

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE  
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE PARISH OFFICE  
ON 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024 COMMENCING AT 7.58pm**

**Present:** Councillors B Thomas (Chair), G Gardner, K Qureshi, J Mikkelson  
**Attending:** S Cowie (Assistant Clerk), Councillor W Rudd  
**Minutes Taken by:** S Cowie

**23/427 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - were received from Councillors A Vale, S Laycock, J Paxton and N Day.

**23/428 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Members were reminded of the procedures, there were no declarations of interest made.

**23/429 MATTERS ARISING**

The contractor has completed hedge cutting in the Allotments and the Arnold Recreation Ground perimeter hedgerow as per the contract. The unused area within the allotments has been flailed, as agreed, ready for regular grass cutting.

The Assistant Clerk and Groundsmen have reviewed the work required to the Norman Road Play Area. The Groundsmen are able to action much of the work and quotes will be sought for anything they cannot action.

The tree work in Arnold Recreation Ground was completed on 29<sup>th</sup> January as per the tree survey.

Minute point 366.5. Following discussion with the supplier, two sets of galvanised swing seat chains were purchased from Online Playgrounds at a cost of £90 + VAT. A budget of £162 + VAT had been agreed, saving £72.00. The chains and new seat have been fitted to the equipment.

The routine pest control check was carried out on 25<sup>th</sup> January. There were no issues found and bait was replenished as necessary.

**23/430 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

There were no queries on the minutes. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the Leisure Committee meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 **SECONDED** by Councillor Mikkelson with **2 in favour and 2 abstentions**. The minutes were approved.

**23/431 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WEEKLY INSPECTIONS OF THE PLAYGROUND AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT**

The inspections of the Norman Road and Arnold Recreation Ground Play Areas and Fitness Equipment undertaken by the Groundsmen on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> January were acknowledged.

In the Arnold Recreation Ground, on 9<sup>th</sup> January, the Groundsman noted that the basketball net needed refixing, the play area was flooded, and the yellow gate needed adjusting.

Everything was in order in the Norman Road Play Area and with the fitness equipment.

**23/432 RETROSPECTIVE APPROVAL OF THE COST TO PURCHASE MATERIALS TO REPAIR PERIMETER FENCING IN THE NORMAN ROAD PLAY AREA.**

It was noted that the request was not retrospective, as materials have not yet been ordered.

Councillor Gardner **PROPOSED** approval of the cost of £167.48 + VAT for materials from Gilks Fencing to repair a section of fencing. Councillor Mikkelson **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**23/433 TO CONSIDER THE ACCESS POINTS INTO ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND AND AGREE ACTIONS/COSTS**

Members discussed whether the decision to close the opening into the park, opposite Orchard Close should be reconsidered. It has, over time, become larger and is believed to be used by motorbikes

and quad bikes to access the field. Concerns regarding safe access from the roadway and danger for small children who could easily run out into the road were also raised. There are two official entrances along Old Road (by the play area and opposite Washbrook Close) and members agreed that the opening should be closed, as previously agreed as it is not needed. **ACTION: quotes for materials to fence the gap and replant the hedgerow to be sought.**

Councillor Rudd arrived at 8.23pm

**23/434 TO AGREE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PLAY EQUIPMENT WORKING GROUP AND AGREE THE WAY FORWARD**

Following discussion, the Working Group membership was agreed as Councillors Thomas, Gardner, Qureshi and Mikkelson.

Councillor Mikkelson **PROPOSED** membership of the Working Group, as listed, **SECONDED** by Councillor Qureshi and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. Members to advise their availability for the first meeting.

**23/435 TO REVIEW AND AGREE THE PARISH COUNCILS ACTION PLAN 2024/25 FOR THE LEISURE COMMITTEE**

Members reviewed and agreed the Committees Action Plan for 2024/2025. In addition to routine hedge and grass cutting and the weekly inspections, the projects agreed were as follows - to undertake a review the Village Show event and consult with the community to agree a suitable event for the future, to move forward with the refurbishment/replacement of the park gates and to review the annual grass and hedge cutting contract. In addition, the following projects were added to the Action Plan. To continue to improve the allotment hedgerow with new planting, review and repair the Norman Road Play Area perimeter fencing as necessary and to set up a Working Party to review the play equipment and surfacing needs ready for grant opportunities.

Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the Action Plan 2024/2025 for the Leisure Committee, **SECONDED** by Councillor Mikkelson and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**23/326 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA – for information only**

Items for the next meeting include approval of the cost for hedgerow planting and to discuss the collection point for excess produce at the allotment site.

The meeting closed at 8.46pm