

**Minutes of the meeting of the Playing fields, Allotments and Amenities Committee held on
Tuesday 16th March 2021 at 7pm Via Zoom**

Meetings are being held under The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Present: Cllr D King– Chair of the Committee
Cllr U Franklin
Cllr K Avenell
Cllr M Fultcher
N Carver – Clerk
1 member of the public

The Chairman welcomed members of the committee and members of the public the meeting was opened at 7pm.

1. Apologies and acceptance for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Gurney these were accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

No additional items noted.

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting 5th January 2021

Minutes had been circulated from the meeting of 5th January 2021, Cllr King proposed to accept the minutes

It was

RESOLVED TO ADOPT THE MINUTES

4. Public Participation

1 member of the public, Mr Haines was in attendance, he was interested in agenda item 6e. The chairman proposed to move agenda item 6e up to this point and to suspend the standing orders to allow the member of public to participate in the discussion. It was resolved to **ACCEPT**

Agenda Item 6e

A discussion was had on the sighting of a community apiary at the allotments on Bush Road including how this will be run and funded. Mr. Haines spoke and informed the committee that he would like to help with this project and has previous experience, he is able to provide a shed for the site, the size of the shed is 10 x 8, this is larger than our permitted shed size for allotment holders, it was **AGREED** by the committee that this would be accepted as an adhoc request. The allocated area will require a fence, Cllr King asked Mr. Haines to look at prices and suitable fence styles. It was discussed that a working group could be set up under the council with members of the public who would like to be involved with the project, it was suggested that they would look to self-fund with an initial seed funding from the council.

CONT AGENDA ITEM 4

It was **Agreed** by all and

RESOLVED for the Clerk to look at terms of reference for a working group and for a proposal for seed funding to go to the next full council meeting in April. A site meeting would be arranged after 12th April to discuss the fencing of an area allocated for the apiary.

5. Parish Grass Cutting 2021

a) The grass cutting in the parish has now commenced for the coming year, the committee discussed plans for grass cutting for 2022 and it was proposed by Cllr King to ask for a feasibility study to be done on bringing the grass cutting of the verges in house, all **AGREED**. It was **RESOLVED for the clerk to speak with the head grounds man to produce a feasibility to present to committee in September.**

6. Allotment

a) The clerk gave a verbal update on outstanding tenancy agreements for Bush Road allotments, there is now only 1 outstanding. The office has requested the signed copy from them.

b) The clerk gave a verbal update on pest control at Bush Road allotments, the company who carry out the pest control have been back on site and rebaited, there has been activity reported to us by a holder and details past to them to investigate on their next site visit.

c) The clerk updated the committee on the water leak at Bush Road Allotments, this was taken to full council in February this year to discuss further investigation, it was agreed at that meeting to be brought back to the committee. The leak is currently being monitored daily to get an accurate costing, however any works now with the water would affect the plot holders as we are at the start of the growing season. This was discussed by the committee, the following was proposed by Cllr King and **AGREED** by all. It was

RESOLVED to ask Full Council to allocate funds from general reserves for works to investigate and repair the leak, work to take place October 2021 when the water is turned off.

d) The clerk updated on planned gas works effecting allotment boundary, this is currently with the solicitors to agree commencement of work. Following a site meeting there will be minimal disruption to the site and no allotments affected.

e) Discussion of the community Apiary and funding options was moved to agenda item 4.

7. Playground Updates

a) The clerk updated that the installation of the new climbing frame on Meadow Way Play area will be installed week commencing 22nd March, the clerk has negotiated an additional multi use swing seat for no extra charge.

b) The clerk updated that hi visibility patrols on the recreation ground will be carried out by Broadland District Council to encourage dog owners to bag their poo, fines can be handed out if caught.

8. Recreational Ground Sports Hire

a) The clerk updated the committee on current bookings following government announcement on Covid Road map. Outdoor sporting facilities are now being booked from week commencing 29th March including fitness classes on the tennis courts.

9. Bowls

a) It was confirmed that the charge to Hellesdon Bowls Club for 2021 season will remain the same as previously agreed £1800. This is to be paid in two instalments.

10. Benches

a) To request for additional benches in the parish had been received by the clerk, as there is no current budget for this it would need to be brought to the committee in September including suggested locations.

b) The clerk updated the council on the benches on recreational ground following criminal damage. The bench in the wildlife area has been salvaged and will need to be reinstated when the weather is warmer to allow the concrete to set. The bench on the recreation ground has had a temporary fix allowing it to still be used but would need to consider replacement of this bench along with the other two situated on the same side.

11. Grounds – Wildflower

a) An update on wildflower maintenance at Mountfield Park and Recreation Ground Wildlife Area from Headgrounds man was previously circulated and NOTED

12. Broadland Tree Warden – Proposal regeneration project

a) A proposal from Bex Cross for Mountfield Park to continue to regenerate the site by planting sunflowers amongst the trees, was previously circulated. It was proposed by Cllr Fulcher and seconded by Cllr Franklin

b) The Hellesdon Green Project has gone well for the first trial with an uptake of 46 trees. The tree wardens would like to look to role this out again in autumn.

13. Exchange of Information

Cllr Avenell updated the committee on a recent traffic incident on Drayton Wood Road.

The clerk updated the committee that the chairman had used some of his allowance to help fund a socially distanced Easter Egg Hunt outside across the two main play areas over the school holidays. The clerk had organised activity packs along with certificates and eggs and has sent details out to inform residents.

14. To confirm the date, time and venue of the next meeting

The clerk to confirm the next date and time of committee meeting.

MEETING CLOSED AT 20:48