

A meeting of the PUBLIC LANDS & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE, Arlesey Town Council held in the Village Hall, High Street, Arlesey, on Tuesday 1st May 2018 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs: C Wallace (Chairman) J Randall
S Sarll C Gravett
J Want

In attendance: Mrs J Bailey (Assistant Clerk), Ms Susan Foulkes (Town Clerk), Cllrs Ward and McGann, and 2 members of the public.

17/063 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs R Clark and C Livermore.

17/064 MEMBERS' INTERESTS

064.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda.

- Cllr Gravett – Agenda Item 12 – Spouse is an allotment tenant.

064.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.

None received.

064.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

None received.

17/065 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Ward commented on the Resource Centre hire charges suggesting that clarity is required for detailing facilities included within the hire charge.

17/066 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Members considered the minutes of the Public Lands & Highways Committee meeting held on 6th March 2018. Approval deferred to next meeting due to only 2 members present having attended March meeting.

RESOLVED

that the approval of minutes of the Public Lands & Highways Committee meeting held on 6 March 2018 be deferred to the next meeting of Public Lands & Highways Committee.

17/067 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

17/068 COMMUNITY CENTRE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Members were informed of a leak in the Village Hall ceiling which had resulted in cancellation of Village Hall hire Friday 20th April 2018. Following inspection by CBC's contractor the Council has been informed that a section of roof has deteriorated drastically and needs replacing. The contractor has submitted a report to CBC. Members noted that a section of roof over Town Council Office replaced 2015.

17/069 RESOURCE CENTRE

Resource Centre Hire Charges – Members reviewed Resource Centre hire charges currently set at £9.50 per hour for hire and £15.00 per hour for computer courses, fees last

reviewed 2016/17. Following the appointment of a Resource Centre Manager March 2018, the role involves attracting new hirers to use the Centre, feedback on fees to be gauged.

Committee Recommendation:

Resource Centre Manager to consider any amendments required to hire fees during process of attracting new hirers to using facilities, and report back to Council.

17/070 MUGA/PAVILION PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Members received an update on the refurbishment project which had overrun initial completion date.

Remaining works to be completed:

- **Gate opposite MUGA court entrance to provide access to storage container** - agreed and included in second drawing/specification stage of planning at no extra cost. Fence has been erected without gate and installer has requested an additional £700 approx to insert gate. Project Manager in discussion with installer.
- **Groundsman to paint meeting room on completion of project** not requested in contractor scope of refurbishment works.
- **Minor snagging works** to be carried out by Modplan and organised by Project Manager.

Faulty heaters in the MUGA had required replacing. This work was carried out whilst contractor on site for refurbishment, incurring minimal additional costs.

Revised completion date end of May 2018.

17/071 RECREATION GROUND/PLAY AREA MANAGEMENT

Unresolved issues RoSPA inspection 2017 – Members were informed of 2 issues for which clarification was being sought with RoSPA before works are considered:- rotating mushroom in the play area on Recreation Ground unobstructed area requirement, and skate park re surfacing. 2018 inspection scheduled for May.

17/072 CEMETERY & WAR MEMORIAL MANAGEMENT

Cemetery Regulations Review - Members noted review of Cemetery Regulations by Town Clerk and Cllr Ward ongoing.

17/073 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

073.1 **Salt Bins** – Members considered purchase, installation and ongoing maintenance of salt bins in locations where approval from Central Bedfordshire Council Highways Custodian had been given to ATC, following an inspection of the areas suggested and failure to meet grading criteria requirements for provision funded by CBC. Costs for disposing of unused deteriorated salt, deemed as Hazardous Waste, were required to enable an informed Committee recommendation to be made. Item to be deferred to next meeting of Public Lands Highways Committee following collection of disposal information.

073.2 **Electric Car Charging point** - Members received an update from Cllr McGann informing of potential suppliers and government funding available for up to 75% capital costs of procuring and installing an electric car charging point with associated dedicated parking bay. Charge point costs vary, and whilst the funding scheme is primarily focussed on on-street charge points Office for Low Emission Vehicles recognises the potential pressures faced by Local Authorities when allocating parking spaces on residential streets and consider applications for car park located charge points on a case by case basis. Councillor McGann will contact the Energy Savings Trust for further information about the application process and CBC to determine position on installing a charge point in Community Centre car park. Consideration of feasibility for MUGA car park as possible charging point site required. Update to be supplied at next committee meeting.

073.3 **Dog Bag dispenser** – Members considered purchase, installation and ongoing maintenance of dog bag dispensers in Arlesey. It was determined that a dispenser sited next to a dog waste bin would be most effective in encouraging owners to pick up after their dogs. Members considered areas frequently experiencing dog fouling offences and it was noted that the locations of land recognised as offender “hotspots”, were owned by Central Bedfordshire Council. Purchase and installation of one bag dispenser to determine any effect on dog fouling offences was suggested.

Committee Recommendation:

that Council approve purchase and installation of one dog bag dispenser and associated fixings to gauge effectiveness subject to CBC approval. Town Council Groundsman to install dispenser subject to permission being granted from CBC to place dispenser by Footpath 1A near dog bin at gated entrance running parallel to Gothic Mede Academy rear boundary fence and monitor any subsequent effect on reports of dog fouling issues in that area. Bag dispenser, post and associated fittings approx. cost £110.00 + VAT

17/074 ALLOTMENTS

Members considered approval of minimum pro rata charge of £5 for an allotment tenancy accepted part way through rental year to cover administration costs.

Committee Recommendation:

that Council approve minimum fee of £5.00 for pro rata allotment tenancy to cover administration costs.

17/075 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS ARISING FROM THIS EVENING'S MEETING

Mr R Watson commented that residents could be approached in areas where location of salt bins is being considered, to arrange a rota for spreading salt. Cllr Randall added that in Chase Hill Road the current salt bin is accessed freely by residents who spread the salt as required.

Meeting Closed: 7.37pm

Chairman:

Date: