

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE PARISH OFFICE
ON MONDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2018 COMMENCING AT 8.51PM

Attendees: Councillors Mrs B Thomas, Mr A Channon, Mrs G Gardner, Mr J Paxton,
Mr L Davison-Williams

In attendance: Mrs C Callen (Parish Clerk), Mrs S Cowie (Assistant Clerk)

Minutes: Mrs S Cowie

18/377 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Mr D Gunter

18/378 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – There were none.

18/379 MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Channon asked whether the re-surfaced pathway to the Norman Road play area had been investigated to ensure the surfacing has not breached the properties damp proof course. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that the enquiry had been passed to Central Bedfordshire Councils Highways representative but no response had been received.

ACTION: Assistant Clerk to chase Highways representative. Councillor Davison-Williams advised that the replacement bearings on the aeroskate equipment in Arnold Recreation Ground have not yet been replaced however the equipment is fully working and the parts will be installed as soon as possible. The Assistant Clerk advised that she has chased the contractor regarding the installation of new back plate on the basketball net. Councillor Thomas confirmed that she would look into whether the old swings are still required by the resident.

18/380 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 24TH SEPTEMBER AND 29TH OCTOBER 2018

Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 24th September 2018, **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner with 4 members in favour and 1 abstention.

Councillor Thomas then **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 29th October 2018, **SECONDED** by Councillor Davison-Williams with 3 in favour and 2 abstentions.

18/381 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WEEKLY PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS OF 13TH, 20TH 23RD AND 27TH NOVEMBER 2018

During the inspection of 20th November it was noted that the notice board in Norman Road play space is in a poor state. Councillor Thomas advised members that one of the toddler swings in Arnold Recreation Ground has a split in the back of the seat. Members asked the Assistant Clerk to investigate the cost for a replacement seat. The inspections were acknowledged.

18/382 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WEEKLY FITNESS INSPECTIONS OF 13TH, 20TH & 27TH NOVEMBER 2018

Acknowledged – everything in order.

18/383 TO CONSIDER THE HEDGE CUTTING CONTRACT FOR 2019/2020

Members were advised that the contractor had recently completed hedge cutting at the allotment site, Arnold Recreation Ground and Hexton Road. Councillor Thomas confirmed that she had carried out an inspection of the hedge cutting and reported that it had been

completed well however the hedge by the top car park in the allotments has not been cut, possibly due to access issues. Members asked whether this area is included within the hedge cutting contract. Councillor Davison-Williams advised that historically it has not been included, only the hedge behind the allotment plots. Members discussed the contract for 2019 and agreed that a list of all hedges within the village will be compiled with details what works are required. This list will be compiled during the non-cutting time, ready for putting out to tender.

18/384 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE COST TO CUT ADDITIONAL HEDGE AT ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND

A quotation for the additional hedge cutting was discussed by members. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** that the quotation from Mr Horner, hourly rate of £40.00 with a maximum cost of £150.00 should be accepted. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

18/385 TO CONSIDER REPLANTING OF FELL TREE(S) IN ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND

Three silverbirch trees within Arnold Recreation Ground were recently felled as they were dead. A resident who grows trees has one silverbirch tree available for planting, two other varieties were also offered. Members felt that before any decision could be made advice should be sought as to why the trees failed and asked the Assistant Clerk to look into this. **ACTION:** Assistant Clerk to contact Barton's tree warden for advice then report back to Council.

18/386 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE COST OF NEW PEDESTRIAN GATE INTO ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND

The Parish Council has received confirmation from Central Bedfordshire Council that the maintenance of the kissing gate at Church Road into Arnold Recreation Ground is the responsibility of the Parish Council. The suggested motorbike inhibitor style gate was discussed by members, although it would allow disabled access and stop motorbikes entering the recreation ground it was felt that it was not in keeping with the village setting and members asked that other alternatives are explored. **ACTION:** Item to be taken back to the committee for further discussion.

18/387 TO APPROVE THE COST FOR CHEMICAL SAFETY SIGNAGE FOR THE ALLOTMENT SHED

Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the general hazard sign from Seton at a cost of £8.87 + VAT. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Paxton and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

18/388 TO CONSIDER FUTURE USAGE OF THE SKIP AT THE ALLOTMENT SITE

Members were advised that items are being left by the skip rather than being removed off site by their owners. There had been several incidents in the past few weeks. The committee spoke at length regarding the usage of the skip and the current openings for allotment tenants twice per year to dispose of non-compostable matter. It was reported that a number of pallets had been put in the skip, not just non-compostable vegetation during the recent openings. After much discussion it was agreed that the only option would be to remove the skip from the allotment site and withdraw skip openings to allotment tenants. **ACTION:** Assistant Clerk to write to tenants regarding the withdrawal of the skip and skip openings, skip to be removed at the end of the financial year.

18/389 REVIEW OF COMMITTEE EXPENDITURE FOR 2018/19 AND TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE DRAFT BUDGETS FOR 2019/20

The expenditure to date and draft budget for 2019/2020 were discussed. Historically the leisure committee have received the income from Barton Rovers for annual rent as the committee was split into Sportsfield and Leisure committees some time ago. It was agreed that this income should be re-assigned to the Sportsfield committee. It was agreed that an Ear marked reserve should be added to cover allotment security. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** a budget of £11,525 for 2019/2020, **SECONDED** by Councillor Paxton and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

18/390

ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

Councillor Thomas confirmed that the water at the allotment site should now be turned off. Councillor Davison-Williams advised he will organise this, notice to be displayed on the notice board.

Meeting ended 10.17pm