

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SPORTS FIELD COMMITTEE
OF BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ONLINE
ON MONDAY 1ST MARCH 2021 COMMENCING AT 9.03 PM**

Present: Councillors Mr J Selley (Chair), Mr J Roberts, Mr A Channon, Mrs B Thomas (ex-officio)

In attendance: Mrs S Cowie (Assistant Clerk)

Minutes: Mrs S Cowie

20/585 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillors Mr L Davison-Williams, Mr J Paxton.

20/586 SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

20/587 MATTERS ARISING

The tree works on the access road have been completed. Repairs to the fencing were delayed due to supply issues but it is now underway.

Barton Rovers Football Club applied to Central Bedfordshire Council for a grant to plant a laurel hedge along the access road however it was refused as the grant scheme only supports the planting of native hedgerow varieties. It was recommended that laurel would do well in the soil conditions, offer screening and act as a windbreak so Barton Rovers decided to go ahead with the project. A separate grant application for native trees for the car park and within the new hedgerow is being submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council, it is hoped that the application will be successful. Councillor Thomas (Vice-chair of the Parish Council), Councillor Selley (Chairman of Sports Field committee) and the Clerk had met with Barton Rovers to discuss the scheme. The Parish Council had previously pledged a fund of £1,000 for use on the car park renovation project and it was agreed that these funds should be used for the hedge and car park projects. This item would be discussed and formally approved at the March Full Council meeting. The ongoing ownership and responsibility for maintaining the hedgerow would need to be formalised in writing, the clerk will follow this up.

20/588 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPORTS FIELD COMMITTEE HELD ON 18TH JANUARY 2021

There were no queries on the minutes. Councillor Selley **PROPOSED** approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2021, **SECONDED** by Councillor Thomas and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. The minutes were approved.

20/589 TO RETROSPECTIVELY APPROVE COST TO REPAIR THE WHITE LINING MACHINES

Both machines had developed faults. Machine 1 was found to need a new pump, machine 2 had a broken tank bracket. Work was undertaken by Boston Crop Sprayers at a total cost including labour and parts of £169.10 + VAT. Councillor Selley **PROPOSED** retrospective approval of the repair cost of £169.10 + VAT, **SECONDED** by Councillor Roberts and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. The costs were approved.

20/590 TO RETROSPECTIVELY APPROVE THE COST TO REPAIR THE PAVILION ROOF

Water had been leaking into changing room 2 and following investigation by Councillor Day and a roofing contractor several roof tiles were found to be broken and pointing on the ridge was found to be defective. Councillor Selley **PROPOSED** retrospective approval of the repair cost of £200.00, **SECONDED** by Councillor Channon and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**. The costs were approved. Councillor Day was thanked for taking the time to inspect the building and organise the repair work.

20/591 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE COST TO REPAIR THE PAVILION EMERGENCY LIGHTING

The item was deferred as the quotation for necessary repair work was not available.

ACTION: Item to be included on the March Full Council meeting.

20/592 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE OPENING AND CLOSING DATES OF THE SPORTS FIELD AND TO AGREE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PAVILION'S OPENING

Following the Government's announcement that grass roots football can resume from 29th March, members considered the dates for opening and closing the sports pitches. The Football Association have suggested that the season should be extended until the end of June to accommodate matches

but the suggested extension in playing time would need consideration to ensure that sufficient time is available for the annual maintenance programme of the pitches. There were differing views on the timescales suggested due to the uncertainty of the Governments 'road map' which could be delayed dependent on infection rates. Two proposals were made.

Councillor Channon **PROPOSED** that the sports pitches open week commencing 29th March and close beginning of June but that the decision should be revisited at the May Full Council meeting. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Roberts.

Due to the time required to sow the seed and for it to germinate ready for play to begin in September, Councillor Selley **PROPOSED** that the sports pitches should open week commencing 29th March and close beginning of June. No review should take place in May due to the tight timescales. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Thomas.

A vote then took place. Option 1 proposed by Councillor Channon received two votes. Option 2 proposed by Councillor Selley received two votes. In such circumstances the Chair of the committee has the casting vote. Councillor Selley **voted for PROPOSAL TWO. The decision was CARRIED.**

20/593 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE COST TO APPLY FEED AND WEED SELECTIVE TO THE SPORTS FIELD

Councillor Selley **PROPOSED** approval of Total Weed Control's quotation to apply one application of fertiliser and weed selective to the sports pitches at a total cost of £865.00 + VAT. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Thomas and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

20/594 TO CONSIDER/APPROVE THE RESEEDING OF THE SPORTS FIELD

Councillor Selley **PROPOSED** approval of the quotation to purchase one tonne of top soil at a cost of £20.00 + VAT, one tonne of iron sand at a cost of £34.00 + VAT and 9 bags of LM3 heavy duty rye grass seed at a cost of £70.80 + VAT per 20 kg bag. All materials to be purchased via Barton Rovers Football Club. Councillor Selley further **PROPOSED** approval for the cost to hire tractor and drill seed for one day hire at a cost of £350.00 + VAT. Work to be carried out by Barton Rovers Football Club. This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Roberts and **UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

20/595 ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT

S106 money to the value of £4,150.34 is available for use to fund outdoor sport. Members were asked to bring forward their ideas on suitable projects for the money. Councillor Channon confirmed that he would prepare a combined form for sports field and leisure committee members to complete, ready for discussion at the next meetings.

Meeting closed at 9.55pm