

**Minutes of the Greens and Amenities Committee Meeting  
Held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020 Via Zoom**

**Attended:** Cllr David Terry, (Chairman) Cllr Richard Booth, Cllr Margaret Crompton, Cllr Johnny Denis, who joined the meeting through the proceedings, Cllr Kay, Cllr Gavin May, Cllr Clare Herbert, Cllr Sarah Phillips, Cllr Gordon Sims, Cllr Richard Turner and Cllr Stephen Wilkins

**Also, in attendance:** Karen Crowhurst – Clerk/RFO, Corinna Goward – Assistant Clerk

Members of the public – Approximately 15

**Item  
No**

**Minutes**

Prior to the commencement of transacting business, the Chairman advised that item 13 will be considered after item 14. All Members were in agreement. The Chairman informed members of the public that those who are not willing to use the camera facility will be made to leave the meeting. The removal will happen to non-compliant participants at item 4 on the agenda. The Chairman explained that if members of the public were attending a face to face meeting, they would be seen

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Harper and Cllr Whitlock.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS & DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

2.1 Cllr Phillips declared an interest with regard to item 11a on the agenda. Cllr Phillips advised that she would refrain from discussion or comment. Cllr Terry reminded Members that he has a dispensation regarding allotment matters and can therefore partake in discussions and any decisions.

**3. TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE GREENS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2020**

3.1 It was **resolved** to accept the minutes from the Greens and Amenities Committee meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2020, as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3.2 This was proposed and seconded. All Members were in favour.

**4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS - This item shall last not more than 15 minutes or at Chairman's discretion and no contribution shall last more than 3 minutes.**

4.1 At 7.06 pm the Chairman invited the Meeting to suspend Standing Orders and asked for questions or comments from members of the public present.

4.2 A comment was raised regarding the exclusion of members of the public who do not have the use of a video camera. The Chairman reminded those in attendance that they need to be available by video.

4.3 Orders were reinstated at 7.08pm

**5. ACTION POINTS - UPDATES AND PROGRESS – REPORT FROM THE ASSISTANT CLERK**

5.1 a) SLR meeting with East Sussex Highways

5.2 The Clerk informed Members that this is still on going.

- 5.3 b) Additional dual-purpose bins in Ringmer  
Lots of discussion was held regarding what a dual purpose bin is, one suggestion was not to pay for the emptying service until the dog bins have been replaced with dual purpose bins. It was agreed to seek clarity and costs for replacement, renewal, or additional bins. It was also agreed to request the District Councillors look into this on behalf of the Parish Council.

- 5.4  
5.5 c) Bus stop/shelters  
The Assistant Clerk informed Members that due to a heavy workload, lack of manpower and time constraints, it has been difficult to chase up enquires, therefore, this item remains on going.

#### 4. **CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING OR ACTION**

- a) To consider any correspondence after this agenda has been published – for noting or action
- 4.1 There was no correspondence for noting or action.

#### 5. **TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GREENS AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE FROM THE SKATE RAMP WORKING GROUP HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020**

- 5.1 A proposal was received to accept the recommendations contained within the notes of the Greens and Amenities Working Group. This was seconded, a vote was taken by a show of hands, all were in favour.

#### 6. **VILLAGE GREEN**

- 6.1 a) To consider having a Christmas Tree on the Village Green
- 6.2 After careful consideration and thinking about various options an alternative provider was considered, it was agreed to proceed with the Christmas tree. This was proposed and seconded, a vote was taken by a show of hands, all were in favour. During this item, a request to assist with funding the tree if a sign could be erected was raised. No decision was made.
- 6.3 b) To consider any other matters relating to the Village Green
- 6.4 Cllr Kay highlighted an area on the Village Green which as yet has not been registered, after a short discussion it was agreed that this area of Green should be registered, it was agreed to delegate authority to Cllr Kay alongside the Clerk to implement this decision. It was also agreed to add an item to the next agenda to Register a pocket of land at Christie Avenue as a green. All were in favour. **Action – Cllr Kay and the Clerk.**

#### 7. **PLAY AREAS**

Cllr Denis joined the meeting.

- a) To decide how the newly acquired land at Anchor Field by the Parish Council should be used
- It was proposed that the new land should be used for recreational purposes. One suggestion was to provide a play area for younger children as there are no other play areas in this area. The dwellings surrounding the area would be predominately for families. Members also felt that the area may be able to accommodate a skate ramp. With this in mind it was agreed to defer this item.

- b) To consider requests to install an outdoor gym on the play areas
- This was considered, the Adizone at the Academy was also raised. After a short discussion it was requested that the Clerk establish the current gym equipment at the Adizone and establish as to whether the Parish Council has funded the equipment in case it can be relocated elsewhere. A recommendation was made for Members to visit the outdoor gym at

Cooksbridge. It was also requested that the Clerk contact Cooksbridge to investigate further.

**Action – The Clerk.**

It was also agreed that the Play Area Renewals/Replacement Working Group consider this at their next meeting.

8. **OPEN SPACES** - To consider any matters relating to open spaces for actions or decision

- 8.1
  - a) Sadlers Way
  - b) Middleham Close
  - c) Gote Lane
  - d) Rushey Green

8.2 There were no matters regarding the above open spaces.

9. **GENERAL PURPOSES MATTERS**

9.1

- a) Cycle routes in light of Covid and the Emergency Travel Fund – Documents previously circulated

9.2 Members discussed the correspondence regarding the Cycle Routes noting there was not any major development for Ringmer. Members requested the Clerk contact the gentleman who provided the information, thanking him for his time and offering verbal support of the initiative.

9.3 During this item Cllr Booth reported that there is currently a consultation in progress for a cycle path which starts at Yeomans to the main road, then Harrisons Lane to Gote Lane which will then link into the existing cycle path to Lewes. The details of which can be found on the District Council's website.

9.4

- b) Footpaths

9.5 The Clerk advised that she has received correspondence wishing to know when the Footpath Working Group will be meeting. Cllr Kay apprised Members that the Working Group had been formed to look into the designated maps which includes Ringmer Footpaths. Cllr Kay agreed to progress this further. **Action – Cllr Kay.**

9.6 During this item, a report was received regarding some overgrown hedges at Gote Lane/Shepherds Way. The Assistant Clerk reported that she has reported this twice and will chase it up. The Clerk encouraged Members to report this to Highways also.

9.7

- c) Parking Consultation – to consider Parish Council response

9.8 After some discussion. It was agreed not to take part in the consultation.

10. **ALLOTMENT MATTERS**

10.1

- a) Rules and regulations

It was agreed to defer this item to the next Greens and Amenities Committee meeting.

10.2

- b) Allotment fees

10.3 After some background information was provided and the costs of managing the allotments against the income was established. It was agreed not to raise the fees for the renewal of allotments in January.

11. **GROUNDS MAINTENANCE TENDERS**

11.1

- a) To consider a longer tender term or not

11.2 After careful consideration it was agreed to extend the tender term for the Grass Cutting contact from 1 year to a 3 year period with a clause to review each and every year. It was further agreed that the Garden Maintenance contract will remain on a yearly basis.

11.3 This was proposed and seconded. A vote was taken by a show of hands, the outcome of which was 9 for the above and 1 against.

11.4 b) To appoint Cllr(s) to agree the amendments to the Tender Documents with a deadline for sending the documents to contractors on or by 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020 in readiness for inclusion in the 2021 -2022 Budget

11.5 It was then agreed for the Chairman and Vice Chairman to work alongside the Clerk to review the tender documents and make amendments if the need arises. **Action – Cllr Terry, Cllr May, and the Clerk.**

**12. ANY REPORTS ON GREENS OR AMENITY MATTERS (BY LEAVE) – NOT DECISION OR DISCUSSION**

12.1 Reports were received regarding

- The Cycle path consultation
- Parking on the Village Green

**13. QUOTATIONS *A resolution will be made to exclude press and members of the public in the event of making any contractual, decisions being made in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions t Meetings) Act 1960***

13.1 It was **resolved** to exclude the public due to the nature of the item which is contractually sensitive.

13.2 a) Fencing at the perimeter of Delves House

13.3 The Assistant Clerk informed Members that she endeavoured to obtain 3 quotations. Members considered 2 quotations presented. After considering best value for money and not necessarily the cheapest. It was agreed to proceed with the quotation from RF Goldsmith Fencing for the amount of £1,564.00.

13.4 b) Replacement Swing

13.5 It was agreed to proceed with the quotation received from Cosmo Construction UK LTD for the amount of £1,690.

**14. URGENT ITEMS (CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION) OR ITEMS FOR REFERRAL TO NEXT AGENDA OR APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE**

14.1 There were no urgent items for consideration.

14.2 Items for referral are:

- 1) Anchor Field Area to the Play Area Equipment and Renewals Working Group
- 2) Outdoor Gym – Play Area Renewal/Replacement Working Group
- 3) Registration of land at Christie Avenue to the next Greens and Amenities Committee Meeting

**15. CLOSE OF THE MEETING**

15.1 There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.49pm

Date of Next Meeting: To be confirmed,  
To be held either via Zoom or at  
Parish Rooms Ringmer Academy

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**THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND**