

MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Tuesday 21st July 2020 11am on-line via Zoom link

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

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

MINUTES

AM20/164 **Apologies for Absence** – None.

AM20/165 **Declarations of Councillors' interest for items on the agenda** Cllrs N Orders has an allotment.

AM20/166 **Approval of minutes of meeting held on February 17th 2020** - Approved as a true record. To be signed by the Chair when next possible.

AM20/167 **Matters arising from previous minutes not covered in the agenda** – None.

AM20/168 **All decisions made by the committee during Covid-19 lock-down were noted as follows:**

- (i) **Proposed and resolved** to make the following addition to the tenancy agreement – “The agreement must be signed within 30 days of the commencement of the tenancy. Failure to sign the agreement within this period will result in the tenancy being withdrawn”
- (ii) **Proposed and resolved** that “existing plot holders may rent an additional plot if the vacant plot is *next to their own* (and therefore turns a half plot into a full one) only. If the plot is not adjacent to theirs then the next person on the residents' waiting list should be offered the next available plot”
- (iii) **Request for rents to be withheld for the year** – proposal *not* approved as allotments are being utilised more than usual. Providing the site can stay open during the Covid-19 crisis, there is no case for a rent reduction
- (iv) **Request for additional 4' x 3' shed, 8' x 6' polytunnel swinging hammock and planting of 3 dwarf fruit trees on plot 25B** - approved, subject to deliveries being made after lifting of Covid-19 restrictions
- (v) **Cemetery hedge to be cut to 4m height across whole width and sided up**
- (vi) **Erection of Poly tunnel on plot 37i** - approved
- (vii) **Erection of polytunnel on plot 47ii** – approved

D List arrived at this point

AM20/169 **Roberts Recreation Ground**

- (i) **Covid-19 safety measures and re-opening of park** - The Roberts' Recreation Ground reopened on Saturday 18 July, following a Risk Assessment, with new signage installed detailing guidelines, risks and responsibility when using the Recreation Ground.
- (ii) **Friends of Roberts' Recreation Ground** - £1,560 is held in the Parish Council bank account for the funds raised by Friends of RR to date. Section 106 Funds will be made available when 50% of the new Millfield development is occupied, most urgent issue to address is the grassy mound/tunnel area. Sponsored walk and fund raising cancelled due to Covid-19. Noted that Parish Council policy

does not allow posters or banners advertising private business on the railings of the park. Working group meeting to be organised between Parish Council and Friends of RR.

- (iii) **Donation from 3 Villages Gala** - No update
- (iv) **Equipment and maintenance** – ROSPA report identified repairs which have now been completed. Repairs to the play equipment include: Pendulum swing, spring toy, zip wire, button swing, and multi-pongo. In progress: welding on the slide, the goal and the triangle platform on toddler slide.

G Dignum & L Smith left the meeting at this point

A Chippindale and J Wakeling joined the meeting at this point

AM20/170 Allotments

- (i) **Garden Holders' Association update** - Confirmed residents having priority over non-residents on the waiting list, with sub-letting being in breach of tenancy agreement. Further details to be clarified regarding a tenancy agreement dispute. Decision to be made once facts have been established. It was agreed in the interim that the non-resident working the plot in question may stay on the plot until 31 March 2021, and that a decision will be made separate to this meeting regarding this specific tenancy agreement in the long-term. Discussion regarding allotment gate being left open or closed. Agreed this is a personal decision.
- (ii) **Waiting list update** - 9 Residents and 12 Non-Residents on waiting list.
- (iii) **Maintenance and inspection update** - Date of inspection to be confirmed within the next 2 weeks
- (iv) **Tree canopy reduction update** - Completed, Deputy Clerk contacted Severn Trent Water to say thank you for their prompt action.

A Chippindale & J Wakeling left the meeting at this point.

AM20/171 Cemetery

- (i) **To review quotes for repairs required to cemetery portacabin** - D List to obtain quotes for next amenities meeting.
- (ii) **To receive maintenance updates** - D List confirmed all maintenance was in satisfactory progress.

AM20/172 St Helen's Church Yard

- (i) **Update** – GBC councillors contacted the Parish Office to discuss the condition of the Church Yard. Noted confusion over terminology and the reference was to the Cemetery, not the Church Yard. A meeting took place on site with the vicar, GBC Councillors, residents and D List to open discussions. Internal Working Group meeting to be organised on site to reviewing the flower beds and boarders before further discussions with the group.

AM20/173 The Grove

- (i) **Update** – The goal posts were not installed due to Covid-19. It was noted the Grove is well used and appreciated.

AM20/174 Maintenance & items of capital expenditure – The litter bins in the Roberts Recreation Ground to be replaced with bins with liners - Covid-19 safe to protect staff. Costs to be provided by D List to purchase and fix.

AM20/175 Information update - None

AM20/176 Date of next meeting - to be agreed

Meeting closed 12:28pm

Signed: _____
Chair of Amenities Committee

Date: _____