

THE IVERS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 10th JULY, 2019 AT 7.30PM IN THE MEETING ROOM, COUNCIL OFFICES, IVER PARISH COUNCIL.

Present: Councillors Ann Mayling, Chris Jordan, Chris Woolley, Reg Gould, Wendy Matthews

In Attendance: Margaret Wilson (Assistant Clerk), Dawn Fleming (Clerk), Councillors Carol Gibson and Geoff Bennett

Minutes taken by: Margaret Wilson

19. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. J Bryson who is on agreed leave of absence.

20. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr R Gould declared an interest in Item 25. Cllr. R Gould is a member of the Iver Heath Bowls Club.

21. THE MINUTES

To confirm as correct the minutes (previously circulated) of the meeting held on the 22nd May 2019, and to authorise the Chairman to sign the same. It was:

RESOLVED: to sign the minutes as a correct record of proceedings.

22. CLERK'S REPORT

- a) Tree spraying of Oak trees at Swan Meadow - update
The Assistant Clerk reported that two spray applications had been carried out at Swan Meadow by the Forestry Commission's tree contractor. Approximately 40 trees were sprayed each time. Cllr C Jordan requested that information posters for the public on Oak Processionary Moth Caterpillars be put up at Swan Meadow.
- b) Hardings Row Field – update
The Assistant Clerk reported that a letter was sent to the current Leaseholder at Wood Lane Stables to remove their horses from Hardings Row field. The Leaseholder confirmed that the horses had now been removed. This item was discussed further under the Chairman's report – Item 23. b).
- c) BMX Track at Iver Recreation Ground – update
The Assistant clerk reported that a meeting had been arranged with the resident previously involved with the installation of the BMX track and the Assistant Clerk. The recent ROSPA report confirmed that the BMX track surface needs repairing, and the resident suggested tarmac the surface. Following discussions, it was:
AGREED: that the Assistant Clerk obtain some further quotes for the refurbishment of the track from track specialists and put conditions of use signs up by the BMX track.

d) Cable work at Iver Recreation Ground – update

The Assistant Clerk reported that the Cabling works agreed at the Amenities meeting held on 22nd May 2019 will start W/C 22nd July 2019. The additional internal electrical works as discussed at the Amenities meeting held on 20th March 2019 for the sum of £2109.00 would also be carried out during the Cabling works.

23. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

a) Iver Heath Pavilion – update

The Chairman reported that the schedule of works which was compiled with much help from Cllr. G Bennett has already been sent out for quotation to one contractor. Further contractors are being sourced to quote for the works. In the meantime, the Groundsmen have had to carry out some urgent shower repair works for the short term. A meeting was held with McAlpine and a schedule of works was given to them to respond as to the scope of support they are going to give in the refurbishment. The Parish Council are still currently awaiting a specific offer of support from McAlpine.

Following the Legionella testing report, a specialist firm will be asked to review the heating and the hot and cold water systems.

The Chairman also reported that the Perspex windows on the teenage shelter at the Iver Heath Recreation Ground have been removed following repeated acts of vandalism and offensive graffiti.

b) Hardings Row

In the last few years focus has been on making Swan Meadow a space which offers both an area for wildlife and for the community to use as green space. Hardings Row has received less attention and as part of the forthcoming new management plans recommendations have been requested for increasing community use of the space including recommendations for the field area previously leased for grazing. It was also reported to the Parish Office that once again horses were grazing in the field. Following a site visit by the Chairman of the Amenities Committee and the Assistant Clerk, it was also found that the fencing at Hardings Row field needs attention; that a gate had been installed at the access to the field from the Wood Lane Stables and that a security panel was found where the fencing had been damaged. Following discussions, it was:

AGREED: that another letter is sent to the Leaseholder of Wood Lane Stables asking for the immediate removal of the horses from the field; that the Groundsmen will remove the security panel and replace fencing at the access from the stables, and on receipt of the new management plans bring this item back to the next Amenities Committee meeting in September to discuss the long-term future of the field.

24. OUTDOOR DEFIBRILLATOR AT IVER RECREATION GROUND

The Assistant Clerk reported that the new Defibrillator has been installed at the Iver Recreation Ground by Palmac Electrical Services, and that the official opening of the new defibrillator can now go ahead. Following discussions, it was:

AGREED: that the official opening of the new defibrillator at the Iver Recreation Ground will take place on Tuesday 3rd September 2019, and 6.30pm.

25. BOWLING CLUB

The Assistant Clerk circulated an update from the Secretary of the Iver Heath Bowls Club. The Bowls Club are still planning to replace the existing fence and hedge at the side of the Bowls Club and have begun raising funds to start the installation of the fencing. Following discussions, it was:

AGREED: that the update be noted and suggest any other funding sources to the Bowls Club.

26. COMMUNITY EVENT

The Chairman circulated quotations for the purchase of 2 gazebos and 2 packs of 2-way radios which are required for the Funday Event to be held on Sunday 28th July 2019. The cost of the items to be paid from funding given by Heathrow. Following discussions, it was:

AGREED: that the Assistant Clerk to proceed with the orders of the gazebos and the radios.

27. GROUNDWORK

a) Groundwork report

A written report prepared by Matthew Hartgrove was circulated to the committee. The Chairman reported that the invoices are still not being sent monthly. Following discussions: it was:

AGREED: that the report be noted and that the Assistant Clerk request for monthly invoices as in line with the Agreement.

28. TREE WORKS

a) Coopers Row

The Assistant Clerk circulated an email that was sent to the Parish Office requesting the removal of branches from 2 oak trees hanging over their property, along with the strimming back of the hedge overgrowth onto the pavement. Following discussions: it was:

AGREED: that a letter is sent to the resident to confirm that they have permission from the Parish Council to cut back the branches overhanging their property, and that the overgrown hedge does not belong to the Parish Council.

b) Request from a resident

The Chairman reported that another resident had also requested the removal of trees, overhanging branches and replacement of fencing along their property at Hardings Row. Following discussions, it was:

AGREED: that the Chairman would write to the resident to confirm that they have permission from the Parish Council to cut back the overhanging branches, and that the Amenities committee do not believe that the fencing belongs to The Ivers Parish Council.

29. TREE WARDEN

Cllr C Gibson reported that a White-letter Hairstreak butterfly was spotted in Swan Road, near where the Dutch Elm Disease Resistance trees are planted in Swan

Meadow. The Assistant Clerk reported that Bund One at Swan Meadow had now been mowed and the first spray had been completed.

30. REPORT FROM GROUNDS TEAM

A written report was circulated to the committee plus additional information on St Leonards Mound. The Chairman reported that work has started again at St Leonards Mound and that there had been some concerns over the grass cutting at St Peter's Churchyard. The Groundsmen will be producing a plan for the maintenance of both St Leonards Mound and St Peter's Churchyard and will be bringing this back for discussion to the next meeting. Cllr C Jordan suggested that a standard response be produced for local people to help with their queries on the maintenance of St Peter's Churchyards. Cllr W Matthews requested clarification of a watering schedule for the planters from the Groundsmen to be included in the report. It was:

AGREED: that the report be noted with the above comments.

31. FINANCE

a) Current budget status

Budget papers were circulated, and following discussions, it was:

RESOLVED: that the report be noted, and that the Chairman would seek further clarification on the detail tab on the spreadsheet from the Accountant.

32. PRESS RELEASES/WEBSITE

Information posters for the public on Oak Processionary Moth Caterpillars to be put up on the Parish Council's website.

Meeting finished at 8.30pm

Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 11th September 2019, 7.30 pm, Iver Parish Council Offices.

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....