

# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION GROUNDS, PUBLIC LANDS & LIGHTING COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8TH MARCH 2023, AT 7.05PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GREENACRE CENTRE.

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## Committee Members present:

S Buck (Chairman), L Anderson, B Collier, A Cooper, M Cooper, S Hayes, G Russell, B Saunders, J Smith, J Talbot

## Also present:

Ms C Jenkins – Assistant Clerk and 6 Members of the public

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### **32/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillor J Hyde.

### **33/23 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS INTERESTS ON MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE AGENDA AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

There were no disclosures of members interests or requests for dispensation. Members were reminded that if at any time during the meeting they feel they have an interest in an item being discussed, they should declare it at that point.

### **34/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & RESPONSES**

Residents from The Green spoke about the forthcoming installation of a new Jubilee bench at The Green, between two of the newly planted trees from the Queens Green Canopy. There was concern about another bench becoming an area for congregating at night and early hours.

### **35/23 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Recreation Grounds, Public Lands & Lighting Committee meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 are confirmed as a correct record.

### **36/23 CLERK'S REPORT, CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED & MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION**

Nothing to report.

### **37/23 PROPOSED SITING OF BENCH AT THE GREEN**

Members were asked to consider siting a new Jubilee bench at The Green and to discuss its location. Concerns have been raised by residents of the location due to anti-social behaviour.

Members agreed that 10 benches were enough to be sited at the Green. Any that were deemed irreparable would be replaced over time.

**RESOLVED** that the bench would be relocated at Arlesey Road, near to the newly installed MUGA.

### **38/23 VEHICLE BARRIER – SORRELL DRIVE**

Further to additional information from the Ivel Drainage Board, members were asked to consider a quote to install a new vehicle barrier (gate) on Sorrell Drive, to allow access to maintenance vehicles, such as the River Ivel Drainage Board.

As this area has now been adopted by the Town Council, we will be meeting the costs of the new gate.

**RESOLVED:** that the area has been adopted by the Town Council, we are to meet the costs and installation of the new gate. Quoted £1,645.87 plus vat.

### **39/23 ROECROFT LOWER SCHOOL – TEMPORARY CLASSROOM**

Members were asked to consider a request by Roecroft lower school for permission to drive a crane around the Greenacre Park path to crane in a temporary classroom.

Members agreed that the pavement is not strong enough to take the weight of a crane, this may cause damage to the pavement and grass surface.

**RESOLVED:** that in principal Members were in agreement to this, providing we are given notice of the work, before and after pictures are taken of the pavement and grass areas and that any damages to the surfaces would be repaired by Roecroft School. Work will not commence until 2025.

### **40/23 ST MARYS SCHOOL – DECARBONISATION PROJECT**

Members were asked to consider a request from St Marys School to access an area of Millennium Green for a few months for additional parking. 20 spaces in their car park are being used for plant, machinery and welfare facilities whilst the Decarbonisation project is being undertaken. This is an attempt to mitigate the additional burden of vehicle parking. Contractors have offered to place protective matting or similar on an area inside the gate. Any impact would be made good afterwards and a donation to charity as a goodwill gesture.

**RESOLVED:** that use of Millennium Green is granted for parking provided the council are made aware of the start date, before and after photographs are taken of the grass surface and any damage is repaired by contractors or St Marys School. Possible donation to Charity by contractor.

### **41/23 HIGHWAYS REPORT**

Members considered a report from our Highways Representative, Councillor Smith: No updates this month, Astwick Road roundabout has now been installed  
Line Painters have been seen around Stotfold, although not sure if St Marys has been included at Rook Tree Lane.

Road sweeping lorry has been seen in the town

Vaughan Road pothole, near to Arlesey Road – this has been submitted on “fix my street”

### **42/23 PUBLIC REALM WORKS**

Members were reminded that matters for Central Beds Council can be reported via <https://www.fixmystreet.com/> and if they have any matters that are to be reported to other parties or are general repair or maintenance work for the council, these should not be held until the next committee meeting but should be reported to the office.

### **43/23 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES, RELEVANT TO THIS COMMITTEE ONLY**

- Bylaws state that water courses should have a current space each side of 9 metres, it is currently only 7 metres of space each side. Riparian rights of owners were also reminded. It was noted that should the skate park at the Riverside be relocated, these should be taken into account. Bylaw point 6 describes that there should be no alteration

to the flow of the water course. At the top of Valerian way, it was noted there is a large concrete block that blocks the old Pix Brook. IDB to be informed?

- Vehicle counters have appeared in various locations in the town. This is thought to be a general traffic survey.
- Members asked about the progress of the Riverside MUGA project. Slabs are broken into pieces on site and ruts in the ground are present. Work to the MUGA has been completed and were never asked to do any reinstatement work to grass of slabs. A future programme may be to removed slabs and turf the area.
- Bridleway 18 off Arlesey Road, onwards from the stoneroad, part of this was thought to be on the S106 which the developers, Redrow were to complete the surfacing and deliver, subject to funds being available and future timescales.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7.50pm

**MINUTES APPROVED (date):**

**SIGNED BY CHAIRMAN:**