

WARBOYS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Leisure Areas Committee** held remotely on 2nd November 2020.

PRESENT

Councillors Mrs J M Cole, R J Dykstra, Ms L A Gifford, S J Green, Mrs M H Harlock, J A Parker, P S Potts, Mrs S J Wilcox, G C M Willis, Dr S C Withams and Mrs A R Wyatt.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs C Evans, R A Payne and Mrs J Tavener.

01/20 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Upon being moved by Councillor Ms Gifford and seconded by Councillor Mrs Cole, it was

RESOLVED

that Councillor G C M Willis be elected Chairman of the Committee for the remainder of the municipal year.

Councillor Willis in the Chair.

02/20 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Upon being moved by Councillor Parker and seconded by Councillor Mrs Harlock, it was

RESOLVED

that Councillor S J Green be appointed Vice Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

03/20 MINUTES

Upon being moved by Councillor Green and seconded by Councillor Parker, the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4th November 2019 were approved.

04/20 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No interests were declared by Members.

05/20 MATTERS ARISING

The Committee considered the following matters arising from its meeting held on 4th November 2019:-

(a) David Wilson Homes Development

Further to Minute No. 09/19(a), the Committee noted that the Council had decided not to accept the offer from David Wilson Homes to transfer ownership of the open spaces at their development off Station Road to the Parish Council.

(b) White Hart Bowls Club

Further to Minute No. 09/19(b), Councillor Mrs Wyatt reported that the White Hart Bowls Club has received a grant from the Community Association to help with maintenance of the bowling green.

(c) Feast Week

Further to Minute No. 10/19, it was noted that all arrangements for Feast Week in July had had to be cancelled because of the restrictions imposed by the Government in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

06/20 FEAST WEEK 2021

As all of the activities planned to be undertaken during Feast Week in July had been cancelled, Members felt that the arrangements should be carried forward to 2021.

RESOLVED

that the Clerk be requested to engage the local band led by Councillor Potts to play at the band concert on the first Sunday of Feast Week in 2021 and to arrange for the venue to be the Royal Oak.

07/20 MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

The Committee reviewed the maintenance requirements of the various areas within its remit as follows:-

(a) Adams Lyons Playground

Further to Minute No. 11/19(a), the Clerk confirmed that all of the work to replace the sensory garden with an item of play equipment and also replace the timber retaining wall for the mound slide with sleepers of recycled material had been completed. Any issues raised in the safety inspection carried out by PlaySafety earlier in the year had been minor in nature and had been dealt with.

All playgrounds had been required to be closed from the start of the national lockdown in March until early July but the playground at Adams Lyons had been exceptionally busy once the playground could be re-opened.

The Clerk reported that the company engaged to cut back trees on the boundary had now received approval for the work from the District Council and hoped to do this as soon as the weather conditions improved.

(b) The Weir

Further to Minute No 11/19(b), the Clerk reminded Members that the scheme to dredge The Weir earlier in the year had not proceeded due to a restructuring of the company that had been engaged to undertake the work and difficulty in draining the pond before dredging began.

Councillor Mrs Cole suggested that arrangements be made to permit the owner of land at Pidley to remove the remaining large fish in the Weir by electro-fishing. She suggested that, if the few remaining large fish were removed it would not be necessary to dredge the pond as the problems with low oxygen levels had not been apparent in the last two years after fish numbers had been reduced. If Dyofix was applied again from the spring onwards, she felt that this would address the issue of weed growth.

Under the circumstances, Councillor Mrs Cole was asked to ascertain whether the larger fish could be relocated to Pidley and report back.

Arising from a comment by Councillor Green, the Clerk reported that he would ask the Handymen to deal with the problem of the bolt on the landing stage gate not working.

(c) Heath Pond and Sheepwash

The Clerk reported that he was still pursuing the insurance claim for damage to the Sheepwash as a result of a motor accident.

(d) Orchard Close

Members noted that there were no matters to bring to their attention.

(e) Pathfinder Way Open Spaces

Members noted that there were no matters to bring to their attention.

(f) School Road and High Street/Woodlands footpath

Members noted that there were no matters to bring to their attention.

(g) War Memorial

The Clerk reported on the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday while the current Covid-19 restrictions were in place.

(h) Jubilee Park

The Chairman drew attention to a missing bolt cap on one of the items of play equipment which the Clerk indicated he would arrange to be replaced.

The Chairman also undertook to check whether the repairs to the internal path had been undertaken by the contractor engaged to undertake the work.

08/20 BUDGET 2021/22

The Committee considered a financial statement, a copy of which had been circulated to Members, containing details of estimated expenditure on leisure areas in the current financial year and projected expenditure in 2021/212

RESOLVED

that the budget be approved and forwarded to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for consideration.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.

Chairman.