



## **Winnersh Parish Council**

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Minutes of the Informal **RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** meeting held remotely on **Tuesday 4 JANUARY 2022**.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs L. Wooldridge (Chairman); L. Doyle; P. Fishwick; S. Hanna; R Nicholson; J. Southgate.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Philip Stoneman (Clerk)  
Joanne Yeomans (Community Engagement & Lettings Officer - CELO)  
Gareth Mephram (Berkshire Youth)

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** None

**2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.

### **3 BERKSHIRE YOUTH**

3.1 Gareth Mephram from Berkshire Youth (BY) attended for the item gave an update on youth service provision in the parish.

3.2 Despite attending a number of locations in the area, the detached youth work had been quiet and that was attributable to the cold dark evenings. Gareth proposed that detached youth work be withheld until March/Easter 2022 and WPC funding would be carried forward into the 2022/23 financial year. Berkshire Youth would confirm, in liaison with the Clerk, how much of the £4,500 allocated in 2021/22 would be moved to 2022/23.

3.3 A discussion took place about the importance of having a plan and knowing where the detached youth work and the bus would be located, and on which days and times. Gareth advised that he would produce a plan for activity from Easter to the end of May and that would be shared with WPC to promote locally. **ACTION: GARETH MEPHAM**

### **4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING**

4.1 The minutes of the meeting held on the 2 November 2021, approved at Full Council on the 9 November, were noted and the following matters were raised:-

4.2 Item 7.6: The CELO confirmed that fireworks being prohibited from use at Bearwood Recreation Ground/Community Centre had been included in the terms and

conditions of hire.

4.3 Item 8.3: The Clerk advised that he was in the process of getting quotations for the fire risk assessment.

4.4 Item 9.2: The proposed improvements to the CCTV system would be considered at the next meeting.

**5 PUBLIC SESSION:** There were no members of the public in attendance.

## **6 CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**

6.1 The committee considered that there were no additional measures necessary at this time and that hirings, including parties, should be allowed to continue. Any implications for the safe running of WPC facilities, arising from any changes in government guidance, would be considered as necessary. An item would be included on the agenda of the next meeting.

**ACTION: CLERK**

## **7 WINNERSH ALLOTMENT GARDEN**

7.1 Cllr Wooldridge provided an update on the meeting with Winnersh Allotment Association and confirmed that the remainder of the £1,000 to be used for small items of repair and maintenance had been transferred to the WAA.

7.2 The Clerk advised that he had been contacted by REDS10 (the contractor appointed to build the SEND school) who were about to start work on the access road that would serve the new SEND school. The Clerk and a representative from the WAA would meet on site to receive an update on the project and operational issues relating to the construction works and implications for the allotment garden and plot holders.

**ACTION: CLERK**

## **8 FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT**

8.1 A discussion took place about the recent visit to the new School Green Centre at Shinfield that Cllr Andrew Grimes had kindly hosted. Members felt it was a very worthwhile visit and views around the design and build, layout of the rooms and cafe, colour schemes, funding, and partnership working were shared.

8.2 Cllr Southgate felt that whilst it was a helpful visit WCC should also visit other facilities to help inform the facility improvement planning process.

## **9 BUDGET 2022/23**

9.1 Following the recent informal inspection of facilities by R&A Committee, the Clerk set out some potential ideas for inclusion in the 2022/23 capital programme. Some of the key issues included the community centre floor that was deteriorating and would require repair or replacement. The male and female toilets and the accessible toilets had been highlighted by the Clerk and CELO as needing refurbishment/replacement and access, particularly to the accessible toilet at the Allnatt Pavilion, was problematic with the access ramp being too steep and insufficient landing space for a wheelchair user to open the door.

9.2 The path running along the front of the Allnatt Pavilion/Winnersh Community Centre was in a poor condition and with several rocking and broken slabs was a health & safety issue.

- 9.3 In preparation for a further discussion at F&GP Committee on the 25 January 2022, Cllr Wooldridge offered to set out the various ideas into project groups that would be individually costed. The project categories would include toilets, main hall, CCTV, paths/exterior, play area, Christmas decorations and youth service provision.

**ACTION: CLLR WOOLDRIDGE**

## **10 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

- 10.1 The Clerk updated the Committee on a recent meeting he had attended with the Environmental Health Officer (EHO) to discuss a complaint about noise (music) from the community centre. The EHO considered that during a recent hiring that the noise levels were excessive and that measures needed to be put in place to limit the impact on a nearby resident.
- 10.2 The suggestions included ensuring the extractor fans were closed, the wooden fire exit doors be replaced with new doors that provided a greater level of insulation, that event organisers be advised to direct the speakers towards the recreation ground and that sound checks be carried out by event organisers to ensure that noise levels would not impact local residents.
- 10.3 Cllr Fishwick suggested that the use of noise limiters be explored as these would automatically cut the power supply to audio equipment in the event that noise levels had exceeded a pre-set limit.

## **11 RECYCLING BINS**

- 11.1 Cllr Fishwick put forward a suggestion that an additional recycling bin, at a cost of approximately £750, be provided near the basketball court/youth facilities that could be funded from the climate change emergency budget. The committee agreed to recommend the proposal to Full Council for approval.

**ACTION: CLLR WOOLDRIDGE**

## **12 KENYAN FESTIVAL**

- 12.1 The CELO explained that she had received a request for a Kenyan Festival to be held on the Bearwood Recreation Centre and Winnersh Community Centre on the 6 August 2022. Whilst the Committee were supportive of the event, plans to cover event management, noise levels, alcohol consumption, access, licences etc. would all be required from the event organiser.

**ACTION: CELO**

## **13 CORRESPONDENCE**

- 13.1 An email had been received from the Section Leader, Cubs (Panthers) 1<sup>st</sup> Winnersh Scout Group who asked about any plans to hold a Big Tidy Up this year in Winnersh. If an event was to go ahead the Scout Group would be very interested in taking part.

## **14 MATTERS CONSIDERED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN: None**

## **15 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 1 February at 19.30.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.50

## **PART II – Confidential Session**

- 16** The Council **RESOLVED** in accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press for discussion of the following personnel or confidential matters where publicity might be prejudicial to the special nature of the business.

### **17 ALLOTMENTS LAND DRAINAGE**

- 17.1 The Clerk set out the quotations from three companies to provide land drainage between plots 80 and 86.
- 17.2 The decision to appoint the contractor that had provided the lowest cost (Nick Robins Ltd) would be deferred until a response had been received from Wokingham Borough Council on whether it would fund, or part fund, the project.

### **18 PLAY AREA REPAIRS**

- 18.1 The Clerk presented two quotes received for the repair of two gates at the play area and these were £572+VAT and £577.34 +VAT. It was agreed that the decision on which company to use would be left to the Clerk who would seek clarification on any additional costs and how quickly the works could be carried out. **ACTION: CLERK**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22.00