



## **Winnersh Parish Council**

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Minutes of the **RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** meeting held in the Allnatt Pavilion on **TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER 2019**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs S Hanna; F Breedlove; P Fishwick; J Southgate.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Philip Stoneman (Clerk).

**1 APOLOGIES:** Cllrs A Caston; A Greenwood; R Hamblin; F. Obileye; L Wooldridge,

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.

**3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING:**

The Clerk updated the Committee on the following matters arising from the last meeting held on the 5 November 2019:-

- 3.1 (Item 4.1.2) PEST UK had been contracted to inspect the new allotment garden based on 8 visits/year.
- 3.2 (Item 5/3.1.4) Allotment holders had been contacted about cultivation of plots.
- 3.3 (Item 5/3.3) The legal opinion about liability had been sent to the Council's insurer.
- 3.4 (Item 7.2) A meeting had been arranged with Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service to discuss requirements for a passenger lift to the Parish Office. Sources of funding to enable the project were also being explored.
- 3.5 (Item 9) The company (QUEST) were looking at what CSR opportunities existed including redecoration of the internal and external parts of the Community Centre and Allnatt Pavilion.

**4 WINNERSH ALLOTMENTS UPDATE:**

The Clerk updated the Committee on a meeting held earlier in the day with the Project Manager from Wokingham Borough Council.

- 4.1 Mains Water Supply: Thames Water commenced work on the 28 November to connect the allotments to the water main. The work was expected to take up to five days.
- 4.2 The Clerk advised that he had provided an update to allotment holders and requested feedback on the intentions of those that had not collected a key to the gates. There had been some response with allotment holders confirming they would collect keys.
- 4.3 The main gate to the access road had dropped again and WBC agreed to carry out a repair. Cllr Fishwick suggested that a wheel, fixed to the gate, may help take the weight and ensure that it could be opened and closed more easily.
- 4.4 Water ponding on plots, closest to the motorway boundary, were causing concerns for some plot holders. Water was also ponding in the recently planted community orchard. WBC advised that the site should be self-draining and that it was unlikely that a solution could be found. Cllr Fishwick suggested that a soakaway and/or porous drainage pipe may help to reduce the water levels and the Clerk was asked to suggest that to WBC.  
**ACTION: CLERK**
- 4.5 Storage Containers: WBC advised that the cost of the containers would be in the order of £20,000 each and when the cost of a base, delivery and installation, lockers and solar lights were added this could be nearer £30,000 each.

The Committee were advised that allotment holders were able to park close to their allotments and, with many having purchased sheds, there was likely to be demand for storage and lockers.

The Committee agreed that rather than asking WBC to provide the three containers, as originally agreed, that a sum of £30,000 be requested in lieu of the containers so that a bespoke facility could be constructed, in consultation with allotment holders, in due course.

- 4.6 The Committee agreed to stop taking deposits (to be used in the event of non-cultivation) and to return deposits to plot holders when the new allotment agreements were issued.
- 4.7 WBC had requested that the lease on the former site be surrendered in order to enable the Winnersh Relief Road to progress. WBC advised that a letter, setting out the conditions relating to the surrender would be provided.
- 4.8 The Committee **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that the lease be surrendered on the allotment garden in Reading Road and the new lease be signed for the allotment garden in Woodward Close, subject to WBC agreeing in writing to resolve the outstanding issues as set out above and within an agreed timescale. Depending upon the outcome of Full Council the Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements on behalf of WPC.  
**ACTION: CLERK**

**5 PUBLIC SESSION:** There were no members of the public in attendance.

## **6 PROJECTS:**

- 6.1 The Committee discussed some potential projects, including decoration and some refurbishment of the Community Centre, and agreed to defer any decisions until after the Strategy and Ideas Workshop on 15 & 21 January.
- 6.2 The Clerk advised that WPC had been successful in securing S.106 funding from WBC to help fund the Outdoor Gym and safety surfacing. The Clerk would develop the design and specification for quotes in the new year. **ACTION: CLERK**

## **7 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS EVENT:**

- 7.1 The Clerk advised that Cllr Hamblin had progressed arrangements for the Christmas Lights Event. Lights and decorations were in the process of being put up and the facias and gutters were all being cleaned.
- 7.2 Cllr Harper would be purchasing fireworks during the week leading up to the event. The Clerk was asked to check which company had been used to clean the solar panels on the roof of the Community Centre and to arrange for that work to be carried out. **ACTION: CLERK**

## **8 CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Committee noted the following correspondence that had been received:

- 8.1 Letter from HM Courts and Tribunal Service (27/11/2019) regarding a claim for damage to a vehicle in the Community Centre Car Park.
- 8.2 Email from WBC (14/11/2019) - Confirmation that £25,000 of S.106 funding had been awarded to WPC towards the Outdoor Gym and Safety Surfacing.
- 8.3 Email from WBC (18/11/2019) - Update on the Thames Water work to connect the water supply to the Allotments in Woodward Close.

**9 ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS:** There were no urgent matters.

**10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 7 JANUARY 2020 at 19:45.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:55.