

MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Tuesday 7th September at 7pm, Main Hall, Old School Building

Present: Cllrs R Ringham (Chair) P Hyde (Vice-Chair) R Fife [from 7:20pm], Y Greenfield, N Orders and D Wright

In attendance: J Sherrin (Clerk) D List (Grounds & Amenities Manager).

J Wakeling (Garden Holders Association) to 7:30pm and L Smith (Friends of Roberts' Recreation Ground) from 7:30pm

MINUTES

AM21/236 **Apologies for Absence – None**

AM21/237 **Declarations of Councillors' interest for items on the agenda – Cllrs N Orders and P Hyde have an allotment**

AM21/238 **Minutes of meeting held on June 22nd 2021 – approved as a true record subject to the following change: AM21/230 (iii) delete [GHA is] “not supportive of” and insert “does not have the means financially or organisationally to support” [a community plot].**

AM21/239 **Matters arising from previous minutes not covered in the agenda – None**

AM21/240 **Allotments**

- (i) Garden Holders' Association update – Struggling to make contact with anyone regarding Carnarvon Room booking for AGM. J Sherrin to try and find out who is organising bookings and pass on details to J Wakeling. A Chippindale to be invited to future allotment inspections with Cllr R Ringham and J Savage. Monthly updates on tenants lists requested from J Savage to assist with email communications from GHA. Map to be updated with new plot divisions. Longer term project – to mark pathways on the map. Waiting to autumn for ferrets to be used for rabbit control.
- (ii) Waiting list update – 1 resident and 20 non-residents
- (iii) Allotment inspection update – 6 re-inspected. 3 agreements terminated, 3 given extensions to 30th September to improve condition of plots.
- (iv) Addition to section 3.2 of Allotment Tenancy Agreement in order to protect wildlife considered and unanimously approved:

3.2 Bonfires are only allowed for the burning of diseased plants and dried-out organic material. Any such bonfires must burn without excessive smoke or hazardous residue and must be safely contained **off the ground, within an incinerator unit** and put out at dusk. In periods of drought, bonfires are strictly prohibited.

- iv) Request for installation of polytunnel and two 6'x4' sheds on Plot 47 considered. Permission given for polytunnel and ONE shed. J Savage to enquire why 2nd shed is required. One 8'x10' shed on plot 4A approved.

- AM21/241 The Grove**
- (i) Update on diseased tree felling – Tree survey commissioned indicated it is possible to prolong the life of the diseased beech tree by around 5 years by reducing its height to 8m and lateral limbs to 3.5m. D List to action works. Suggested a replacement beech tree (4-5 meters high) should be planted. J Sherrin to follow up offer from Cllr Sam Smith to fund a replacement.
 - (ii) Update on installation of outdoor gallery for primary school – On site meeting with school took place to discuss proposal. Wooden posts have been sourced from a parent at school. D List liaising with school regarding delivery and installation of the posts. Noted that it will require hire of a digger.
 - (iii) Update on volunteer policy – Volunteers received training session from the police at The Grove and have been provided with hi-vis vests. Risk Assessments have been signed and returned by 2 volunteers.
 - (iv) Review on use of The Grove for large groups e.g. Choir. Agreed it was a good use of the park for such outdoor activity. No further action required.
- AM21/242 Roberts Recreation Ground**
- (i) Friends of Roberts Recreation Ground – Removal van continues to cause problems with visibility for children exiting the park. Fish and Chip van parking on verge also a concern. FoRR to post a message on Facebook and contact Cllr M Adams and MP Tom Randall regarding removal van. Extension of double yellow lines to be explored.
 - (ii) FCC grant application – Following the need to provide further information regarding value for money and the procurement process, the Funding Agreement has now been released and signed, with the grant confirmed as £100,000 and the order has been placed. The installers are faced with longer than usual lead times due to supply shortages and the anticipated start date is on or around week commencing 8th November. Programme of works to be sent shortly.
 - (iii) Equipment and maintenance – No update
 - (iv) Covid restrictions currently in place – Reviewed. Agreed for D List to re-instate 3 previously removed swings. Titan swing items to remain as they are.
- AM21/243 Cemetery**
- (i) Maintenance issues, including repairs to front wall – D List struggling to get quotes. Cllr D Wright to get in touch with his contact.
 - (ii) Update on new planting pockets – wild flowers well received will repeat.
 - (iii) Update on diseased beech trees x 2 – Tree survey commissioned. Require dead-wooding and annual inspection. D List to contact firm who doing The Grove Beech tree works.
 - (iv) To review condition of portacabin – D List to get quotes from local roofers. Cllr Y Greenfield requested inspection of gazebos in garage to assess for condition and decision to be made regarding keeping them or selling them to free up storage space.
 - (v) Update on tarmacking works – Works undertaken have made massive difference. Incomplete paths being chased.
- AM21/244 Information update** – Picnic in the Park will be at 1pm on Saturday 25th September in The Grove. Offer made by resident opposite war memorial to pay for paint to benches accepted. D List to follow up.
- AM21/245 Date of next meeting** – Tuesday November 2nd at 7pm

Signed: _____
Chair of Amenities Committee

Date: _____