

## **HAYDON WICK PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Amenities & Leisure Committee of Haydon Wick Parish Council held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 7.30pm in the Parish Council Offices, Thames Avenue, Haydon Wick.

### **ATTENDENCE**

**MEMBERS:** Councillors R Hailstone (Chairman), L Brown, S Heyes, J Jackson, A John, V Manro, K Naik, R Venkatesh and R Worman

**OFFICERS:** Clerk, Georgina Morgan-Denn  
Administrator, Laura Cutter

**OBSERVING:** Councillor I Liddon

### **AL 99 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors E Baker Lee (personal).

### **AL 100 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor L Brown declared an interest in Item 14 – Seven Fields.

*Councillor Naik joined meeting at 19.36*

### **AL 101 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were two members of the public present at the meeting interested in discussions on Cliffords Meadow. Council resolved to bring Agenda item 8 - Cliffords Meadow forward and invite the member of the public to speak on the matter.

### **AL 102 CLIFFORDS MEADOW**

Members heard how this was a very important piece of land, ridge and furrow has never been touched. The tenant farmer no longer cutting the hay and should have been done by latest September. Natural England does not have a designated officer for the field and resident asked if the Parish Council could consider assisting with the getting the hay cut once a year.

Councillor Manro confirmed he has spoken to the land agent and asked for his questions to be sent landowners, WWT and Natural England. Concerns about the status and security of the site, perimeter hedge and scheduling the hay cut and enhancing some of the signage. SSSI funding was short term and may have lapsed and may result in not being maintained anymore.

Resident informed WWT used to go in annual to check the health of the field. This lapsed and now the land agent to do the work. The tenant farmer would do the work but agent stated it's not tenable. It did form at part of the SSSI but if it's not being maintained properly.

Council confirm the land is not owned by the Parish Council and it are doing all we can to chase the land owners and pursuing it through WWT. Councillor Worman queried why isn't SBC getting more involved given the huge push for wildflower meadows in the Borough.

Council confirmed they would push this with the Borough also. Resident would be grateful for anything the Council can do.

**AL 103 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman congratulated Laura Cutter (Administrator) on successfully passing her CiLCA qualification and advised that the Council is very fortunate to have two qualified Clerks.

**AL 104 MINUTES**

Members received and approved the minutes of the Amenities & Leisure Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

**Proposed:** Councillor V Manro                      **Seconded:** Councillor Jackson

**Vote: Agreed with two (2) abstentions**

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the Amenities & Leisure Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

**AL 105 COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

**Councillor S Heyes**                      Solar streetlights have been installed in the Borough - some around the football ground.

**Councillor L Brown**                      White Horse Federation dead tree at KGV and cut the dead tree down.

**Councillor R Worman**                      Advised of his resignation with effect from 9<sup>th</sup> October. Pleased to have worked with a brilliant bunch of people and very happy with the professionalism of the office. Weed control measures have started in Haydon View Road.

**Councillor V Manro**                      Hedge cutting at Abbey Meads looks much better this year.

**Councillor R Hailstone**                      At a recent SAC meeting there was a discussion on wildflower meadows. Central Swindon North advised that SBC has funded £85k for enhancing areas within their parish. Unsure if parts of Seven Fields funded.

Reported low hanging branches over the pavement by Bowls Green Play Park.

**AL 106 CLERK'S REPORT**

**POST Depot** – We have rats near the POST office and shall be treating the area. This will incur minor costs. SBC confirmed we can use Waterside for washing down facilities for our vehicles. Machinery will continue to be washed down at the Depot. There will be a charge which will be met from our existing budget and will be factored into next year's budgets.

**Laughton Way** – Thames Water confirmed that the land would be rectified and made good by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – checked today – they've repaired the residents fence/ wall and the pathway, but the hedge is still cut down and the drain is still blocked. Office to contact Thames Water directly.

**Nationwide Volunteer Day** – The play park renovation project with volunteers at Nationwide went well, an informal thank you has been sent and some photographs of the event have been posted on social media. *Clerk*

*recommends sending a formal thank you letter to Nationwide from the Chair of A&L and a press release.*

**Heaton Close Play Park** – Almost daily reports of vandalism in the play park on the toddler equipment. Our insurance company has been notified and we will progress this once we have final replacement costs. Some repairs can be done by Technical Assistants. Reported to police who confirmed will monitor area.

**Seven Fields** – To be advised SBC are doing some repair works to the bridge and banks on the Northern side of King Bridge.

**Thames Avenue Bus Stop** – A resident is question if a bin is being replaced following removal at the bus stop at Thames Avenue. There are 3 bins within that area (from Shield & Dagger to Trent Road Shops) and therefore this one was approved by the Committee under the Bin Removal Project.

**Vehicle Trackers** – Trial is going well. Trackers can be installed to mowers with waterproof cages, this will be brought to a future meeting when the trial has ended. Have been able to track breaking, speed, locations and times.

