

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE RECREATION GROUNDS, PUBLIC LAND & LIGHTING COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th DECEMBER 2016 AT 7.20PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GREENACRE CENTRE, STOTFOLD

Committee Members present: Mrs M Cooper (Chairman)

Mrs A Clarey	B Collier
A Cooper	S Hayes
Mrs J Hyde	S Jackson
C Phelps	B Saunders
J Talbot	

Also present: Councillor Mrs Bundock and the Assistant Clerk

284/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

285/16 DISCLOSURES OF MEMBERS INTERESTS ON MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE AGENDA

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.

286/16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – QUESTIONS, COMMENTS & RESPONSES

None.

287/16 CLERK'S REPORT, CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED & MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION

Minute 264/16 regarding dog proof fencing at Hitchin Road, a meeting with the Chairman is still to be arranged. Minute 269/16 site meeting with Ringway is still to be arranged. List of overgrown hedges etc to be cleared presented to the meeting, to investigate the addresses, the Chairman will check if work is still necessary.

288/16 USE OF THE GREEN – CIRCUS TYANNA

Members considered a request from Circus Tyanna to visit The Green from 2nd July to 9th July 2017.

A request has also been made by the Junior Football club for the same dates – see below

289/16 USE OF THE GREEN – JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB TOURNAMENT PARKING

Members considered a request from Stotfold Football Club to use The Green for parking during their 2017 Tournament – Fri 7th (from 4pm to 10pm), Sat 8th (from 7.30am to 10pm) and Sun 9th July (from 7.30am to 6pm)

Members were made aware that both of these requests are for the same dates in 2017, investigations were being made as to whether the Circus could move their dates slightly so both can be accommodated. It was felt by the majority of members that the Stotfold Junior Football Club should be given preference, as they are regular hirers and a local group.

RESOLVED that the Stotfold Junior Football Club be given permission to use The Green for their 2017 Tournament. It is to be stressed to all teams taking part to use The Green for parking, as cars were left blocking roads around the area at the Tournament this year. Participants are asked to be mindful of the residents. There is an expectation of a large number of teams, full marshalling of the event will be needed to avoid parking problems.

Circus Tyanna are to be contacted to see if their dates can be changed slightly to accommodate their request. If not Central Bedfordshire Council to be approached to request the possibility of the use of the Arlesey Road Site for the Circus visit. This would fall under the use of the site for community events.

290/16 USE OF THE GREEN – PINDERS CIRCUS

Members considered a request from Pinders Circus to visit The Green in April 2017 (dates are to be considered nearer the time).

RESOLVED that the Pinders Circus be given permission to use The Green, subject to the date being available. Stotfold Junior Football club will be notified whenever The Green is to be used for another event.

291/16 CENTRAL BEDS COUNCIL SALT BAG SCHEME

Members were asked to consider whether the Council should take delivery of salt from Central Bedfordshire Council. There are now 2 more delivery dates, 18th January and 23rd February 2017.

RESOLVED that the Town Council request 1 tonne of salt to be delivered on both dates and to be delivered to Stotfold Cemetery. Members also requested that a salt bin be sited at the Greenacre Centre, Stotfold.

292/16 PIX BROOK CLEARANCE WORK

Members were requested to consider asking for reinstatement of the Brook bank by the bridge on Brook Street or just to remove the debris. Locations are bank at the Hitchin Road bridge by the pumping station, and bank by Brook Street bridge, adjacent to the flats.

RESOLVED that all debris to be taken away from the sites and then the reinstatement of the Brook bank. Members noted that the Internal Drainage Board, Developers at Pix Brook site and Anglian water will be consulted as land owners.

293/16 NORTON ROAD ALLOTMENTS

Members were asked to consider clearing the burnt area at the site after the recent fire, and the amount of accumulating rubbish, soil and manure which is blocking the turning area at the end of the allotment track, to also consider signage to ask allotment holders to not use the area for dumping of waste. Members were also asked to consider construction of a compost/manure bin for communal use.

RESOLVED that the burnt area and rubbish, soil and manure be cleared from the site and that signage agreed for the site to deter further dumping of waste. Members would like further information on the location of the compost/manure bin.

294/16 PURCHASE OF LINE MARKER AND GOAL POSTS FOR HITCHIN ROAD RECREATION GROUND

The Junior Football club have confirmed that they wish to purchase a line marker and new goal posts for their use at the Hitchin Road Recreation ground using money from the grant application recently submitted to the Town Council. Members were asked to consider the purchase of a line marker and new goal posts for the Hitchin Road Recreation Ground, as the items purchased by the Junior Football Club would replace the Town Council owned equipment.

RESOLVED that the Town Council purchase a line Marker and replacement goal posts for the Hitchin Road Recreation ground to be used for all teams. To note that if the Junior football club have already purchased these items, to purchase them off the Junior football club to enable all teams to use to avoid doubling of equipment.

295/16 HEDGE AT NORTON ROAD ALLOTMENTS

Members were asked to consider a quote from A1 Tree Specialists to cut back the inside of the hedge at Norton Road allotments. A quote to cut and leave all arisings on site £200, or cut back and remove all arisings of £400.

RESOLVED to have hedge cut back and all arisings removed from the site at a cost of £400. It was felt that leaving the arisings would be a potential fire risk.

296/16 MILLENIUM GREEN -TEMPORARY FOOTBRIDGE AND HARD-CORE SURFACING

Members were asked to consider the observation that the temporary footbridge, used for Mill Weekends, is not temporary, and that the hard-core placed at the pedestrian entrance does not have grass growing through, as the Mill suggested would happen, but has a large amount of weeds and looks very untidy.

Members discussed the hard-core and stated that it was agreed in April 2016 to leave this section for at least 2 years before looking to cut. The footbridge was discussed regarding safety checks and barriers.

RESOLVED to clarify with the Mill that the temporary bridge is now permanent, and that a routine safety check is carried out Annually. Also to check with the Internal Drainage Board regarding liability etc.

297/16 HITCHIN ROAD AND NORTON ROAD UNDERPASSES

Members were asked to consider approving the suggestions put forward at the site meeting regarding the Hitchin Road and Norton Road underpasses.

RESOLVED to approve all suggestions from the meeting of the Hitchin Road and Norton Road underpasses. To make sure that extra works are added to the Grasscutting and Landscaping contract.

298/16 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN – RURAL MATCH FUND 2017/18

Members were asked to consider whether to apply for funding from the Rural Match Fund. The deadline for application is 3rd February 2017. The Town Council would be required to meet at least half of the cost and they are to identify issues that they would like explored rather than specifying the work that they would like implemented.

Members discussed the options and noted that it would cost the Town Council an initial £2000 - £2500 to bid. It was felt that this money would be better spent immediately on works, and would be a wasted effort to be told that we may not be eligible.

RESOLVED That funding would not be applied for by the Town Council.

299/16 GENERAL WORK

- Road Pothole on junction of Queens Street and High Street
- Footway Pothole at access to Fish Shop on Regents Street
- Series of Road Potholes at junction of Regents Street and Marschfield
- Lamp post no3 – light out and column damaged between 36- 38 The Green.
- Lamp Post outside Memorial Hall leaning and not working. (CBC)
- Lamp Post x2 in Hallworth Drive both not working. (CBC)

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.40pm

CHAIRMAN

DATED