

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
**HELD ON TUESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021 AT 7.30PM**  
**USING ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr A M T Reading (Chairman)  
Cllr Mrs P H Whiting  
Cllr Mrs C Reavey  
Cllr Mrs A Gardner  
Cllr H L Jackson  
Cllr N Brown  
Mrs S J Mitcham (Town Clerk)  
Miss A J Schofield (Assistant Clerk)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** 1 Member of the Public

1. **APOLOGIES**

Cllr C P O'Rourke

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr H L Jackson, item 5, owns a plot at the Cemetery.

3. **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

4. **PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

5. **NON-PERMITTED ITEMS TO GRAVE PLOTS AT THE CEMETERY**

5.1. **Report regarding the progress of the removal of items**

**RESOLVED:**

That the report regarding the progress of the removal of items at the Cemetery be received and noted.

5.2. **Procedure for removal of non-permitted items**

**RESOLVED:**

That the procedure for the removal of non-permitted items at the Cemetery be amended as follows:-

- Reduce no. of weeks from 4 to 2 - 'If there has been no contact after another 2 weeks the item will be removed.'
- New clause - 'Items that cannot be removed by lift in one movement by a member of staff and require labour time to remove, such as loose chippings or wooden edging, will be removed by a contractor and the plot owner will be held liable for these third party charges.'

6. **BEDE CLOSE BOUNDARY HEDGE AND ACCESS TO THE OPEN SPACE TO THE REAR**

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:**

That a licence with an annual fee of £25 be granted to the resident of No. 25 Bede Close. That the licence permit the removal of the hedge and installation of a fence to block off access to the open space.

7. **UPGRADE OF PATH TO TENNIS COURTS**

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:**

That a budget of £9000 be set to allow for the upgrade of the path by the tennis courts, improved ramp access and renovation of concrete area. Costs to be met from s106 Reserve for Off Site Recreation.

8. **USE OF CASTLE FIELDS FOR A CIRCUS**

**RESOLVED:**

That Castle Fields will not be permitted for use for a Circus between 24<sup>th</sup> May and 31<sup>st</sup> May due to the proximity to the 17<sup>th</sup> May earliest stage date. That the Circus be advised that dates later in the year and after the 21<sup>st</sup> June stage date would be considered.

9. **NATURAL CAPITAL**

**RESOLVED:**

That the report on the Natural Capital workshops and data maps be received and noted.

10. **CLERK'S REPORT**

**Nightingale Way Play Area – 3 Giant Chairs from Chowns Mill Improvement Scheme**

All 3 schools approached (Henry Chichele Primary, Nursery and Infants and the Juniors) have agreed to take part in the design competition and have accepted carved item gifted from the Mayor and the scheme. The 3 giant chairs are scheduled for installation April.

**Tree Planting**

Our office IT upgrade has been undertaken by the Cloudy Group. As part of an environmental initiative, Sustainability Run, the Cloudy Group in partnership with the Green Earth Appeal have planted a tree on the Council's behalf,

**RESOLVED:**

That the report from the Clerk be received and noted.

11. **PARISH PATHS WARDEN REPORT**

**RESOLVED:**

That the report from the Parish Paths Warden, Marion Darnell, be received and noted.

12. **ITEMS TO REPORT**

Cllr Mrs A Gardner requested an agenda item to allow consideration of ways to tackle the growing anti-social behaviour issues at Riverside Park. The Clerk will consider how best to take this matter forward to a Council meeting. In the meantime the matter can be raised at the next JAG meeting and contact made with the Police Wildlife Officer.

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

18<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

Chairman

Date