



STONEHOUSE
TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES (subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting) of a meeting of the of the AMENITIES and RECREATION COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 18TH MARCH 2019 AT 7PM IN THE TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, STONEHOUSE

MEMBERS PRESENT

Deborah Curtis (Committee Convenor)
Jennie Smith
Theresa Watt (Chair of Council/Mayor)

ALSO PRESENT

Cllr Pam Swain
Mr Gary Powell
Richard Lacey (Locum Clerk)

Attendees are reminded that the Proceedings of this meeting may be filmed, photographed or recorded but anyone wishing to make a record should first inform the Chairman

Cllr Curtis (Committee Convenor) welcomed Cllr Smith to her first meeting of the Committee.

K3/694 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Gill Jennings (Town Clerk), Cllrs Neil Gibbs (Vice Chair of Council) and John Parker.

K3/695 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Curtis declared a non pecuniary interest on item K3/703 through her membership of Stonehouse In Bloom.

K3/696 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11TH FEBRUARY 2019

Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2019 was proposed by Cllr Watt, seconded by Cllr Curtis and carried accordingly.

K3/697 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT

Cllr Curtis invited Gary Powell, Chair of Stonehouse In Bloom Group, to address the meeting in his role as a member of Stonehouse In Bloom. Mr Powell wished to clarify issues regarding the Rest Garden relating to fencing and a raised flower bed. Having read the Minutes of the previous Committee meeting he said that it was his understanding that the clearance of the hedge facing on to Laburnum Field was approved by the Town Clerk. The Minutes, however, stated that the area should be replanted with hedging which could well damage tree roots by digging more holes and use some of the moisture that would otherwise be available to the trees if fencing was used instead. He understood that the original costing for the hoop topped fencing was £850 and would necessitate less disturbance of the soil. With regard to underground service Mr Powell Powell said that these should be positioned 1 metre or more underground and not be an issue.

K3/697 (continued)

With respect to the raised bed near to the wall hung painting the ground proposed for the site was in fact part of the old church building as evidenced by the terracotta flooring just below the surface. In this respect, therefore, the raised bed would not encroach on any burial ground. Following concerns about the current status of the Rest Garden in respect of whether it was still registered as a burial site Town Council staff would be asked to investigate accordingly.

Mr Powell then left the meeting.

K3/698 OLDENDS LANE DEVELOPMENT

To note progress on resubmission of planning application.

No further information was available.

K3/699 OLDENDS LANE PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT

To receive information on progress of work and agree proposals for opening event.

Those present were pleased to see progress being made and resolved to hold the Opening Event on Sunday 7th April at 10:00am subject to all works being completed. The contractors had offered £50 to provide catering for the event and other promotional materials and bunting, all of which were welcomed.

With regard to signage for the area Members were advised that of three quotations requested only one from Five Valley Labels for £205 + VAT had been received. In view of the time limit and the perceived good value of the quotation Cllr Watt proposed, Cllr Curtis seconded and all agreed that this quotation be accepted.

K3/700 FINANCE

1. To check Committee expenditure and receipts against budget

2. Authorise expenditure to date of meeting

No information was available.

K3/701 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON PROPERTY MAINTENANCE and agree any actions

1. To receive a report on property maintenance and agree any actions.

No information was available.

2. To consider costed proposals for repairs to gate to Laburnum Play Area.

Members present were advised that the installing contractor GB Sport & Leisure had offered a quotation for the repair and recommissioning of the gate for the sum of £506.00 + VAT £101.20 totalling £607.20. This seemed, to Members present, to be a considerable amount but if a lower equivalent quotation could not be found then it resolved to accept GB Sport & Leisure's quotation. Proposed by Cllr Watt, seconded by Cllr Curtis and carried accordingly.

3. To consider a proposal for new stands to be made for acknowledgement plaques for trees in Shared Space.

The Convenor, Cllr Curtis, invited Cllr Swain to speak on this. Cllr Swain advised Members present that some of the protective stands protecting the trees and carrying plaques for those who donated the trees were in a state of collapse. In addition the plaques had always faced into the road and were thus difficult to read by pedestrians. She felt that these should now be replaced by smaller diameter stands closer to the ground and with the plaques facing on to the pavement. Those present resolved to ask Cllr Swain to approach Share and Repair to see if they could construct suitable replacements for the Town Council Groundstaff to install.

4. To consider a proposal for two replacement trees to be purchased for Meadow Road recreation ground at a cost of £80 each.

Members present considered the request. Cllr Smith proposed, Cllr Watt seconded and all present voted to accept the proposition. At the same time it was felt that previous damage to the trees included strimming damage and thus the new planting should have a circular area of 0.5 metre of soil to prevent strimming too close to the new and existing trees.

Stonehouse In Bloom would undertake this work on the existing trees and Town Council Groundstaff to be asked to plant and create a 0.5 metre soil area around the new trees.

In addition Town Council administration staff are asked to write to the mowing / strimming contractor to advise them not to trim up to the trees.

K3/702 REST GARDEN

1. To receive information and discuss proposals regarding the boundary line adjoining Laburnum Wall

Following Dist. Cllr Powell's comments in K3/697 (Public Adjournment) Members present discussed the issue of boundary fencing. Following discussion it was agreed that the Town Council staff be asked to confirm the cost of hoop topped fencing and whether it was in budget. Consideration also to be given to installation, if approved, so that minimal disruption is made to the area near the protected trees on site. Hopefully this can be brought to the next Committee meeting for approval so that works can be completed prior to In Bloom judging.

K3/703 STONEHOUSE IN BLOOM

1. To receive an update

Cllr Curtis invited Cllr Swain to speak to this on behalf of Stonehouse In Bloom. Cllr Swain advised that very productive talks had been held with the Barnwood Trust Community Connector and Kay Lillington of the Playing Fields Association who were both very supportive. Kay Lillington had offered to draw a proposed plan for the Rest Garden which would make it more accessible for all groups with a sensory space and no dig pathways. Signage would direct people to the area.

2. To receive and consider additional Rest Garden proposals

Following receipt of the plan and proposals, if acceptable, then costing would take place.

K3/704 FENCING PROPOSAL FROM STONEHOUSE FOOTBALL CLUB

To consider proposals for additional fencing around Stonehouse FC ground and agree a response. Members present considered the request as outlined by correspondence and photographed examples. Whilst being disappointed that such fencing was required they expressed sympathy with the Club's predicament and the desire to reduce vandalism. Cllr Smith proposed, Cllr Curtis seconded and all agreed that the request be favourably considered providing that the Club is strongly encouraged to use green fencing panels to minimise the appearance and retain as much as possible the integrity and beauty of the area. It was also suggested that the Club be asked to take part in hedge planting with the Town Council to enhance the appearance of the fenced area.

K3/705 CORRESPONDENCE

1. To agree response to request from Stonehouse Football Club to hold a tournament on 13th or 14th July 2019 and to host an annual show for Gloucestershire Labrador Owners on 29th June 2019.

Members discussed the request for the Football Club's tournament and were minded to grant this subject to the Club taking all possible steps to marshal traffic and minimise disruption through antisocial parking. The Club also to be advised of the weekly Park Run which is held on Saturday and Sundays between 9am and 10am and ask for their proposals in accommodating this.

Members also were minded to grant permission for the Gloucestershire Labrador Owners event with the same provisos as the above.

2. To agree response to proposal from Two Rivers Housing regarding surfacing work at entrance to Stagholt playing fields.

Members present considered the above and resolved to ask Two Rivers Housing to a site meeting to discuss their proposals and answer questions from them.

K3/706 DATE OF NEXT MEETING. 29th April 2019 - Environment Committee