

THE IVERS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27th MAY 2020 COMMENCING AT 6.00PM – VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE AND TRANSACTIONED THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS.

Present:

Cllrs Ann Mayling, Wendy Matthews, Chris Jordan and Chris Woolley

In attendance:

Margaret Wilson (Assistant Clerk), Stephanie Bennett (Clerk), Cllr Carol Gibson and 1 member of the public.

Minutes taken by Margaret Wilson.

A.001/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

None

A.002/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

- a. To note any declaration of interest made by Members in connection with an Agenda item. Members to specify the nature of the interest.
None
- b. To receive any written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.
None
- c. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.
None

A.003/20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

No questions were put.

A.004/20 MINUTES:

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Amenities meetings held on 22nd January 2020 and 18th March 2020 be received, adopted and approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the said meetings.

A.005/20 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. Iver Heath Pavilion

The Chairman was pleased to report that the Iver Heath refurbishment project is on track and is estimated to finish by end of July. The project should be completed before the start of the next football season. The budget is still on track, and there were a couple of additional items that everyone is aware of such as the investigation and removal of the wet/dry rot that was discovered. The remaining budget figure is currently around £300.00 under budget. Cllr Wendy Matthews asked if the dry rot issue has now been resolved and had any other dry rot been found? The Chairman confirmed that all the dry rot work has been completed and that no further dry rot had been found.

Cllr Chris Jordan asked if any problems had been found with the drains. It was confirmed that the Contractors had checked all the drains internally and that no problems had been found so far. The Chairman requested that thanks be given and noted to Cllr Geoff Bennett for all his hard work in physically monitoring and liaising with the contractors on site.

b. Iver Heath Allotments

The Chairman reported that a meeting has been scheduled to be held on 1st June 2020, with 2 members of the Iver Heath Allotments Association Committee.

c. Iver Heath Children's Playground

The Chairman was pleased to announce that the refurbishment of the Iver Heath Children's Playground will be commencing on 1st June 2020. The work was scheduled to start on 31st March 2020 but had to be put back due to the COVID-19 lockdown. It is estimated that the playground will be completed by w/c 20th July.

A.006/20 FENCING WORKS AT HARDINGS ROW FIELD

The Assistant Clerk reported to the Committee that the fencing work carried out at Hardings Row field has now been completed and that the total cost of the materials came to £975.38 (inc VAT). It was **RESOLVED** that the expenditure be noted and agreed, as approval was not recorded at the last Amenities meeting held on 18th March 2020.

A.007/20 MEMORIAL BENCH

a. To consider the request for a memorial bench at the Iver Recreation Ground

This item is covered in Item A.007/20 b. below.

b. To consider the development of a Memorial policy for The Ivers Parish Council

A resident sent a request to the Office asking if a memorial bench could be installed in memory of a family member at the Iver Recreation Ground. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had no Memorial policy for these requests such as installation of memorial benches in the community, so no Officer could give advice to the Committee for this request in Item A.007/20 a. above. The Clerk recommended that the Parish Council develop a policy. Following discussions and questions raised on types of memorials that could be considered; suitable areas in The Ivers where memorials could be installed, and maintenance responsibilities, it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk and the Assistant Clerk would present a policy for consideration at the next Full Council meeting to be held on 22nd June 2020.

A.008/20 IVER HEATH RECREATION/PAVILION

The Chairman explained to the Committee that the money for the electrical works that Furlong & Higgs are carrying out for the sum of £7998.00 whilst doing the refurbishment work is being transferred from the Iver Heath Recreation Ground budget to the Iver Heath Pavilion budget. Cllr Wendy Matthews reported that the electrical works had to be carried out regardless of whether any other works were being carried out or not. It was **RESOLVED** and **NOTED** that the Committee were happy for the money to cover the electrical works be transferred from the Iver Heath Recreation Ground to the Iver Heath Pavilion budget.

A.009/20 FINANCE

Papers showing the current budget status had been circulated and questions invited. The Chairman reported that there was not a lot to see on the status of the current budget now. However, the Chairman also pointed out that due to the current situation with the COVID-19 situation the level of predicted income will fall and wanted the Committee to be aware of this. Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

A.010/20 WEBSITE/PRESS RELEASES

It was noted and agreed that a video of the current refurbishment projects be uploaded on to the website.

A.011/20 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was **RESOLVED** that the Public and Press be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as matters which will be discussed are considered to be confidential.

A.012/20 PYRACANTHA HEDGE AT IVER RECREATION GROUND

The Assistant Clerk reported that an email had been sent to the office from a resident requesting a Pyracantha hedge to be planted along the resident's East boundary side at the Iver Recreation Ground. It was proposed that the hedging will be planted along the old wire chain link fence on the Iver Recreation Ground side. Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED** that on this occasion the Parish Council would not grant this request because of the concerns raised about the type of hedging proposed; the potential health hazard to the public and Users of the Recreation Ground and the long-term maintenance responsibility.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 6.30pm

Date of Next Meeting via Zoom Video conference – Wednesday 15th July 2020 at 6.00pm

Signed by the Chairman: Date: