

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
ON 7th MARCH 2022 COMMENCING AT 8.32 PM**

Present: Councillors Mrs B Thomas (Chair), Mr A Channon (Vice-Chair) Mrs G Gardner, Mr S Laycock

Attending: Mrs S Cowie (Assistant Clerk)

Minutes Taken by: Mrs S Cowie

21/563 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors Paxton and Widdowfield.

21/564 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None declared.

21/565 MATTERS ARISING

An up-to-date quote for fencing and gates for the allotment entrance has been received. A second quote has been requested but not yet received. The Assistant Clerk advised that she would investigate grant opportunities for the project.

Following agreement that the Horticultural Show should go ahead this year, the Assistant Clerk has contacted the judges. The flower judge is not available, and the produce judge is unsure as he has a prior booking. The Assistant Clerk is waiting for the produce judge to confirm whether he is available and will provide an update once this is known. The Village Hall has been provisional booked, pending the final decision. A meeting of the sub-committee will be arranged to agree whether the show will go ahead this year.

21/566 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 22nd NOVEMBER 2021

There were no queries on the minutes. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the Leisure Committee meeting held on 22nd November 2021 **SECONDED** by Councillor Laycock and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. The minutes were approved.

21/567 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WEEKLY INSPECTIONS OF THE PLAYGROUND AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT

The inspections of the Norman Road Play Area and Arnold Recreation Ground Play Area undertaken by the Groundsman on 16th, 21st and 28th February were acknowledged. Everything was in order. The inspections of the fitness equipment on 16th, 22nd and 28th February were acknowledged. It was noted that a handle on a piece of fitness equipment had been cut, this was replaced by the Groundsman.

Councillor Thomas raised concerns over the level of flooding in the Arnold Recreation Ground play area which has made the area inaccessible for use. The Assistant Clerk sought advice from Central Bedfordshire Council about the flooding last year, she confirmed that she would speak to them again to see if the drainage can be improved.

21/568 TO APPROVE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE LEISURE COMMITTEE

Members reviewed the Terms of Reference for the Leisure Committee and minor amendments were made. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the draft Terms of Reference, with the amendments as discussed, **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

21/569 TO APPROVE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE HORTICULTURAL SHOW SUB-COMMITTEE

The Terms of Reference for the Horticultural Show sub-committee were reviewed. There were no amendments. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the Horticultural Show sub-committee Terms of Reference which was **SECONDED** by Councillor Laycock and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. Councillor Gardner asked whether the sub-committee meetings could be held on Zoom rather than in person, the Assistant Clerk will investigate.

21/570 TO REVIEW AND ADOPT THE PARISH COUNCILS ACTION PLAN 2022/23 FOR THE LEISURE COMMITTEE

The committees Action Plan for 2022/23 was reviewed and minor amendments made. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the Action Plan, **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

21/571 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE ANNUAL CONTRACT COST FOR FIELD TOPPING

The quotation for the annual topping of the field contract was considered. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the quotation from Mr Horner for £160.00 + VAT to include a minimum of two cuts with no cuts taking place during May (No Mow May) and avoidance of the orchid flowering season. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

The contractor had advised that the machinery used for the topping is adjustable and the height can be raised to avoid the orchids, so no damage is caused. This was noted.

21/572 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE COST FOR THE 2022 RoSPA INSPECTIONS

Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the cost for RoSPA Play Safety to carry out the annual inspections of the Arnold Recreation Ground Play Area, Norman Road Play Area, Fitness Equipment, Zip Wire and Table Tennis Table at a cost of £241.50 + VAT. Councillor Laycock **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

21/573 TO CONSIDER BENCHES IN ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND

The Council has registered its interest to plant trees in Arnold Recreation Ground to commemorate the Queens Platinum Jubilee, (Queens Green Canopy scheme). An example of a jubilee commemorative bench was provided. Members were interested in the costs and availability of the bench and asked the Assistant Clerk to seek a quote for consideration at the Full Council meeting.

The Council has a bench in storage which has not yet been installed. The bench by the basketball net is subject to regular vandalism, the new bench could be installed in this location, the existing refurbished and relocated elsewhere in the recreation ground.

**21/574 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA
– for information only - None**

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm