



Winnersh Parish Council

Winnersh Community Centre
New Road, Sindlesham, Wokingham
Berkshire RG41 5DU
Phone 0118 978 0244
e-mail clerk@winnersh.gov.uk
www.winnersh.gov.uk

Minutes of the **RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** meeting held in the Allnatt Pavilion on **TUESDAY 2 JULY 2019**

PRESENT: Cllrs S Hanna (Chairman), F Breedlove, J Southgate, L Wooldridge and F Obileye

In attendance: Philip Stoneman (Clerk) and 14 members of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Cllr A Caston.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.
3. **ALLOTMENTS:** Given that almost all members of the public had attended to hear about allotments it was unanimously agreed to bring this item forward.
 - 3.1 The Clerk updated the Committee on progress toward the completion of the allotments.
 - 3.2 Water: there was still no date for when Thames Water would make the connection. The works to install barrier pipe had been completed and Thames Water would be consulting with Network Rail given the proximity of their property. Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) were continuing to seek a date for the connection.
 - 3.3 As an interim arrangement a water bowser had been provided and the Clerk was asked to have it positioned next to the recently planted orchard. **ACTION: CLERK**
 - 3.4 Security: the combination padlocks were proving problematic with some people having difficulty using them and the code had been made aware to non-allotment holders. WBC had been asked if they could provide padlocks with keys (the type than can only be duplicated with a security code) with the padlock welded to a chain, and the chain welded to the gate to avoid the padlock being lost or stolen. **ACTION: CLERK**
 - 3.5 Vandalism: there had been some cases of vandalism and theft of produce and it was expected that with new secure padlocks this should stop.

4. PUBLIC SESSION:

- 4.1 A range of issues were raised by allotment holders that attended the meeting.
- 4.2 Steel containers - in response to a request on whether these were still being provided, the Chairman advised they were and discussions were taking place with WBC about the specification and locations.
- 4.3 Unlet and uncultivated plots - concerns were raised about weed growth and it was **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from Nick Robins (Grounds Maintenance Contractor) to trim the plots that had weed growth.
- 4.4 Maintenance of toilets - the Clerk advised that equipment had been obtained for the cleansing of the toilets and that a discussion would be had with allotment managers from other Town and Parish Councils about how they arranged for the cleansing of compost toilets. **ACTION: CLERK**
- 4.5 Drainage - concerns were raised about drainage from the site resulting in very wet areas and water remaining on some plots (around plot 66). It was suggested that some form of pipe be installed to alleviate the problem, this would be discussed with WBC. **ACTION: CLERK**
- 4.6 Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) - allotment holders were getting increasingly concerned about the problems of vandalism and ASB, reporting that produce had been stolen, shed windows smashed and youths cycling over allotment plots. The very serious matter of rocks being thrown on to the motorway, that had been witnessed by a plot holder, was also raised. It was agreed that allotment holders would be asked to report such matters to the Police and to WPC who would send an email highlighting the importance of reporting all such incidents. **ACTION: CLERK**
- 4.7 Park area at the end of Dolphin Close - a member of the public asked if something could be done to improve the open space ideally with benches, seeding and tree bark footpaths to make it an attractive area and to make it environmentally friendly. It was agreed that the resident who raised the matter would liaise directly with WBC who own the land.
- 4.8 At the end of the public session thirteen members of the public left, with one remaining for the rest of the meeting.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING:

- 5.1 There were no matters arising.

6. LED LIGHTING

- 6.1 The Clerk advised that RCJ Electrical Services had been awarded the contract to install LED lighting in the Community Centre and Allnatt Pavilion at a cost of £3,425 and that would be funded from CIL.

7. SOLAR

- 7.1 The Clerk advised that the solar energy equipment was now functioning as it should and that energy production had increased significantly with all three Inverters working. The Clerk was asked to provide usage figures for the energy produced and exported to the grid and this to be presented to the next meeting of F&GP. **ACTION: CLERK**
- 7.2 Councillors Taylor and Harper were thanked for their efforts in working with the contractor that installed the equipment and SOLAR Edge who provided the equipment.

8. PROJECTS

- 8.1 Youth Club: The Chairman updated the Committee on the Youth Club project and requested that the budget be increased from £2,000 to £4,000 to assist with the employment of a Youth Worker. The plan had been to operate using volunteers, but it had become apparent that there was a need to employ a paid professional Youth Worker. Costs for providing a Youth Worker were being sought and the matter would be referred to F&GP or Full Council to consider the budget implications.
ACTION: CLLR HANNA
- 8.2 Councillor Wooldridge introduced her paper about a range of projects around the following themes and sought views on the mechanism for how these could be considered in more detail:-
- a) Social Inclusion
 - b) Health and Well Being
 - c) Life-long Learning
- 8.3 A discussion took place about how ideas for these projects, and other projects, could be considered and it was **RESOLVED** to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that an informal Workshop, involving all Councillors, be arranged for the Autumn where these and other themes and suggested projects, could be considered in more detail. Councillor Wooldridge offered to take the lead on this. **ACTION: CLLR WOOLDRIDGE**

9. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

- 9.1 The Clerk advised that, other than routine daily inspections, playground inspections had not been taking place. It was **RESOLVED** to introduce bi-monthly inspections and the Clerk was asked to seek quotations for the work. In addition to daily inspections for cleanliness and obvious problems, the Caretaker would carry out a more detailed inspection of each piece of equipment on a weekly basis and the inspections would be formally recorded and retained on file. **ACTION: CLERK**

10. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS EVENT 2019

- 10.1 The Clerk advised that there was only one date available in December 2019 when the event could be held due to other bookings. The Committee **RESOLVED** to hold the event on the 13 December and reserve the 7 December for the event in 2020.
ACTION: RFO

11. CORRESPONDENCE

11.1 The Committee noted the correspondence listed in the Appendix A.

12. ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS:

12.1 There were no urgent items.

12.2 The issue of the appropriateness of this standing item, being ‘considered urgent by the Chairman’, was raised by Cllr. Wooldridge. The Committee requested that this be changed to ‘matters considered urgent’ not necessarily just by the Chairman.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 3 September 2019 at 19:45.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22:00.

APPENDIX A

Correspondence

1) 13 June 2019 - e mail from JK Build Ltd

Subject: Options/quotes for cladding

2) 13 June - email from WBC

Subject: CIL & Infrastructure information sharing between WBC & Parishes

3) 25 June 2019 - email from Sovereign Play Equipment

Subject: Playground equipment/inspections

4) 1 July 2019 - email from ARD Playgrounds

Subject: Playground inspections

5) 1 July 2019 - email from Catherine Smith

Subject: Winnersh Allotments

6) 2 July 2019 - email from AMV Playgrounds

Subject: Playground improvements/maintenance

7) 2 July 2019 – email from Allcott Associates

Subject: Fee proposal - project management for cladding replacement