

MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Tuesday 26th January at 11am on-line via Zoom link

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

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

MINUTES

AM21/190 Apologies for Absence – None

AM21/191 Declarations of Councillors' interest for items on the agenda – Cllrs Orders and Fife have allotments.

AM21/192 Minutes of meeting held on December 8th 2020 – Unanimously approved as a true record. To be signed by the Chair.

AM21/193 Matters arising from previous minutes not covered in the agenda - None

AM21/194 Allotments

- (i) Garden Holders' Association update – J Wakeling reported that seeds had now been delivered. GHA to contact members with reminder that dogs must be kept on leads and to avoid the use of peat in compost as part of a drive for ecological improvement. Noted that tenants had been contacted by J Savage regarding dumping waste on the 'muck plot'. Number posts installed. D List to complete installation of letter posts – to be half size posts marking A, B and C plots. J Savage to provide printed and laminated plans of the site to the GHA.
- (ii) Waiting list update – 7 residents and 17 non residents.
- (iii) Maintenance and inspection update – Re-inspection to take place at the end of February. Cllr R Fife noted some rubbish has been dumped between plots and the dyke. Monthly maintenance site visit dates to be agreed by D List and Cllr N Orders.
- (iv) Requests for installation of 4'x5' shed on plot 18A and 6'x8' shed on plot 56B – unanimously approved.

J Wakeling left at this point

L Smith and G Dignum joined at this point

AM21/195 Roberts Recreation Ground

- (i) Friends of Roberts' Recreation Ground – 170 responses have been received from questionnaires and focus groups have been taking place as part of the consultation process for the FCC grant application. G Dignum has written development plan and will send to J Sherrin to circulate once complete and roles are clarified. J Sherrin to set up account and begin application process to FCC and complete all Parish Council information. To liaise with L Smith for FoRR input on project detail and consultation process. J Sherrin to and L Smith to contact suppliers to chase quotes. Target to complete application by 15th February for further discussion with sub-group, before circulating on 18th February to the Amenities Committee. Target to circulate the finished

application to Full Council on 25th February for approval on 2nd March and submission on 3rd March. Noted that all future publicity regarding the project should include reference to the Parish Council. L Smith and G Dignum were thanked for their hard work in getting the project to this stage.

- (ii) Progress with tunnel / mound section – Awaiting confirmation of voluntary help.
- (iii) Donation from 3 Villages Gala – D List to chase.
- (iv) Equipment and maintenance – Park is currently close due to slippery, muddy surfaces from heavy usage, coupled with flooding and snow during lock-down. D List to continue monitored weekly and report recommendations to Cllrs Orders and Hyde for decision.

AM21/196 Cemetery

- (i) Correspondence regarding works to front borders discussed. Concerns raised regarding loss of hedgehogs' habitat and a lack of consideration for insects and larger mammals were reviewed. Whilst the Parish Council is fully supportive of encouraging wildlife, it was agreed that the encouragement of any mammals, including hedgehogs, in this particular location, close to a busy main road, would fundamentally not be in their interest, and that there were more appropriate environments away from the A612 to encourage wildlife. Furthermore it was considered inappropriate to encourage any burrowing wildlife in the cemetery, with there being more appropriate areas of Parish Council land for this purpose, such as the Grove. Cllrs present noted that they had received a number of positive comments about the works being carried out at the Cemetery and it had been well received by passers-by, including a request for more benches to be able to enjoy it. Noted that the design of the border includes areas for interested community groups to tend, in consultation with D List and the Amenities Committee, once the initial preparatory works are complete. These are areas where planting can be pollinator-friendly to encourage birds, bees and other insects.
- (ii) Maintenance issues – Ivy removed from lychgate has exposed the need for the wall to be re-pointed. D List to seek quotes for work.

AM21/197 The Grove

- (i) Update on diseased tree felling – D List expects quotes next week.
- (ii) Anonymous donation of £100 for bird and/or bat boxes noted. Agreed that the location of them should be agreed in consultation with the Wildlife Trust once it is possible to meet after lockdown. J Sherrin to publicise in The Magazine with suggestion that others may wish to make donations.

AM21/198 War Memorial – No update.

AM21/199 Millennium Sun Dial – Works being chased up by resident regarding restoration of lettering.

AM21/200 Maintenance & items of capital expenditure - None

AM21/201 Information update – No further update

AM21/201 Date of next meeting – Tuesday February 23rd at 2pm

Meeting closed 12:15pm

Signed: _____
Chair of the Amenities Committee

Date: _____