

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WORKING GROUP MEETING – 10 MAY 2022

At the remote meeting of the Recreational Facilities Working Group held by video conference on Tuesday 10 May 2022, the following Councillors were present:-

Mrs J Leggett - Chairperson

Ms D Coleman - Mr M G Callam

In attendance

Mr G Ranaweera - Town Clerk and Responsible
Financial Officer

22/056. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J H Mallen.

22/057. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 12 APRIL 2022

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 April 2022 were agreed with no amendments.

22/058. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Rewilding Verges

Ms D Coleman advised two more residents on Cozens Hardy Road and one on Colindeep Lane had rewilded the verge outside their property.

Interest had been growing in the project particularly since the “No Mow” signs were erected in participating verges.

(b) Asset of Community Value.

Mrs J Leggett reported Sprowston Sports and Social Club had been ratified by Broadland District Council as an asset of community value.

22/059. SPROWSTON YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROJECT (SYEP)

Councillors were pleased to note that SYEP had been granted planning permission for development of an urban garden on land adjacent Church Lane.

In response to a question from Mrs J Leggett the Town Clerk advised to reduce the likelihood of parking in the allotment driveway he had written a letter for Clare Lincoln advising SYEP could have access to the Church Lane car park whenever required.

22/059. SPROWSTON YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROJECT (SYEP) (CONTINUED)

Norfolk County Council Highways had raised concerns regarding the dropping off of supplies, deliveries and multiple children visiting site, and requested provision of an off road pull in point and realignment of the proposed fence.

22/060. VIKING CENTRE

The Town Clerk reported:

- (1) Jason Menezes had confirmed his attendance at the Council meeting to be held 18 May 2022.
- (2) He would bring a full Community Infrastructure Levy update to a future meeting of the Council. There is approximately £235,00.00 in the CIL account which will be more than sufficient to complete the first stage of development.
- (3) One developer did not pay their CIL receipts in April. This payment is now expected in October 2022.
- (4) The build is unlikely to start soon given the lead in time for planning and tendering process however, redevelopment of the centre is still on track for opening Autumn 2023.

22/061. SKATE PARK

Referring to play areas adjacent the skatepark and behind White House Farm School the Town Clerk advised he had received landscaping plans from developers and was now negotiating costs with the help of the Section 106 Officer at Broadland to gain a favourable settlement for Council.

The open space should have been cleared of detritus, top soil added and seeded by summer 2022. Developers have advised this work would now commence in June and not be completed until August or September.

Councillors again expressed their frustration and questioned if ongoing delays by developers preventing the park from being opened could be publicised.

In response the Town Clerk advised Council could certainly explain to residents how the situation had arisen.

As Council was commissioning the skate park it would not be prudent to commence the tendering process until landscaping plans had been completely finalised and Persimmon confirms there will be no further changes.

Council had asked to meet developers and he would try to arrange this for a future meeting.

22/062. ADULT GYM AND RUNNING TRACK

He had recently discovered there could be additional housing adjacent the MUGA as land owned by Tesco had not been included as part of the original development and an application might be submitted in 2024.

The Town Clerk reported the running track had been mown at Barkers Lane open space.

Ms Coleman commented that kilometres had been marked out on Beeston Lane and she wondered if runners were using the track before running along Church Lane and Beeston Lane.

The Town Clerk reported he had received a number of favourable emails from members of the running club and people that liked to run in Sprowston.

There is an issue with moles which the grounds team were trying to resolve.

22/063. EVENTS

(a) Platinum Jubilee

The Town Clerk reported 64 tickets had been requested.

Following the cutting back of vegetation in the Church grounds he had carried out a further inspection. With health and safety restrictions placed around grave railings he felt the number of attendees could be increased.

He would be contacting those Councillors who volunteered their services with roles and responsibilities.

Mr M G Callam mentioned Sprowston Methodist Church were holding a community fun day on Saturday 4 June 2022, 11.00am - 4.00pm.

Mrs J Leggett referred to a discussion regarding the Council purchasing a cake for the Jubilee picnic.

The Town Clerk confirmed that a post had been placed on Facebook advertising for a local baker.

(b) Summer Fete

The Town Clerk reported Perfect Performers, dance group, had expressed an interest in presenting a show in the arena.

