# RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WORKING GROUP MEETING – 10 OCTOBER 2023

At the remote meeting of the Recreational Facilities Working Group held by video conference on Tuesday 10 October 2023, the following Councillors were present:-

Cllr. M G Callam - Chairperson

Cllr. M A Booth - Cllr. D Coleman Cllr. S D Booth - Cllr. W F Couzens

Cllr. J H Mallen

In attendance

Mr G Ranaweera - Town Clerk and Responsible

Financial Officer

# 23/108. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr. J Leggett.

# 23/109. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 15 SEPTEMBER 2023

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2023 were approved without amendment.

### 23/110. MATTERS ARISING

(1) Sprowston Football Club

The Town Clerk advised he was discussing in more detail land identified in the GNLP call for sites located to the west of Wroxham Road between Beeston Lane and the Broadland Northway known as GNLP0042 next week with Sprowston Football Club.

(2) Viking Centre Car Park

There had been insufficient time for grounds staff to erect the advertising banner at the Viking Centre due to other priorities.

### **23/111. VIKING CENTRE**

The Town Clerk reported:

- (1) The Building Control fee had been paid.
- (2) Three to four potentially suitable expressions of interest had been received and it is likely the tender will go live on 16 October 2023.

Once the tender is live these contractors will be given full details and invited to tender.

# 23/111. VIKING CENTRE (CONTINUED)

(3) When initial strip out work was carried out, all nearby businesses were leafleted advising of the redevelopment and car park no longer being available for their vehicles.

Before the main development commences all cars in the car park will be leafleted however, the area will be fenced off and any remaining vehicles will be enclosed and no longer accessible thus forcing the issue.

#### 23/112. BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL BEESTON PARK DEVELOPMENT

Regular meetings have been reinstated with District Council officers.

Cllr. D Coleman commented that she had noticed soil sampling / testing on land north of the park and ride.

#### 23/113. SUMMER FETE - 2023

Councillors considered the indicative summary of costs for the 2024 fete.

- Staff cover increased to five groundsmen all day to include evening clear-up.
- Salary increases and on costs factored into the figures presented.
- Toilet provision reduced by three.
- Addition of cancellation insurance to cover out-of-pocket expenses should the fete be cancelled.
- Purchase of heavy-duty gazebo for audio equipment and MC as the one used in 2022 was on loan.
- Purchase of additional cones.
- It was agreed not to offer face painting as a free activity given the bouncy castles could not be used by children with painted faces.
- Axe throwing to be added offering a free activity of possible interest to older attendees.
- It was agreed to include the Dinosaur and Dragon entertainers given its popularity with children at the 2022 fete.
- Bands reduced to three playing one-hour sets commencing 1.30pm.
- In the arena children's egg and spoon and sack races, penalty shootout organised by Sprowston Football Club. The Kemps Men Morris Dancers have been approached.
- Timetable of music, arena and circus acts to be included in the programme of events or on notices.
- Total expenses with agreed amendments approximately £17,000 net.
- Suggested fee for commercial stallholders £15.00 and catering stallholders £20.00.
- Fun fair and beer tent 10% of profits.
- Cannot rely on sponsorship for income.

Mr M A Booth left the meeting following this item.

# 23/113. <u>SUMMER FETE - 2023</u> (CONTINUED)

The amended indicative costs for the 2024 fete to be included in the 2024 - 2025 budget for full Councils consideration in December 2023.

# 23/114. WHITEHOUSE FARM DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING APPLICATION 2023/1943 (DETAILS OF CONDITION 21 OF 20140652- (21) LANDSCAPE PROPOSALS) LAND AT BLUE BOAR LANE

Having visited L5, play area to the rear of White House Farm School, the Town Clerk confirmed that whilst the grass had grown stones were still visible. Play equipment supplied by developers did not meet his expectations only being suitable for a younger age group, not challenging enough and from an unknown manufacturer, which could cause difficulties in obtaining replacement parts at reasonable cost.

Cllr. W F Couzens noted the car park was being constructed.

There was debate as to what action Council could take with regard to provision of unprepared surfacing and inappropriate equipment.

Not adopting the play area was mooted as an option however Councillors felt this would not be in the interests of residents.

The Town Clerk suggested Council request funds to project manage implementation of the skatepark themselves rather than developers. He would discuss this with District Council officers.

Cllr. M G Callam questioned the size of the proposed skatepark.

Town Clerk to clarify the size of the area allocated for a skatepark with District Council officers and if incorrect request District Cllrs. B Baby and A R Tipple to pursue with the planning authority.

Councillors agreed to look at the plans in detail and highlight any irregularities to the Town Clerk.

#### 23/115. TREE GRANT AND WWI COMMEMORATIVE TREES

The Town Clerk advised Broadland District Council's land owner tree planting grants were now available and he would be submitting an application in preparation to plant trees in the pre-agreed sites in November with the help of Cllr. D Coleman.

#### 23/116. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The terms of reference for the newly appointed Neighbourhood Plan Review working group were discussed.

It was agreed to wait until the information session on how to review a Neighbourhood Plan run by Richard Squires (Senior Community Planning

## 23/116. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (CONTINUED)

Officer) had taken place and full Council updated before progressing with this subject.

Cllr. J H Mallen explained he intended to use the Neighbourhood Plan review to try and resolve the parking issues causing pinch points and traffic delays on Wroxham Road.

#### 23/117. AOB

(1) Diamond Field

Cllr. D Coleman reported:

- Hedges at the Diamond Field, had been weeded, mulched and gaps replanted. Some required nipping out to encourage them to thicken up.
- (ii) The wildlife area is alive with bugs and lots of wild flowers are growing. Norfolk Wildlife Trust recommends wildlife areas are scythed and she asked if the grounds staff could strim to a length of approximately 6 cm. Cllr. Coleman would then scuff up the soil to allow wildflowers to grow.
- (iii) She had left the tap trickling on the water container in an attempt to empty it so it could be relocated.
- (iv) The next project is the removal of football nets and paraphernalia. Town Clerk to request owners SYEP to collect the equipment.
- (v) She had noticed a large part of the temporary car park Car park had rubber matting beneath the grass.
- (2) Cllr. W F Couzens said he had participated in a Town and Parish Council Forum conference call and learnt there were funds available for various projects.

Part of the Pride of Place fund could be used for feasibility studies, bids to be submitted by the end of March 2024.

The Neighbourhood Plan review might generate a requirement for feasibility studies and this could be an opportunity to obtain funding.

Also, with regard to projects in the area he was advised to speak to Dan Goodwin and Russell Watkins amongst other officers who were good at finding funds for various schemes.

# 23/118. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 8 November at 4.00pm.