

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WORKING GROUP MEETING – 21 JUNE 2022

At the remote meeting of the Recreational Facilities Working Group held by video conference on Tuesday 21 June 2022, the following Councillors were present:-

Mrs J Leggett – Chairperson

Mr M G Callam - Mr W F Couzens
Ms D Coleman - Mr J H Mallen

In attendance

Mr G Ranaweera - Town Clerk and Responsible
Financial Officer

22/072. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

22/073. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 10 MAY 2022

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2022 were agreed subject to the following amendment:

Minute 22/0665, delete Phil Courier and insert Phil Courtier

22/074. MATTERS ARISING

(1) Events

Referring to Minute 22/063 (a)

Mr M G Callam reported that the Methodist Church fun day was extremely successful. 400 burgers and 200 hot dogs were cooked and given to attendees amongst all the other activities that took place.

Mrs J Leggett commented on the jubilee-themed celebration cake provided by Council at the Jubilee Picnic held at St Mary and St Margarets Church.

(2) Sprowston Youth Engagement Project Urban Garden

There was no further update on the planning application. Concern was expressed with regard to joint access to the allotment gate.

(3) Jubilee Celebrations

Councillors thanked the Town Clerk for the well organised Jubilee events he had arranged.

22/074. MATTERS ARISING (CONTINUED)

(4) Café Sprowston recreation Ground

This subject is on hold until resource available.

(5) Harrisons Woodland

Referring to a talk given by a member of the Norwich Fringe Project on how to run a friends' group Mrs J Leggett proposed, given the governance requirements, this be put on hold until Council took ownership of Harrisons woodland.

Ms D Coleman felt small projects could still be achieved such as a community litter pick, tree planting or Rhododendron removal.

It was agreed to carry out an event in the Autumn in liaison with Broadland District Council.

Other ideas included children's activities, bulb planting, building bat or bird Boxes.

The Town Clerk questioned how some of these activities could be funded, unless by Broadland District Council as the Town Council did not own the land.

Mr W F Couzens commented on the lack of fire-fighting apparatus in Sprowston woodlands and suggested provision of some form of equipment and signage to highlight the dangers of lighting fires etc.

It was agreed the Town Clerk contact the fire service for advice.

22/075. VIKING CENTRE

The Town Clerk reported a delay in submission of the planning application due to an anomaly between details held by the Land Registry and those on the lease with regard to access to the telephone tower.

EE had been contacted and he was waiting for a response from the head of estates as to what clearance was required to the side of the building. Once received the planning application could be submitted.

In response to questions from Councillors the Town Clerk advised:

- (1) Council would receive interest on the late CIL payment from of the developers on Salhouse Road.
- (2) Adopting highway land to construct a pathway, and securing of the car park were all part of the planning application.
- (3) There is approximately £235,00.00 in the CIL account which will be more than sufficient to complete the first stage of development.

22/076. SKATE PARK

The Town Clerk reported he had met with representatives of Persimmon Homes who had informed him that Taylor Wimpey was holding up confirmation of the open spaces.

They were responsive to his suggestion of inviting the consortium to attend a Council meeting to explain the situation. He would now extend a formal invitation to the consortium.

He was very disappointed the amenity spaces would not be open in time for this summer and it now appeared October would be the earliest they would be available.

22/077. ADULT GYM AND RUNNING TRACK

Ms D Coleman commented on the popularity of the mown track at Barkers Lane open space with large groups of runners using it.

With regard to adult gym equipment the Town Clerk reported that having contacted the running groups he did not feel there was a great desire for provision of this type of equipment. He suggested monitoring usage of the adult gym equipment at White House Farm development once installed.

22/078. SUMMER FETE

The Town Clerk reported publicity for the summer fete comprised of:

- (1) An article in Just Sprowston Magazine
- (2) An advert on the front page of Sprowston Matters
- (3) Banners in strategic locations around the Town including Sprowston Recreation Ground and the Diamond Field
- (4) Council's notice boards
- (5) Council's bus shelters
- (6) Face Book
- (7) Council's Website.

He would contact the EDP for inclusion in their "What's On" pages and the vicarage to request use of their fence for a banner.

Further suggestions included a poster in the Moncur shop on Cannerby Lane and posters in Councillors gardens.

Mr J H Mallen offered to make enquiries regarding purchase of banners.

The following Stalls, refreshments, activities and other attendees had been confirmed:

- (1) 15 individual local people, businesses and charities
- (2) 20 - 30 local producers and food vendors sourced by Local Flavours
- (3) The culinary theatre

22/078. SUMMER FETE (CONTIUED)

- (4) Fat Cat brewery
- (5) Smaller children's fun fair rides
- (6) Alpacas
- (7) Police
- (8) Fire Service
- (9) Bike Display
- (10) Dance demonstration
- (11) SYEP

The Town Clerk would continue to source additional arena activities, inflatables and musicians.

He confirmed a PA system, first aid cover, portable toilets and events licence had been organised.

Councillors suggested onsite parking be restricted to disabled parking only. Parking was available at Sprowston Diamond Centre and the adjacent Diamond Field. One side of Recreation Ground Road would be coned.

He had not planned on seating around the arena however would consider straw bales.

A preliminary list of voluntary roles from general litter picking to car parking duties was circulated.

22/079. BEESTON PARK DEVELOPMENT

Mrs J Leggett explained that following concerns regarding the Beeston Park development and planning of larger developments in general the working group was trying to ensure Council did not receive CIL receipts in lieu of land.

She had asked Broadland District Council to reinstate the Beeston Programme Board a forum giving district and parish councillors affected by the development an opportunity to meet regularly, reiterating it was crucial for Council to get involved at early stage to influence the design.

There were questions regarding the parkland as it was split between Sprowston and Beeston St. Andrew.

It was noted that Beeston St. Andrew did not have a parish council.

Mrs J Leggett advised the green infrastructure for the development was defined in planning application 2016/1058.

A further meeting with Assistant Director for Planning Helen Mellors and Place Shaping Manager Paul Harris had not as yet been arranged.

22/080. TREE GRANT

Mrs J Leggett reported the tiny forest on Sprowston Recreation Ground had been inspected. It was noted the area planted using Miyawaki principles had grown more vigorously.

She asked Councillors to suggest suitable locations for additional tree planting around the Town.

Areas considered included the Diamond Field, Land between North Walsham Road and Windsor Park Gardens, Cannerby Lane Green, Foxburrow Road Green, Tills Road Green and Harrisons Woodland.

The Town Clerk reminded Councillors that greens on Foxburrow Road and Tills Road belonged to Clarion Housing.

There was discussion as to whether Council could purchase these areas and why Clarion was not replanting.

The Town Clerk confirmed he was in the process of establishing ownership of land between North Walsham Road and Windsor Park Gardens.

22/081. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

No further items were requested.

22/082. AOB

Ms D Coleman distributed hedgehog signage explaining their purpose was to encourage residents to create hedgehog highways in their fences.

She thought Sprowston Recreation Ground could benefit from cutting access points through the chain link fence into residents' gardens as she had rescued a number of wedged hedgehogs. Also, the fence between the cemetery and allotments.

Ms Coleman asked if Council could advertise the free signage and leaflets from Hedgehog Conservation.

The Town Clerk suggested an article be placed in Sprowston Matters and a post on Council's Face Book.

22/083. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday 12 July 2022 at 7.00pm
Monday 18 July 2022 at 7.00pm