

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE  
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
ON 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024 COMMENCING AT 7.51pm**

**Present:** Councillors B Thomas (Chair), A Vale (Vice-Chair), G Gardner, S Laycock, K Qureshi, J Mikkelson, A Vale

**Attending:** S Cowie (Assistant Clerk), Councillor W Rudd

**Minutes Taken by:** S Cowie

**23/606 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - were received from Councillors J Paxton & N Day

**23/607 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Members were reminded of the procedures. Councillor Laycock declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda item 23/613 as a neighbour. There were no other declarations.

**23/608 MATTERS ARISING**

**Re: minute point 23/513:** The new section of hedgerow in Arnold Recreation Ground/Old Road boundary has been planted up.

**Re: minute point 23/566.3:** The fence between the Allotments and the Coronation Community Garden has been installed.

**Re: minute point 23/321:** The new bench has been installed in the Recreation Ground Play Area and the old one removed.

**Re: minute point 23/516:** The Groundsmen advised that they are able to make a suitable container for the produce collection point at the allotments. The project will be progressed over the coming months.

**23/609 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2024**

There were no queries on the minutes. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the Leisure Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 **SECONDED** by Councillor Laycock with **5 in favour and 1 abstention**. The minutes were approved.

**23/610 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 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April were acknowledged.

Arnold Recreation Ground – on 16<sup>th</sup> April the grass was noted as needing cutting but too wet. Everything was in order at the Norman Road Play Area and the Fitness equipment.

**23/611 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PLAY EQUIPMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024 AND APPROVE ANY ACTIONS**

A copy of the minutes was circulated prior to the meeting, there were no queries. Councillor Mikkelson **PROPOSED** the receipt and ratification of the minutes and recommendations made at the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Councillor Qureshi **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**23/612 TO APPROVE THE PLAY EQUIPMENT QUESTIONNAIRE AND AGREE THE CONSULTATION PERIOD**

The questionnaire, which was approved by the Working Group at their meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April was reviewed. There were no amendments. The consultation period was agreed as 1<sup>st</sup> May – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024 and the date to visit Ramsey Manor Lower School to speak to pupils was agreed as 15<sup>th</sup> May, Councillors Qureshi, Gardner and the Assistant Clerk will attend the school meeting.

Councillor Vale **PROPOSED** approval of the Play and Fitness Equipment Questionnaire and the consultation period, **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**ACTION: Assistant Clerk to publicise the questionnaire and confirm the meeting date at Ramsey Manor Lower School.**

**23/613 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE URGENT TRE WORKS IN ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND AND AGREE THE WAY FORWARD**

The Assistant Clerk provided an update on the work carried out so far to clear the fallen tree and address other urgent tree work in the Recreation Ground. Due to conflicting information regarding the urgent tree work required, and to ensure that the remaining trees remain in good health, it was agreed that a full tree survey should be undertaken to include the Church Road and Hexton Road boundaries. Once the survey has been carried out a full planning application will be submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council, and discussions with residents, as needed.

**ACTION: Assistant Clerk to seek a quote for the tree survey, to be approved as an emergency.**

**23/614 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE QUOTATION TO LEVEL AREA IN THE ALLOTMENTS, READY FOR GRASS CUTTING**

Councillor Vale **PROPOSED** approval of the cost of £115.00 + VAT for MJ Granger Grounds Maintenance to level off an area within the allotments, ready for grass cutting. Councillor Mikkelson **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**23/615 TO APPROVE THE COST FOR THE ANNUAL SERVICE/INSPECTION OF THE ZIP WIRE**

Councillor Mikkelson **PROPOSED** approval of the cost for Kettering PlaySafe to carry out annual service and inspection of the zip wire at a cost of £285.00 + VAT. Councillor Laycock **SECONDED** the proposal, and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

Councillor Rudd arrived at 8.57pm

**23/616 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE MEETING REGARDING FLOODING IN THE RECREATION GROUND AND AGREE ACTIONS**

Councillor Mikkelson, the Assistant Clerk, Ward Councillor Childs, Central Bedfordshire Councils Drainage and Highways representative met on 25<sup>th</sup> April to discuss the ongoing issues of flooding in the Recreation Ground Play Area and Hexton Road. It is believed that the two could be linked as there are pipes running underneath the Play Area so it is beneficial to look at a joined-up approach. Further inspection would be needed on the Play Area side and the findings will be reported to Central Beds Council.

**23/617 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA – for information only**

There was no further business. Outstanding items to be progressed.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm