

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION GROUNDS, PUBLIC LANDS & LIGHTING COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th JANUARY 2016 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SIMPSON CENTRE, STOTFOLD AT 7.00PM**

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Committee Members present: Mrs M Cooper (Chairman)

Mrs S Bundock	Mrs A Clarey
B Collier	A Cooper
S Hayes	Mrs J Hyde
B Saunders	J Talbot

Also present: One member of the public and the Assistant Clerk

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**149/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Pickering and Stoter.

**150/16 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS INTERESTS ON MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE AGENDA**

There were none. 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.

**151/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & RESPONSES**

Mr Osborne spoke with concerns regarding litter he had seen and passed Members photos of litter along the Pendleton Way. He asked if Stotfold was participating in the “Clean for the Queen” campaign which is being launched with Keep Britain Tidy in time for the Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Chairman confirmed that this Council holds an annual Big Tidy Up event and volunteers go out and pick up litter from the streets and also confirmed that TEASEL has just undertaken a litter pick along Mill Lane and collected 6 bags of rubbish. Central Beds Council will be informed of the increased litter along Pendleton Way and also at the Arlesey Road site.

**152/16 CLERK’S REPORT, CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED & MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION**

**Correspondence**

CPRE Magazine and Allotment & Leisure Gardener Magazine are available in the office. The Chairman read out an email from Taylor Wimpey’s solicitor confirming that Central Bedfordshire Council have no objection to the Open Space Commuted Sum Contribution for the Open Space at Queen Street being paid direct to Stotfold Town Council and a deed of variation is being prepared.

**153/16 USE OF THE GREEN**

Members were asked to consider a request from the Friends of St Mary’s Church to use The Green for their car boot sale on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September, 12pm to 4pm. Proceeds will be used for continuing restoration work on St Mary’s Church.

**Resolved** that Friends of St Mary’s Church are permitted to use The Green for their car boot sale on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September, subject to the usual hiring conditions.

**154/16 USE OF RIVERSIDE PLAYING FIELD**

Members were asked to consider a request from a Buggyfit instructor (Stotfold resident) to use the playing field to teach a weekly session with 8 to 10 mums with buggies. They hope to be able to hold the session on Tuesdays at 11am lasting an hour. The instructor is also the Chairman of the parent forum for the Children’s Centre in Stotfold, who are in full support of the classes coming to Stotfold to get local mums active and engaged. They have full public liability insurance which can be provided, together with evidence of qualifications.

**Resolved** that the buggyfit instructor is permitted to use the Riverside playing field on a weekly basis. The office will request a copy of the public liability insurance to keep on file.

#### **155/16 ARLESEY ROAD GRASS CUTTING**

At the January meeting, it was felt that we should not be seeking quotes for grass cutting of the Arlesey Road site until the situation regarding the lease on the land had been resolved. Central Beds Council now confirm that they will not be seeking a Tenancy at Will (with no security of tenure) and have now agreed to produce the draft full lease for the site, which we anticipate receiving by the middle of this month. The Chairman thanked the Central Beds Councillors for their help in this matter. Members considered the number of cuts required for the Arlesey Road site and it was

**Resolved** that the Clerk would obtain quotes for 16 cuts per year plus price for additional cuts if required.

**Further resolved** that a letter is sent to Central Bedfordshire Council requesting reimbursement of payments made for grass cutting carried out last year.

#### **156/16 DOG CONTROL ORDER – ARLESEY ROAD**

Members were informed of the various dog control orders available in Central Bedfordshire and asked to consider if they wished to place any orders on the Arlesey Road site.

**Resolved** that the following dog control orders are applied for to cover the Arlesey Road Site:

1. The Fouling of Land by Dogs (Central Bedfordshire) Order 2014
2. The Dogs on Leads (Central Bedfordshire) Order 2014

#### **157/16 WET POUR SURFACING**

Members considered the quote from CPM Playgrounds for repairs to surfacing in the recreation grounds and it was

**Resolved** that the office would obtain further quotes for the necessary works.

With regard to the Springer Horse at The Green, the Handyman would be asked if it would be possible to remove it from the play area and quotes for its replacement would be obtained for the next meeting.

#### **158/16 GENERAL WORK**

Councillor Mrs Bundock confirmed that a walkabout with Keeley Russell from Amey had taken place regarding the snagging works due to commence during half term. Two hundred faults have been identified and will be repaired.

Councillor Saunders questioned why a Jazzercise banner is on the fence at Hitchin Road Recreation Ground and requested that at the next meeting of this committee a policy on the type of banner allowed to be displayed should be discussed.

#### **159/16 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES, RELEVANT TO THIS COMMITTEE ONLY**

Councillor Mrs Clarey informed the Committee that a Green Wheel Meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January and the minutes will be available in due course. Cliff Andrews will be applying for funding through the Green Infrastructure Funding in mid March. This might be the last year that this funding is available. The Etonbury Wood Project is well under way and funding for this is largely in hand. Suggested projects to fund include Wildflower Meadow at Stotfold Watermill, potential nature area at Valerian Way, dipping platforms at Stotfold Watermill Nature Reserve and Old Moat Nature Reserve (Arlesey), trees along bridleway to the end of the new football ground and improvements to bridlepath up to Astwick and Common Road Community Orchard.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.11pm

**CHAIRMAN**

**DATED**

DRAFT