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Minutes of the Informal RECREATION AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE meeting held remotely on Tuesday 7 JUNE 2022.

PRESENT: Cllrs L. Wooldridge (Chairman); L. Doyle; S. Hanna; J Southgate.

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

## 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

- 1.1 Nominations were sought for the position of Chairman of the Recreation & Amenities Committee. Cllr Hanna **PROPOSED** Cllr Linda Wooldridge, **SECONDED** by Cllr Southgate. There being no other nominations, Cllr Linda Wooldridge was appointed as Chairman.
- 1.2 Nominations were sought for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Recreation & Amenities Committee. Cllr Wooldridge **PROPOSED** Cllr Shaun Hanna, **SECONDED** by Cllr Southgate. There being no other nominations, Cllr Shaun Hanna was appointed as Vice-Chairman.
- 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None
- 3 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None.

## 4 BERKSHIRE YOUTH

- 4.1 Gareth Mepham from Berkshire Youth attended and provided an update on the provision of detached youth work.
- 4.2 The outreach provision, using the Youth Bus as a base, was initially well attended at Rainbow Park. Visits to Bearwood Recreation Ground and Bathurst Road had not been successful with very few young people in attendance. Factors including poor weather may well have impacted attendance.

- 4.3 The CELO informed the committee that she and the Clerk had recently met with Zara Odell (Community Engagement Officer at Wokingham Borough Council) about the possibility of a youth club being run at Rainbow Park Community Centre. Zara had received requests from young people in the area to set up a youth club facility and they had canvassed ideas from young people around Rainbow Park.
- 4.4 Given the level of interest, Zara had spoken with Berkshire Youth to see if this would be possible and had been made aware that there was a shortage of youth workers and vacancies were proving difficult to fill.
- 4.5 Gareth agreed to meet with Zara and the CELO to consider what level of provision could be provided and potentially move away from detached youth work to centre based youth provision.
- 4.6 The Clerk explained that approximately half of the £4,500 budget had been committed to the detached work that was scheduled to run up to the 21 June, 2022.
- 4.7 Gareth agreed to provide some costings to enable provision to run up to the end of the academic year (July 2022).
- 4.8 The committee agreed to make a recommendation to Full Council on the 14 June to commit funding, within the existing budget, for additional youth work to be continued to the end of July.

  ACTION: CLLR WOOLDRIDGE
- 4.9 The committee also agreed to review a proposal from Gareth (in liaison with Zara and the CELO) on future provision and present a case to Full Council in September for additional budget as required.

  ACTION: CLLR WOOLDRIDGE

## 5 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

- 5.1 The minutes of the meeting held on the 3 May 2022, approved at Full Council on the 10 May, were noted and the following matters were raised:-
- 5.2 Item 7.6: The CELO had informed the Winnersh Allotment Association that the Council had agreed to support the proposal to introduce bee hives at the allotment garden.
- 5.3 Item: 8.4: The review of storage provision was on-going and it was expected that an update would be provided in September.
- 5.4 Item 15.1/15.2: The works to replace doors and install access control equipment had started. The electrical work had been completed and the delivery of doors was awaited.
- 5.5 Item 16.1: Active Risk Management Services Ltd. were due to attend a meeting on the 15 June to agree the arrangements for inspecting playground equipment and to prepare documentation for the caretaker to use when making weekly inspections.
- **PUBLIC SESSION:** There were no members of the public in attendance.

## 7 WINNERSH ALLOTMEMNTS

- 7.1 The Clerk updated the committee on a meeting that he, the CELO and Cllr Harper had attended with Highways England. The proposal for Highways England's contractor to use the allotment garden whilst carrying out concrete bridge repairs to the nearby M4/ Network Rail bridge had been raised at R&A Committee on 19 January 2021.
- 7.2 The works would be carried out between November 2022 and April 2023 so there would be very little disruption to allotment holders. The plan included using an area of the car park as a compound for materials and welfare facilities and accessing the bridge from the south western end of the allotment garden.
- 7.3 Highways England and their contractor were made aware of the beehives to be installed close by, and arrangements would be made to ensure there was no disturbance or conflict.
- 7.4 Volker Laser (contractor) offered as a community gift to provide and install the remaining 70 metres of land drainage that would complete the drainage between plots 79 and 86.
- **8 CORRESPONDENCE:** None
- 9 MATTERS CONSIDERED URGENT BY THE CHAIRMAN: None
- **DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday 6 September 2022 at 19.30.

The meeting scheduled for the 5 July was cancelled.

Signed: Cllr L Wooldridge

**Chairman of Recreation & Amenities Committee**