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Minutes of the Informal RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE meeting held remotely on Tuesday 1 MARCH 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)

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None.
- **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.
- 3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING
- 3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on the 1 February 2022, approved at Full Council on the 8 February, were noted and the following matters were raised:-
- 3.2 Item 6.3: The Clerk advised that he was awaiting an update from the Head of Property Services at Wokingham Borough Council about the new access road, currently being constructed, and the arrangements for moving the double vehicular gate and how the access road would connect with the allotment car park and perimeter road.
 - It was also explained that REDS10 would also raise the issue of who would construct the access link within the allotment garden as currently this was outside the scope of the project being carried out by REDS10.
- 3.3 Item 7.3: The Clerk advised that quotes were being sought for new doors and access control equipment. It was agreed that the quotations would be shared with R&A by email and that Full Council would be asked to receive a recommendation and approve the most competitive quote. In the event that it was not possible to make a recommendation to Full Council by the 8 March 2022, the matter would be referred to the Executive Committee for a decision.

 ACTION: CLERK
- 3.4 Item 12.2: The Clerk advised that he had received two further quotes for a Fire Risk Assessment and was asked to arrange with Firelimited to complete the survey at a cost of £250 + VAT.

 ACTION: CLERK

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

5 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR (ASB)

- 5.1 The Clerk updated the committee on the recent spate of ASB incidents and advised that the police were investigating these. There had been no further incidents during the past fortnight but the accessible toilet remained out of use until the police were able to confirm that the perpetrators had been identified and appropriate action taken.
- 5.2 Cllr Fishwick raised concerns about the difficulty he had experienced with reporting offensive graffiti through the 101 on line form. Cllr Fishwick advised that he would report these direct to the Police Neighbourhood Team and that the on-line reporting system be brought to the attention of the Borough Commander. ACTION: CLLR FISHWICK

6 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

6.1 The current grounds maintenance contract was due to end on 31 March 2022. In order to provide a little more time for the Clerk to seek quotations it was agreed that the current contractor be invited to continue providing the service at current rates until the end of April 2022, and that quotations be sought for a 23-month contract to the end on 31 March 2024. During that time a review would be carried out to consider aligning the contract to the growing season, with the contract potentially being by calendar year rather than financial year.

ACTION: CLERK

7 FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP

7.1 Cllr Wooldridge provided an update on the progress of the project including that suitable project management software was being evaluated, the project plan was being updated and that a series of dates dates for working group meetings would be sent out over the next couple of weeks.

CLLR WOOLDRIDGE

8 CIRCUSES/FUNFAIRS

- 8.1 The Clerk advised that occasionally requests were received from circus and funfair operators to hold events on Bearwood Recreation Ground.
- 8.2 A discussion took place about the advantages and disadvantage and after careful consideration, including concerns about the potential damage to the grounds, it was decided not to permit circuses or funfairs, but to encourage the operators to explore more suitable locations within the area that could perhaps include larger and more accessible sites such as Dinton Pastures.

9 THE GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN

- 9.1 The Clerk advised that he had been contacted by Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) about holding litter pick events over the weekend of the 2 and 3 April.
- 9.2 The committee agreed, subject to the approval of Full Council to hold the annual event starting at 11am on Sunday 3 April, 2002. Cllr Hanna agreed to work with Cllr Harper to organise and run the event. The Clerk would complete and return the requirement form

(litter pickers, bags, and high-viz tabards) to WBC. Cllr Fishwick asked that as many councillors as possible help support the event on the day and that it be publicised on the WPC website and through social media.

ACTION: CLLR HANNA/CLLR HARPER/CLERK/CELO

10 CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 28/2/2022 Email from Wokingham Borough Council Subject: New Anti-Social Behaviour Service.

A discussion took place about the new service that would start on 1 April 2022. Concern was expressed about the operating hours appeared to be restricted on weekdays that was not consistent with the 24/7 service that WBC had said would be provided. It was agreed that the Clerk would seek clarification on the service level with WBC. **ACTION: CLERK**

- 10.2 28/2/2022 Email from Collard Environmental Subject: Price Increase of 5% from 1 April 2022 on all services.
- 10.3 19/2/2022 Email/Invoice from Business Stream Subject: Invoice for water at the allotments.

The Clerk advised that the first invoice for one of the two water supplies at the allotments had been received. Despite informing the company that there should be no waste water charges the company had applied then as a cost of £606.50. The Clerk had challenged this and explained to Business Stream that as this was an allotment garden, with no waste water returning to the foul or surface water sewer, that the charge was not applicable. The company would ask the water company (Thames Water) responsible for the infrastructure to send an engineer/inspector to conduct a dye test to prove that waste water was not being generated.

- 11 MATTERS CONSIDERED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN: None
- **DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday 5 April 2022 at 19.30.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.50.