

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WORKING GROUP MEETING - 8 AUGUST 2023

At the remote meeting of the Recreational Facilities Working Group held by video conference on Tuesday 8 August 2023, the following Councillors were present:-

Mrs J Leggett – Chairperson

Cllr. M A Booth	-	Cllr. W F Couzens
Cllr. S D Booth	-	Cllr. D Coleman
Cllr. M G Callam	-	Cllr. J H Mallen

In attendance

Mr G Ranaweera	-	Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Darren Maxey	-	Sprowston football Club

23/085. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies were received.

23/086. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 4 JULY 2023

Minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2023 were approved subject to the following amendment:

Minute 23/079,

delete batten-twirlers and insert baton-twirlers

after Cllr. D Colman insert and Cllr. J H Mallen

23/087. MATTERS ARISING

As a full-compliment of acts had been procured for the summer fete Cllr. W F Couzens was no longer required to contact Shayne Stork for additional performers.

Cllr. J Leggett confirmed County Councillor J F Fisher was happy to support the Town Council in their pursuit of a pedestrian crossing on Atlantic Avenue however, there was no plan as yet.

Cllr. D Coleman was in receipt of the IBN adaptor for the water container at the Diamond field to be attached once the container had been emptied.

Mulch for hedging at the Diamond Field had been delivered and was being stored on site. Cllr. D Coleman to organise volunteers.

23/088. SPROWSTON FOOTBALL CLUB

Darren Maxey from Sprowston Football Club gave a presentation highlighting the many positive achievements of the Club which is the biggest in Norfolk with 47 teams. He said the club was reluctantly turning young players away on a weekly basis as there was insufficient space to home additional teams. They were currently playing at multiple locations.

He explained the club's long-term aim is to have its own pitches, changing rooms and clubhouse and was seeking the Town Council's support although no specific action at this time.

Councillors noted the Club is very confident that it can supply the funds needed and were currently working with Sprowston Sports and Social Club.

Councillors explained the sparsity of suitable land for the club's requirements of space equivalent to 4 full size pitches plus buildings incorporating changing rooms and clubhouse.

Following Darren's departure from the meeting Councillors discussed:

- land which perhaps the Club could follow up;
- offering lesser facilities i.e., pitches for young players on the Diamond Field;
- asking the Club to provide an outline business plan;
- as the club is so large and draws members from wider than just Sprowston refer them to Broadland District Council.

It was agreed the working group to further consider this topic at future meetings.

23/089. VIKING CENTRE

Preparations for development of the Viking Centre were progressing.

It was noted Council could not apply for funding under 'Pride of Place' until November.

23/090. BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL BEESTON PARK DEVELOPMENT

No further update.

There was discussion on the possibility of land available for purchase within the Beeston Park development albeit at premium development rate.

Guidance to be sought from Chris Raine.

23/091. SUMMER FETE - 2023

Cllr. J Leggett thanked staff, volunteers and particularly the Town Clerk for their contribution in making the summer fete a great success.

23/091. SUMMER FETE – 2023 (CONTINUED)

Comments included:

- Consider holding a fete in 2024
- Additional volunteers required for clearing up session
- The event was within budget
- Layout did not attract so many older residents
- Work load given the Viking Centre is due to open in 2024 and the ongoing project of the skatepark
- Availability of proprietors of the fair and bouncy castles to be established prior to deciding a date.

Resolved to recommend to full Council holding a summer fete in 2024, date to be selected according to the availability of proprietors of the fairs and bouncy castles.

23/092. WHITEHOUSE FARM DEVELOPMENT

Councillors expressed their continuing disappointment with regard to play facilities at the White House Farm development including the installation of equipment not as agreed.

Planning application 2023/1943 (Details of condition 21 of 20140652 (21) Landscape proposals) for the rest of the site needed to be studied to ensure it is as Council expects. Councillors' comments to be sent to Broadland District Council.

23/093. TREE GRANT AND WWI COMMEMORATIVE TREES

The Town Clerk to continue to seek funding.

23/094 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Given the large amount of work a review of Sprowston Neighbourhood Plan would require, the Working Group resolved to recommend to Full Council that a Neighbourhood Plan Working Group be set up to revise the plan.

23/095. AOB

(1) Manor Park - Trees

Cllr. D Coleman asked if the Manor Park management company could be requested to replace the dead trees on the development.

Town Clerk to speak to a representative at Persimmon Homes.

23/095. AOB (CONTINUED)

(2) Clarion Housing Association - Open Spaces

Cllr. D Coleman noted that Clarion Housing Association owned a number of large unutilised open spaces in Sprowston specifically Foxburrow Road and Tills Road. She suggested Council could purchase, lease etc. the land to provide fenced children's play areas. A tiny forest was also mentioned.

The Town Clerk advised Council would have to prepare a Business Plan for such a venture.

(3) Broadland Northway - Trees

Cllr. D Coleman asked who to contact to organise replacement of the dead trees on the Broadland Northway.

Cllr, J Leggett agreed to discuss with County Councillors J M Ward and K Vincent.

(4) Café - Sprowston Recreation Ground

It was agreed to defer provision of a Café at Sprowston Recreation Ground until the summer season 2024.

23/096. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 15 September 2023 at 4.00pm