1 for residents and for non-resident fees to be 4 x these fees.

AM21/212 Information update – No further updates

AM21/213 Date of next meeting – Tuesday 27th April at 10am

Meeting closed 3:05pm

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Chair of Amenities Committee