



## **Winnersh Parish Council**

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Minutes of the **RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** meeting held in the Allnatt Pavilion on **TUESDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2019**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs S Hanna; F Breedlove; A Greenwood; R Hamblin; J Southgate; L Wooldridge.

**In attendance:** Philip Stoneman (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

**1 APOLOGIES:** Cllr F. Obileye.

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.

**3 WINNERSH ALLOTMENTS UPDATE:**

3.1 The Clerk updated the Committee on progress toward the completion of the allotments.

3.1.1 Water: Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) advised that Thames Water had scheduled in the date of 28 November to make the connection to the mains water supply after which WBC's contactor would make all the standpipes live.

3.1.3 Security: most allotment holders had collected keys for the new padlocks but there were still approximately 15 plot holders that had not collected keys.

3.13 Infection: the Clerk had raised this with WBC and the response was that it would be difficult to identify the cause. The matter would be kept under review and allotment holders would be encouraged to report any future incidents. The two allotment holders that had raised the issue had been made aware of the response from WBC.

3.2 Cllr Wooldridge advised that the Allotment Working party had not yet met and would speak with Cllr Hanna about membership of the group.

**4 PUBLIC SESSION:**

4.1 There were two members of the public in attendance who asked the following

4.1.1 Question: Does the driver of the lorry, delivering manure, have a key to the gate?

Answer: The Clerk was uncertain if a key had been provided but would check and make the arrangements.

4.1.2 Question: As there was evidence of rodents on the track, leading to the allotment garden, would inspections be made and measures taken to discourage rats and any other vermin?

Answer: PEST UK, who provided the service on the former site, had recently inspected the site and found no evidence of activity. The Committee were made aware of a quotation from PEST UK for 8 visits/year for £429.00 +VAT and, given the recent sightings by allotment holders, agreed to accept the quote. The Clerk was asked to make the arrangements. **ACTION: CLERK**

## **5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING:**

3.1.1 Access Road: the Clerk had contacted the neighbouring farmer and thanked him on behalf of Winnersh Parish Council and allotment holders for cutting back the hedges along the length of the track between Woodward Close and the entrance to the allotments.

3.1.4 Allocation: The Clerk was asked to contact allotment holders, that were not currently cultivating their plots, to establish whether they were intending to cultivate the plots allocated to them as interest and a waiting list was growing. **ACTION: CLERK**

3.2.5 A list of outstanding items that would be necessary to be completed before the allotments could be transferred from WBC to WPC had been compiled by Cllr Wooldridge and Cllr Harper.

3.3 The Clerk informed the Committee that he had contacted the Solicitor acting on behalf of WPC and was advised to make the Councils Insurer aware that whilst the lease had not been signed that possession of the site had been taken by WPC. The Clerk was asked to send the legal opinion to the Insurer. **ACTION: CLERK**

3.4 The Clerk advised that he identified model tenancy agreements for discussion by the Allotments Working Group.

5.7 Playground Inspections: the clerk advised that two quotes had been received and he was awaiting a third quote.

8.2 The Clerk advised that he had contacted the Local Police Commander suggesting a joint WPC/Police letter be sent to the parents and students in order to help encourage and improve cycling awareness and safety.

9.2 The Clerk advised that the suggestion from Cllr Michael Firmager (Chairman of the Borough/Parish Liaison Forum) to meet and explore ways of strengthening the communication between WBC and WPC had been referred to Full Council and that a date was being arranged.

## **6 PROJECTS**

- 6.1 The Clerk informed the Committee that the report, setting out options for the Community Centre cladding, and possible extension to include a storage area, was still awaited from Allcott Associates.
- 6.2 The Clerk advised that he had applied to WBC for S.106 funding to assist with cost of replacing the outdoor gym equipment and for providing safety surfacing.

## **7 PASSENGER LIFT AND ACCESSIBLE LIFT:**

- 7.1 The Clerk advised that he had sought a quote for the installation of a lift in order to make the Parish Office and John Grobler Room more accessible. The quote ranged from £19,371 to £23,759 depending upon the materials used and the finish. A quote had not been sought at this stage for building works, including a new entrance door and accessible toilet.
- 7.2 The Clerk was asked to explore what sources of funding may be available to assist with the cost of the project and to seek the views of Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service about the requirements necessary to enable the provision and use of a lift. **ACTION: CLERK**

## **8 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS EVENT:**

- 8.1 Cllr Hamblin updated the Committee on plans for the Christmas Lights Event including that it was being advertised on social media and had generated a lot of interest.
- 8.2 Seven stall holders were confirmed, with only one pitch remaining, and they had all provided details of their public liability insurance. Cllr Harper was providing the risk assessment for the event and Cllr Hamblin would provide details of the activities that had changed since last year's event.
- 8.3 Cllr Hamblin had secured several high-quality prizes for the raffle.
- 8.4 The Clerk advised that the Mayor of Wokingham had accepted an invitation to attend the event.
- 8.5 Cllr Hamblin confirmed that an update on the event plan would be provided at the next meeting of Full Council. **ACTION: CLLR HAMBLIN**

## **9 CORRESPONDENCE:** The Committee noted the correspondence in Appendix A and made the following comments:-

Item 1 – INVOLVE: the Committee suggested the opportunity to raise awareness at the Summer Fete.

Item 2 - Fly Tipping: the Committee suggested the use of social media to raise awareness and to seek views on any fly tipping hotspots around the Parish.

Item 3 - Bee Roadzz: the Committee were supportive of the initiative and suggested the allotments and Winnersh Relied Road as sites to help create a pollinator highway through Winnersh.

Item 4 - Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects at the Community Centre: the Committee welcomed the offer from QUSET - the Great Outdoors Company, for providing community projects delivered by volunteers, and the Clerk was asked to explore the initiative further. **ACTION: CLERK**

**10 ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS:** There were no urgent matters.

**11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER 2019 at 19:45.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:45.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Correspondence**

**1) 9 October 2019:** email from Involve Charity

**Subject:** Involve Project Awareness

**2) 25 October 2019:** email from Wokingham Borough Council

**Subject:** Fly-Tipping / Countryside Watch

**3) 4 November 2019:** email from Liz Kerry

**Subject:** Conversation about Bee Roadzz

**4) 5 November 2019:** email from QUSET - The Great Outdoors Ltd

**Subject:** CSR Community Assistance Project