

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE PARISH OFFICE
ON MONDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2019 COMMENCING AT 7.30 pm**

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

Attending: Mrs S Cowie (Assistant Clerk) Mrs C Callen (Clerk)

Minutes Taken by: Mrs S Cowie

19/414 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Councillors Mr N Day & Mr J Paxton

19/415 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None

19/416 MATTERS ARISING

The Horticultural Show sub-committee are exploring the possibility of changing the date of the show to 5th September 2020 as the Village Hall may not be available on the preferred date of 12th September. Subject to the judges availability the committee was happy for the date to be amended.

PPM have carried out the routine pest control check of the allotments. A report has been received that rats have been sighted in the allotments. Two additional bait boxes with toxic bait have been set, a follow up visit will take place in 28 days.

Agenda item 19/326 update on skate ramp - additional quotes have been sought, to be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Agenda item 19/327 Request to use Arnold Recreation Ground for community event. The group have been asked to provide the committee with further details once they are available.

Agenda item 19/328, following concerns raised by a resident regarding the safety of children exiting the Norman Road play area, a letter has been sent to the Highways Officer asking Central Bedfordshire Council to consider installing an additional gate or barriers in the alleyway which leads to the path. Their response has not yet been received.

19/417 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 21st OCTOBER 2019

Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the Leisure committee held on 21st October **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner with 3 in favour and 1 abstention. The minutes were approved.

Councillor Channon arrived at 7.39 pm

19/418 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WEEKLY INSPECTIONS OF THE PLAYGROUND AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT

The inspections of the Norman Road play area undertaken on 10th and 17th November were acknowledged, everything was in order

The inspection of Arnold Recreation Ground on 19th November was acknowledged. The stockade around the swings had been removed, everything was in order.

The Fitness Equipment inspection of 19th November was acknowledged. The graffiti on the leg press had been removed, everything else was in order.

19/419 TO APPROVE WORDING FOR THE NORMAN ROAD PLAY AREA SIGN AND AGREE CONTRACTOR AND COSTS

The proposed new sign for the Norman Road play area was considered by members. Minor amendments were made. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the new sign wording with amendments as agreed, **SECONDED** by Councillor Jones and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. The committee then considered two quotations to supply the sign. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** the quotation from Signs Express for £92.84 + VAT be approved, **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. Size of sign to be as existing; 1000 mm wide x 540 mm high 3 mm aluminium composite laminated panel. **ACTION: amended sign wording to be forwarded to committee members before the order is placed.**

19/420 TO CONSIDER QUOTATION FOR REPLACEMENT FENCING AT NORMAN ROAD PLAY AREA

A small section of fencing at the Norman Road play area has been damaged and needs replacing. Quotations from three contractors were considered and following discussion Councillor Thomas

PROPOSED the quotation from Barton Countryside Conservation at a cost of £119.00 be accepted. The proposal was **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. Any chain link fence left over from the job will be retained by the Parish Council for use elsewhere when needed.

19/421 TO RETROSPECTIVELY APPROVE THE COST FOR ADDITIONAL TURF AT THE PLAY AREA, ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND

Additional excavation was needed to remove the wooden uprights/stockade around the swings at Arnold Recreation Ground which resulted in additional turf being required. The job has now been completed therefore Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** retrospective approval of the cost of £39.20 for the additional turf, **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

19/422 TO RETROSPECTIVELY APPROVE ADDITIONAL CHARGE FOR WEED SUPPRESSANT FABRIC FOR HERITAGE GARDEN HEDGE PLANTING

The weed suppressant material for the hedge planting at the new Heritage Garden has now been installed however the actual cost was slightly more than previously quoted and approved. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** retrospective approval of the additional cost of £2.60, **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. Councillor Thomas reported that the community hedge planting event had taken place the previous day, Sunday 24th November, with approximately 12 people in attendance. Following a request from the Village Hall hedging was also planted by the hardstanding and along the Heritage Gardens new fence line.

19/423 TO RETROSPECTIVELY APPROVE COST TO CUT HEDGE AT OLD ROAD

Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** a maximum budget of £100.00 be approved for the hedge cutting on the Old Road section of the Arnold Road Recreation Ground, **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. As work has not yet been carried out the item was approved rather than retrospectively approved.

19/424 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE LETTER TO THE VILLAGE HALL REGARDING THE HERITAGE GARDEN

The draft letter of response was considered by members, with minor amendment made. Following discussion Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** the letter as amended be sent to the Village Hall, this was **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

19/425 REVIEW OF COMMITTEE EXPENDITURE FOR 2019/20 AND TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE DRAFT BUDGETS FOR 2020/21

The expenditure to date and draft budget for 2020/21 were discussed by members. There will be a 2.4% increase in contractors fees for grass cutting in 2020/21. Members agreed not to allocate additional money to the allotment security project as the committee have not yet agreed whether fencing and a gate should be installed. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the draft 2020/21 Leisure Committee budget with a £11,355 committee precept. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. Any funds remaining from 2019/20 budget should be vired to the the play equipment ear marked reserve.

19/426 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA
None

The meeting closed at 8.33 pm