

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE  
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE PARISH OFFICE  
ON MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> JULY 2019 COMMENCING AT 7.30 pm**

**Present:** Councillors Mrs B Thomas (Chair), Mr A Channon (Vice-chair), Mrs G Gardner, Mr N Day, Mrs V Jones, Mr L Davison-Williams (ex-officio)

**Attending:** Mrs S Cowie (Assistant Clerk)

**Minutes Taken by:** Mrs S Cowie

**19/141 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Councillor Mr J Paxton

**19/142 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None

**19/143 MATTERS ARISING**

All works highlighted on the RoSPA report have been completed and the wooden parts of the play equipment in Arnold Recreation Ground have been stained and re-varnished. Although the fitness equipment has been repainted in some areas it was noted that the paint has worn off following use. The Groundsman will look into this.

**19/144 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2019**

Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the Leisure committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019 **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**19/145 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WEEKLY INSPECTIONS OF THE PLAYGROUND AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT**

The inspection of Norman Road play area undertaken on 5<sup>th</sup> July was acknowledged. The key holder reported that she had cleared up broken glass on the pathway and the new padlock worked well. The inspection of the Fitness equipment on 8<sup>th</sup> July was acknowledged. Everything was in order. The inspection of Arnold Recreation Ground undertaken on 8<sup>th</sup> July was acknowledged. It was noted that the basketball net needs replacing and the central strap of the bench by the play area was hanging down. The Groundsman will repair as soon as possible.

**19/146 TO AGREE THE PURPOSE OF THE NEW HERITAGE GARDEN AND THE NEXT STAGE**

Members agreed that the area should be a serene, quiet, green space. Ideas to be investigated further included planting local tree species, bug hotel, seating, water feature and pathway in to the area. Members agreed a Landscape Planner should be consulted and plans drawn up with suggestions for the area. Once plans have been drawn up the Village will be asked for their views.

**ACTION: Councillor Channon to draw up a brief for a Landscape Planner, residents to be consulted on all options once the plans area available.**

**19/147 UPDATE ON HEDGE PLANTING IN THE HERITAGE GARDEN**

During the walk about meeting in May members agreed to plant hedging along the chain link fencing between the new area and the allotments. Once planted it will provide additional security for allotment tenants. Barton Countryside Conservation, working on behalf of the Parish Council, have applied for a hedging grant from The Woodland Trust, delivery on the hedge whips will be during November.

**19/148 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE QUOTATION FOR GATE AND FENCING FOR HERITAGE GARDEN**

Now that the Village Hall's garage has been removed the entrance to the area is open. Members considered two quotations to install a large access gate, pedestrian gate and fencing. Following discussion Councillor Channon **PROPOSED** the quotation from Barton Countryside Conservation to provide 1 x 8 foot gate, 1 x 4 foot pedestrian gate and fencing at a cost of £615.80 + VAT should be accepted. The proposal was **SECONDED** by Councillor Thomas and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**19/149 TO ACKNOWLEDGE COMPLAINT FROM RESIDENT OF DUNSTALL ROAD REGARDING HEDGEROW IN ALLOTMENTS**

The office has received a complaint from a resident of Dunstall Road regarding the hedgerow between the allotment boundary and her own garden. The resident reported that the hedge height is now blocking their view of the hills, also that areas within the hedge are thin and could allow access into the residents garden. Following the complaint Councillor Thomas visited the site and reported that although there are small open areas within the hedgerow it would prove difficult for anyone to

access the garden from the allotment side. In addition members noted that it is the residents responsibility to secure/fence their property, should they feel the existing hedgerow is not sufficient. Although sympathetic all agreed that the existing hedgerow is sufficient and felt no further assistance could be offered.

**19/150 TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM A RESIDENT FOR A SKATE PARK IN BARTON**

At the Church Fete in June a young resident asked whether the Parish Council would consider installing a skate park in Barton. The Parish Council has visited this subject twice in the past 12 years and had consulted with experts, having plans and costs drawn up. At that time 2 locations were discussed; the Sports Field and Arnold Recreation Ground. Both sites provided challenges with regard to location and were not received favourably with local residents. In addition to looking at a permanent skate park the Parish Council provided a temporary skate park during the school holiday's. It was located in the grounds of Arnold Academy but the site was broken into and vandalised. Members spoke at length regarding the subject and agreed that the project should be looked into further. **ACTION: Councillor Channon will draft a letter of response to the resident explaining the history and challenges, letter to be approved at the Extra-Ordinary Council meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> July.**

**19/1512 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA**  
None

The meeting closed at 8.53 pm