**CCTV** – Exam success! The Clerk, Laura Cutter and Councillor Manro have all successfully passed their Level 2 Award Working as a CCTV Operator (Public Space Surveillance). Two extra CCTV cameras have been ordered. The policy and operational procedures are currently under review and will be brought to P&F very soon.

**Clary Road** – Site visit conducted, and we will proceed with trialing some anti-vandal paint in a small section. This will be monitored by the local police and if required additional signage will be installed to try to deter any further anti-social behavior.

**AL 107**

**BUS SHELTER – TWEED CLOSE**

The Committee were advised of a recent dissatisfaction from a resident that the request for a bus shelter at Tweed Close was not approved at Planning & Highways in July 2019 due to there being two other shelters in proximity. The resident will provide the Clerk with names of residents who support the need for a bus shelter in this location for the request to be reconsidered at a future Committee meeting. An alternative suggestion to bring to a future meeting is the potential to relocate a surplus shelter at Westfield to this location. *Clerk to add to future agenda.*

**AL 108**

**HAYDONLEIGH SKATE PARK**

The Clerk gave a verbal update, Certificate of Lawfulness has now been submitted. Councillor V Manro proposed that a shelter should be installed at the same time as the skate park is fitted to complete the project as a whole. The working party will still follow up on the grant opportunity. After discussion, the Committee resolved recommend to Full Council to authorise the Clerk to spend up to £4,200.00 on a shelter using funds from General Reserves unless a grant is secured before.

**Proposed:** Councillor A John

**Seconder:** Councillor V Manro

**Vote:** Agreed with one (1) abstention.

**RESOLVED:** To recommend to Full Council to authorise the Clerk to spend up to £4,200.00 on a shelter from General Reserves, unless a grant is secured.

**AL 108 GRASS AND HEDGE CUTTING UPDATE**

The Committee noted the Officer's report which confirmed that despite several attempts and requests to move parked cars, there will be no hedge maintenance in some areas of Chatsworth Road.

**AL 109 PARKS & PROJECTS UPDATE**

The Committee noted the Officers' report and after discussion, resolved to approve the recommendations in the report.

**Proposed:** Councillor L Brown                      **Seconded:** Councillor A John

**Vote: Agreed with one (1) objection.**

**RESOLVED:**

- a) To trial the installation of roller barriers at The Brow entrance to King George V Field.
- b) To recycle the skate park shelter to Heaton Close on the proviso that poles are installed for CCTV cameras.

**AL 110 LEISURE GARDENS**

The Committee noted the Officer's report and after discussion, resolved to approve the recommendations in the report.

**Proposed:** Councillor L Brown                      **Seconded:** Councillor J Jackson

**Vote: Agreed unanimously.**

**RESOLVED:** To distribute the actions in the report to the Parks & Open Spaces Team.

**AL 111 SEVEN FIELDS**

An update was received from Councillor R Worman with regards to any matters arising at Seven Fields. The Committee also received a hedge cutting quotation for the footpath along the top of Seven Fields.

**Proposed:** Councillor R Worman                      **Seconder:** Councillor A John

**Vote: Agreed unanimously.**

**RESOLVED:** To proceed with the quote from Countrywide to cut back the footpath at the top of Seven Fields (2m either side of the core path) for £695.00 plus VAT to be coded to 4522/307. This will take Grounds Maintenance over budget.

**AL 112 PARKS & OPEN SPACES TEAM (POST) STATISTICS**

The Committee noted the statistics. Queries were received on the amount of brought forward items, the Administration Officer confirmed that there are often delayed updates from POST. The Office is working on ways to make the reporting more user friendly for the resident, the office and POST.

*Councillor I Liddon left the meeting 20:55*

**AL 113 OPERATIONAL BUDGET MONITORING**

Members received and noted Month 5 operational income and expenditure against budget report for the Parks & Open Spaces cost centre.

**AL 114 CHAIRS CO-ORDINATING GROUP/ FUTURE STRATEGY**

The Committee received an update from the Chair concerning Amenities & Leisure Committee related items discussed at the Chairs Co-Ordinating Group/Future Strategy Meeting held recently. The recommendations will be presented to Full Council on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

**Development of land at Tadpole Lane** - Allotment requests are not going to take all of this area and therefore consideration about approaching neighbouring parishes like St Andrews and Blunsdon to make it a joint project. The Council have already committed to spending £49,000.00 to improve the access and therefore the remaining amount could be split between parishes for the layout costs, Goodearl site cost approx. £50,000.00. Some further ideas were discussed that could generate income to offset against future precept demand

**Clary Road and Trent Road Fields** – Need some drainage works to improve the site layout.

**Play Areas** - White Eagle potential for outdoor gym and moving Primrose toddler park to this area to make it a complete area for all generations.

**New POST Depot** – Locations to be sought for a new depot including areas for storing vehicles.

Meeting heard how this strategy document will shapes the future for the Parish and would incorporate the grounds maintenance contracts and considerations to where S106 money from neighbouring parishes could be used.

**AL 115 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

To be given to the Clerk in advance of the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

**Chairman:**