He had also hired a bicycle display team for the arena. Additionally, the group did slackline (low tightrope) demonstrations and the public were welcome to participate.

22/063. EVENTS (CONTINUED)

Toni, Council's Finance Office and Administration Officer would be contacting those musicians suggested by Councillor Coleman and organising a music tent.

22/064. CAFÉ' AT SPROWSTON RECREATION GROUND

With regard to the pop-up café the Town Clerk advised he did not have the time to give this matter the attention it needed and he would revisit the subject after the summer fete,

22/065. BEESTON PARK DEVELOPMENT

The Town Clerk reported on a meeting he attended with Councillor Leggett, the Assistant Director for Planning Helen Mellors and Place Shaping Manager Paul Harris to discuss the letter Council submitted to Phil Courier about their concerns regarding the Beeston Park development and planning of larger developments in general.

Helen Mellors appeared interested in the situation on the Salhouse Road development where there were three large developments totalling over 1,000 new homes and not a single allotment, tennis court, MUGA or community building between them and over £2m of CIL to be spent off site.

He felt Helen and Paul understood the need for developers to engage with Town and Parish Councils before outline planning stage or submission of an application. A pre-planning phase where developers, planners and councillors could establish the need in the local area.

It is encouraging that Broadland officers had requested another meeting with representatives of the Town Council to discuss the current intentions for the Beeston Park development on Thursday 24 May 2022.

Mrs J Leggett acknowledged that Council should have a prepared list of requirements for developers and planners to consider at an early stage.

Ms D Colman felt land within the development area would be divided into small parcels to negate developers from having to provide any amenities.

Mrs J Leggett suggested Broadland Planning Authority was committed to promoting discussion between developers and councils before outline planning stage commenced.

She advised plans for Beeston Park included parcels of land for recreational facilities and as Council had a list of facilities, they would like incorporated this could form the basis of the meeting arranged for 24 May 2022.

There was discussion on whether land could be purchased from developers and used as open space, land in lieu of CIL, and impact of nutrient neutrality legislation on land use and pricing. These matters to be raised at the meeting to be held on 24 May 2022.

22/065. BEESTON PARK DEVELOPMENT (CONTINUED)

The Town Clerk advised Helen and Paul had confirmed the development would be phased and felt developers would be required to provide the full range of amenities.

He had also raised the point that most of the planned housing was in Sprowston and a majority of the open space in Beeston St. Andrew. If the Council did not own and manage the open space what did Sprowston Council Tax payers gain from the development.

Helen's response was the open space was spread across the development and should be accessible to the whole development.

Ms D Coleman asked about land to the rear of Hill House, Wroxham Road. The Town Clerk advised this land was submitted to the GNLP as a potential development site. It was rejected as it is outside the settlement boundary, access issues from Wroxham Road and lack of amenities.

Mrs J Leggett to verbally report details of the meeting to be held on 24 May 2022 to full Council and invite interested Councillors.

22/066. TREE GRANT

Ms D Coleman reported she had been advised the Town Council was eligible to apply for a £500.00 Broadland Community Tree Planting Grant to plant hedging at the Diamond Field.

Mrs J Leggett would advise SYEP of the scheme as they might be interested in applying for their urban garden.

Ms D Coleman suggested extending the existing hedgerow on land between the North Walsham Road and Windsor Park Gardens.

Town Clerk to clarify the boundary and ownership of land and to leaflet properties in the immediate area for their views.

22/067. ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE

The Town Clerk advised there was no further update with regard to the review of the decision to list Sprowston Sports and Social Club as an Asset of Community Value.

Council had already agreed to re-nominate the Blue Boar PH, Aslake Close Community Hub and Sprowston Cricket Club to the Asset of Community Value Register.

22/068. HARRISONS WOOD

Mrs J Leggett reported she had contacted the Norwich Fringe Project and as a goodwill gesture they would meet with representatives from the Town Council to provide a plan on how to setup and run a friends group.

22/068. HARRISONS WOOD (CONTINUED)

A meeting was arranged for 23 May 2022 at 4.00pm.

22/069. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

No further items were requested.

22/070. AOB

No other business.

22/071. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 21 June 2022 at 7.00pm