

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WORKING GROUP MEETING - 13 MARCH 2023

At the remote meeting of the Recreational Facilities Working Group held by video conference on Monday 13 March 2023, the following Councillors were present:-

Mrs J Leggett – Chairperson

Mr M A Booth - Ms D Coleman
Mr M G Callam - Mr W F Couzens

In attendance

Mr G Ranaweera - Town Clerk and Responsible
Financial Officer

23/029. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J H Mallen.

23/030. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 10 FEBRUARY 2023

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2023 were agreed without amendment:

23/031. MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising.

23/032. VIKING CENTRE

The Town Clerk reported planning application 2022/1985 - redevelopment of the Viking Centre had not yet been approved by the Planning Authority.

Councillors discussed the central concrete post in the area identified for a communal café. It was felt modern materials might offer an opportunity to remove the concrete post.

Town Clerk to liaise with Jason Menezes.

It was proposed the dumb waiter located in the basement be offered to Norfolk Museum Service. If, however the museum service did not feel it was of historical interest then it be removed and disposed of.

To be recommended to full Council.

Mrs W F Couzens suggested a new mural be painted as a wall feature if the reputed existing mural could not be found or was badly damaged.

To be recommended to full Council.

23/032. VIKING CENTRE (CONTINUED)

Mr W F Couzens asked when Council should consider forming a local resident group to run the community café.

The Town Clerk said his preferred way forward would be to find a grass roots group that organises itself or a community group with experience of running a café with Council providing a fully operational facility for lease, and not being involved in the day to day running of a cafe.

Council could give potential tenants a list of requirements to provide work experience opportunities to people, have options for community groups to meet in the in the café, offer catering to other users of the building, open to local residents' participating. Volunteering to help can be written into the contract.

He had spoken to proprietors at the feed, walled garden at Little Plumstead and the Kinder Café on Castle Meadow. Also, Jackie Starling at Broadland District Council who works with startups and new enterprises some new café type businesses however, this was a while ago.

23/033. BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL BEESTON PARK DEVELOPMENT

No further meetings had taken place between the Town Council, Broadland District Council and developers.

Councillors discussed recent media comments with regard to the Beeston Park development and joint venture to enable developers to buy credits in return for mitigation of nutrient neutrality.

23/034. SUMMER FETE - 2023

The Town Clerk reported he had booked toilets, inflatables, a bar and three out of four bands for the summer fete.

He was in the process of procuring tents, chairs and arena acts.

Councillor Mallen was arranging hay bales for the seating area around the arena.

Twelve stallholder requests had been received.

Sponsorship, banners, advertising and volunteers still to be organised.

Town Clerk to check Council's insurance with regard to cover for community groups.

Mr M G Callam suggested an inflatable slide as it did not require as much supervision as a bouncy castle.

He had also spoken to Sprowston Stores who offered to sponsor the Viking Centre and something at the fete through their links with NISA.

23/034. SUMMER FETE - 2023 (CONTINUED)

Mrs J Leggett asked if Clarion Housing had been approached about sponsoring something at the fete.

Town Clerk to approach Clarion Housing.

Litter picking at the fete by volunteer groups was discussed however, it was felt prudent to use Council's caretaker contractors.

23/035. CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III - CELEBRATION EVENT

The Town Clerk reported one application had been received to participate in the window or garden display competition. He would prepare some flyers to promote the event.

Ms D Coleman said she had tried to raise the profile of the competition on Facebook however, had received a negative response given the current financial climate.

23/036. WHITE HOUSE FARM PLAY EQUIPMENT, SKATE PARK

The Town Clerk confirmed no further meetings had taken place between the Town Council, Broadland District Council and developers. He would arrange future meetings directly with developers and not through Broadland officers.

It was noted developers had commented in local media that work would commence on the open spaces at the end of April 2023.

Mrs J Leggett advised she had requested a meeting with Broadland District Council officers regarding dog bins.

23/037. BARKERS LANE SHELTER

Mrs J Leggett reported Sprowston Youth Engagement Project had arranged for the shelter on Barkers Lane open space to be painted on 11 and 12 of April 2023.

23/038. TREE GRANT AND WWI COMMEMORATIVE TREES

Mrs J Leggett asked if funds had been earmarked for this project.

In response the Town Clerk advised there was no specific allocation of funds. There was a limited amount in the planting budget which could be used depending on cost.

Ms D Coleman said she had sent links to the Town Clerk regarding sponsorship for the purchase of trees.

The Town Clerk advised he was not able to follow up on this topic in the short term as other demands had greater priority.

23/038. TREE GRANT AND WWI COMMEMORATIVE TREES (CONTINUED)

There was mention of replacing the fallen tree on the Cannerby Lane Green. Concern was expressed with regard to the impact on the crate's underneath.

Mrs J Leggett to clarify with Norfolk County Council (NCC) Highways Engineer.

23/039. AOB

(1) Hedgehog Signage

The Town Clerk confirmed he had received no further update with regard to small mammal signage. He was attending a meeting with Cllr. K Vincent and NCC Highways Engineer to discuss railings outside White Woman Lane School. He would take this opportunity to ask about the mammal signs.

(2) Café

No further update.

Ms D Coleman remarked she collected bottles and cans whilst walking her dogs on Barkers Lane and Sprowston recreation Ground and noted there was no recycling facility.

The Town Clerk responded that pre Covid he had started to look at recycling on the council's open spaces and spoke to Veolia about what they can recycle. Items had to be empty and dry. Having discussed this with Council's caretaker contractors an idea to provide recycling bins with clear bags, to check if contents were contaminated or not, and place in larger recycle bins in the groundmen's yard was considered a way forward.

Mrs J Leggett mentioned a Deposit Return Scheme was to be introduced in 2024 for recycling of 50ml - 3l plastic bottles.

The Town Clerk confirmed there had been no further issues reported regarding dogs in the tennis courts since signage had been erected.

Mrs J Leggett said she had tried to contact the group who had approached her about rewilding at Roundtree Way. They had not responded.

The Town Clerk reported Cambridge University's agent had confirmed they wanted to retain the land for future employment use. He had asked them to inform him if the land was ever offered for sale.

Regarding Sprowston Pavilion the Town Clerk advised no formal structural survey or assessment had been carried out on the floor. A family member of a former employee had carried out building works at the Pavilion and advised the then Town Clerk to be conscious of weight limits.

23/039. AOB (CONTINUED)

Town Clerk to arrange a professional assessment at some point in the future.

23/040. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday 11 April 2023 commencing 4.30pm.