

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE  
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ONLINE  
ON 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2021 COMMENCING AT 7.50 PM**

**Present:** Councillors Mrs B Thomas (Chair), Mr A Channon (Vice-chair), Mrs G Gardner, Mr J Paxton, Mrs V Jones

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

**Minutes Taken by:** Mrs S Cowie

**20/714 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Councillor Day

**20/715 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None declared.

**20/716 MATTERS ARISING**

The new signage for the allotment car park has been received and will be installed as soon as possible.

A further complaint of noise from the zip wire was received from the resident. The Assistant Clerk and Groundsman tested the equipment, standing by the residents property, and found that no noise other than a small bump (as the trolley hits the end) could be heard. Moving to other equipment in the play area, the aeroskate was then tested. This noise from this could be heard by the property although it was noted that the road noise was much louder. Noise whilst the aeroskate is in use has been investigated on two separate occasions by the manufacturer, at that time it was found to be in full working order with no concerns raised. The resident was advised of the findings but does not agree that the source is the aeroskate rather than the zip wire. Repair of the aeroskate and other items would be discussed later in the meeting under agenda point 20/723.

**20/717 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LEISURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2021**

There were no queries on the minutes. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the Leisure committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021, **SECONDED** by Councillor Gardner and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. The minutes were approved.

**20/718 TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WEEKLY INSPECTIONS OF THE PLAYGROUND AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT**

The inspections of the Norman Road Play Area, Arnold Recreation Ground Play Area and Fitness Equipment undertaken by the Groundsman on 12<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April were acknowledged. Everything was in order.

**20/719 TO RETROSPECTIVELY APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL COST INCURRED FOR RUBBISH CLEARANCE AT THE ALLOTMENTS**

At the September Full Council meeting (minute point 183.4) members agreed the cost of £375 + VAT to clear rubbish from vacant allotment plots. Due to prolonged wet weather which made the roadway unstable it was not possible to arrange collection immediately and the rubbish pile increased significantly in size, requiring 2 grab lorries to clear. Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** retrospective approval of the additional spend of £375.00 + VAT for Thomas Bros to carry out a second collection. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

The additional cost, unknown at the time when budgets were set, had not been set aside. Councillor Thomas therefore **PROPOSED** that £500 from the Allotment Heritage Garden Fund should be transferred to the Allotment Maintenance Fund. This would be used to pay for the rubbish removal. Councillor Channon **SECONDED** the proposal and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**20/720 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE QUOTATION FOR INSTALLATION OF SECURITY GATES/FENCE AT THE ALLOTMENT SITE**

Two quotations for installation of security gates, pedestrian gate and fencing were considered. It is usual for allotment sites to be fenced and gated and funds are available for the project.

Following discussion members agreed that the allotment tenants should be asked their opinion before a quotation is approved. Councillor Channon **PROPOSED** that subject to consultation and agreement with the allotment tenants the scheme should proceed as per the plans provided and quotation approved. Councillor Thomas **SECONDED** the proposal and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**ACTION: Assistant Clerk to organise consultation with allotment tenants. Quote to be considered once views are known.**

**20/721 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE QUOTATION FOR INSTALLTION OF ONE OUTDOOR TABLE TENNIS TABLE AND SURFACING AT ARNOLD RECREATION GROUND**

Two quotations to supply a table tennis table with various surfacing options were considered. Following discussion members agreed that the quotation from Fenland Leisure to supply one outdoor concrete table tennis table with resin surfacing should be progressed. Due to the location within the Recreation Ground and its visibility from the Hills members felt the table should be green rather than the white table detailed in the quotation. The revised quote should be considered at the Extra-ordinary Council meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May. **ACTION: Assistant Clerk to provide revised quotation for approval.**

**20/722 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE QUOTATION FOR NECESSARY PLAY EQUIPMENT REPAIRS**

Following investigation of noise issues it was found that the aeroskate, gyro spiral and roundabout in Arnold Recreation Ground Play Area are making various noises. Quotations for spare parts and labour costs to carry out the repairs were provided for consideration. It was hoped that all three pieces of equipment could be repaired at one time to reduce costs however the roundabout manufacturer advised that they would need to attend site to investigate the noise source before a quotation for parts and labour could be provided.

Councillor Thomas **PROPOSED** that all 3 pieces of play equipment should be repaired, the known cost of spares plus fitting were £1,265.56. The repair cost of the roundabout were unknown at the time of the meeting. Councillor Paxton **SECONDED** the proposal and it was **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**.

**20/723 TO AGREE THE CONSULTATION PROCESS REGARDING FUTURE LEISURE FACILITIES FOR THE VILLAGE**

Should Central Bedfordshire Council's Local Plan be approved, Barton could see up to 500 new homes being built. The additional population would have an impact the services and facilities the village has currently and it is important to consider what facilities the village will need for the future. Members agreed that a consultation with residents should take place to establish what leisure facilities the village would like. An online survey and newsletter would reach the whole village. The findings could be discussed at a public 'virtual' meeting at a later date. **ACTION: committee to agree 6 leisure projects at the committee meeting in May. Committee members to review the S106 wish list and bring forward ideas to the meeting.**

**20/724 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA – for information only**

There was no further business.

The meeting closed at 9.04 pm.