

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 21st MAY 2019 AT 7.30PM
AT THE TOWN HALL.**

PRESENT:

Cllr Mrs S Mantle (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs P Whiting
Cllr C O'Rourke
Cllr H L Jackson
Cllr Mrs A Gardner
Cllr Mrs C Reavey (as a substitute for Cllr Mrs A Sauntson)
Mrs S J Mitcham (Town Clerk)
Miss A J Schofield (Assistant Clerk)

1. **ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED:

That Cllr Mrs S Mantle be elected as Chairman of the Environment & Recreation Committee for 2019/20.

2. **ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED:

That Cllr H L Jackson be elected as Vice-Chairman of the Environment & Recreation Committee for 2019/20.

3. **APOLOGIES**

Cllr Mrs A Sauntson, Cllr A M T Reading.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

5. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th March 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman as being a true and correct record.

6. **PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

7. **SEATING AND PROVISION OF PLAY EQUIPMENT FOR DOGS AT THE DOGS OFF LEAD AREA**

Enquiries had been made with regard to play equipment and training equipment for dogs. Equipment is usually intended for personnel use or as part of an organised dog training class and is temporary in nature, it was suggested permanent equipment was not practical and there were safety issues with regard to unsupervised use.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That two benches be purchased for the Dogs off Lead Area at a cost of £390 plus installation.

8. **USE OF SPORTS PAVILION BY MUSIC FOR ALL**

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the Valley of Hope be allowed to use the Sports Pavilion at no charge for a period of 4

weeks to allow delivery of their new music project.

9. **REVIEW OF SCHOOL FEES FOR USE OF THE MUGA AND TENNIS COURTS BY HIGHAM FERRERS JUNIOR SCHOOL**

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That a fee of £300 be set for the period 1st June to 17th July 2020 for the use of the MUGA and tennis courts by the school effective from the 1st January 2020. That the school pay a pro-rata fee for 2019 as the fee covers 1st April to 31st March.

10. **REPLACEMENT LITTER BIN AT RIVERSIDE PARK**

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That a litter bin be purchased for Riverside Park at a cost of £372 plus installation.

11. **PUBLIC ACCESS TO VILLAGE GREEN LAND ADJACENT GLEBE FARM**

RESOLVED:

That a general awareness campaign be delivered through the Higham Times and the Town Council website and social media accounts to promote the Council's Open Spaces, including the village green land adjacent to Glebe Farm. That the hedge and vegetation at the existing entrance be cut back and cleared to facilitate ease of access. That price be obtained for signage to promote village green rights and that price be obtained for an additional entrance gate.

12. **SKATE PARK, END BANKS, BONDED RUBBER MULCH SURFACING**

RESOLVED:

That consideration of the item be deferred pending receipt of additional quotes for the work to extend the bonded rubber mulch surfacing over the back slopes of the end banks.

13. **ANNUAL PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORTS**

13.1. **RESOLVED:**

That the Annual Play Area Inspection Reports be received and noted.

13.2. **To consider action to be taken with regard to the fence at Fitzwilliam Leys Play Area**

RESOLVED:

That an up to date quote be sought to replace the wooden fencing with galvanised playsafe specification bow top fencing.

14. **USE OF MUGA**

The committee reviewed the opening times of the MUGA in light of complaints from a resident about balls in the garden. It was suggested Council work further with the local PCSO to help address the anti-social behaviour and the Clerk look into the possibility of organised activities in the MUGA.

RESOLVED:

That the opening times for the MUGA remain unchanged and it will be open from 9am to 5pm daily during the summer months for public access except at times of booked use.

15. **PARISH PATHS WARDEN REPORT**

RESOLVED:

That the Parish Paths Warden report be received and noted.

16. **ITEMS TO REPORT**

Cllr H L Jackson referred to the Bowls Club hedge line and said the area where the hedge had been removed still needed some tidying and stone clearance work to allow grass establishment and the area to be mown in due course.

Cllr C O'Rourke reported the Greenway required overgrown vegetation in need of cutting back on the stretch between the Bury Close turning area and the Kimbolton Road.

17. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

16th July 2019.

Chairman

Date