

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 12th JULY 2018 AT 7.30PM
AT THE TOWN HALL.**

PRESENT:

Cllr R Gell (Chairman)
Cllr H L Jackson
Cllr Mrs S Mantle
Cllr Mrs V Newbery
Cllr J Smithers
Cllr C P O'Rourke (as substitute for Cllr D C Lawson MBE)
Cllr Mrs C Reavey (as a substitute for Cllr A M T Reading)
Miss A J Schofield (Assistant Town Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES**

Cllr D C Lawson MBE, Cllr A M T Reading.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd May 2018 be signed by the Chairman as being a true and correct record.

4. **PUBLIC FORUM**

No public present.

5. **PLAY AREA, MALLARD CLOSE OPEN SPACE**

The primary schools have been consulted and have undertaken voting on the 4 shortlisted play area designs. The results of the voting were presented to the Committee, with HAGS receiving the most votes, next Proludic, then Kompan and Wicksteed.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That HAGS be appointed as the contractor for the supply and installation of the play area at Mallard Close Open Space at a cost of £37,950 including a spare parts package, a site opening package and post installation check.

6. **LIME TREE IN THE CEMETERY**

The Committee considered the key issues raised in the letter:-

1. The overhanging lime tree drops sap on to the plastic furniture.
2. Roots from the tree may adversely affect the patio and foundations of the house.
3. The tree was planted after the house was built and the tree is not in an appropriate species for its location.

The relevant sections of the Tree Management Policy were reviewed against the key issues. No evidence of damage to patio or house has been provided.

RESOLVED:

That a letter be sent to the residents of Russell Way advising that no works will be undertaken to the lime tree and that significant reason is not considered to exist at the present time to deviate from the Tree Management Policy. The tree will be monitored

and will continue to form part of the Council's independent inspection regime.

7. **BOUNDARY OF MUGA/WHARF ROAD AND YOUTHS IN THE MUGA**

The issues associated with youths in the MUGA out of hours were discussed, with reference to and consideration of the locking regime and locking time for the MUGA.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That high fencing be installed on the lower fence section of the boundary with 22 Wharf Road to match that high fencing previously installed. That the offer from the resident to share the cost of the additional high fencing be accepted. That the pine tree at the end of the boundary wall and high fence be felled so youths may no longer climb it to gain access on to the wall and around the high fence. That Council monitor the situation following these works to the boundary.

8. **PROVISION OF LITTER BINS**

8.1. **Purchase of a litter bin for the Dogs Off Lead Area, Stanwick Road.**

RESOLVED:

That a low cost old style metal bin be purchased and chained to the fence to allow Committee to gauge the level of use and practicality.

8.2. **Purchase of a replacement litter bin for Villa Rise Play Area.**

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That a replacement litter bin of a similar style to that existing be purchased for Villa Rise Play Area. That a budget of £496 be allocated for the purchase and installation. That the old litter bin be retained to explore if reconditioning is possible.

8.3. **Purchase of a replacement litter bin for Saffron Road Recreation Ground.**

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the litter bin opposite Chichele College on Saffron Road Recreation Ground be replaced with a new litter bin of a similar style. That a budget of £496 be allocated for the purchase and installation.

9. **CLERK'S REPORT**

Equipment for Older Children, Saffron Road

Installation of the equipment (cableway, rope swing and overhead carousel) is scheduled for the 2nd week of September when the schools have started back and to avoid works during the summer holidays when the play area is at one of its busiest times.

Regularisation of Occupied Land, Windermere Drive

The residents of 74 Windermere Drive have completed the 'Licence to Occupy'. There are 4 properties where regularisation is still being sought.

Fitzwilliam Leys

Replacement twin rocker was installed the 3rd week of June.

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Assistant Clerk be received and noted.

10.. **PARISH PATHS WARDEN REPORT**

RESOLVED:

That the report from the Parish Paths Warden, Marion Darnell, be received and noted. That further to the report regarding VC15, contact is made with the Linden Homes to seek the cutting back of vegetation overhanging the footpath.

11. **ITEMS TO REPORT**

Cllr C P O'Rourke referred to the grass cutting in both the cemetery and generally and queried if the contract included any provision for blowing and clearing the cuttings in any areas. The Assistant Clerk will report back to Committee on this point.

Cllr R Gell suggested a possible agenda item for the next meeting in relation to the narrow strip of open space land between the fence line of the Garden Fields development and the hedgerow of VC15. The Assistant Clerk will make initial enquiries to facilitate an item.

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

11th September 2018.

Chairman

Date