

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 12th MAY 2020 AT 7.30PM
USING ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING**

PRESENT:

Cllr S Mantle (Chairman)
Cllr C O'Rourke
Cllr A M T Reading
Cllr Mrs A Gardner
Cllr Mrs P H Whiting
Mrs S J Mitcham (Town Clerk)
Miss A J Schofield (Assistant Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: 1 member of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Cllr H L Jackson. Non-attendance from Cllr V Paul.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held 17^h March 2020 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record

4. **PUBLIC FORUM**

None.

5. **RESURFACING OF THE FOOTPATH ON PHASE 6**

Quotes had been obtained to resurface the footpath with tarmac as an alternative to Breedon Gravel.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the footpath on Phase 6 be resurfaced with tarmac at a cost of £12750.

6. **MUGA RESURFACING**

Due to the complexity and variation in the specification of the quotes Environment & Recreation Committee were delegated to review the quotes and make a decision. The Clerk confirmed receipt of favourable recommendation from Rushden Town Council with regard to the Playdek surfacing. It was noted the lower priced quote specified a thinner tarmac layer.

RESOLVED:

That the MUGA be resurfaced with Playdek, including timber edgings, at a cost of £19450.

7. **MEMORIAL BENCH**

RESOLVED:

That the Eastgate anti-vandal cast iron framed seat featuring galvanised mild steel slats is the preferred design for memorial benches at a cost of £549 including delivery.

8. **ANNUAL PLAY AREA INSPECTIONS**

8.1. **Play Area Inspection Reports**

RESOLVED:

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

8.2. **Schedule of Works for the Play Equipment**

RESOLVED:

That the schedule of works for the play equipment be received and noted.

9. **TIMBER TRIM TRAIL AT CASTLE FIELDS**

RESOLVED:

That the item be deferred given delay in the receipt of the revised plan for the timber trim trail at Castle Fields due to a reduction in staffing levels at the supply company due to Covid-19.

10. **SCATTERING OF ASHES AREA AT THE CEMETERY**

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That improvement works be undertaken to the scattering of ashes area at the Cemetery as follows:

- Installation of a polished black stone memorial structure to include ceramic plaque Town Council logo, gold border and gold leaf lettering at a cost of £956 including installation.
- Additional planting of evergreen shrubs, ornamental tree and bulbs. Budget cost for purchase £250 with planting and maintenance to be undertaken by volunteers.
- Provision of summer and winter bedding plants. The plants to be added to the ENC Grounds Maintenance Contract for purchase, planting and maintenance with a budget cost of £640 per annum. Watering is to be undertaken by the Park Wardens.

11. **PARISH PATHS WARDEN REPORT**

It was noted from the report that Path VC31 had a reported step/bump developing at the exit to the bridge over the A45 which was presenting trouble for those using mobility scooters. The Assistant Clerk is to check the feedback on Fix My Street to this report.

RESOLVED:

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

12. **ITEMS TO REPORT**

Cllr C O'Rourke referred to the grass cutting in the Cemetery and the amount of grass sticking to the headstones following the strimming. The Assistant Clerk advised this issue had also been raised by a member of the public and the matter is being handled with the contractors.

Cllr Gardner enquired with regard to the new property boundary fence that was being erected by Cedar Way. The Clerk advised the Highway Authority do not own the affected land, it is registered with the property owner. The fence has been reported to planning enforcement.

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

14th July 2020

Chairman

Date