



PANGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

GROUNDS COMMITTEE MINUTES

At a meeting of the Grounds Committee held at Pangbourne Village Hall on Wednesday 7 September 2022 at 7.30pm.

Present: N. Goodwin, J. Higgs, I. Walker,
R. Elkin (Clerk), L. Antonio (Asst Clerk)

Apologies were noted from: P. McIver, G. Child, Z. Moosa, J. Power, C. Roberts
Not present:

MoP: None

Section 1 – Procedural

Action

GR/235 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

P. McIver, G. Child, Z. Moosa, J. Power, C. Roberts

GR/236 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

J. Higgs is a member of the Bowls Club

GR/237 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 29 June 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record.

GR/238 **OUTSTANDING ACTIONS, MATTERS COMPLETED AND MATTERS ARISING ON THE MINUTES**

- Fencing at Chiltern Walk still to be repaired. **OUTSTANDING** Clerk
- Chiltern Walk Open Space – solution still to be reached with WBC with regard to possible hedging – **ONGOING**. Clerk reported that ivy clearance has now been completed and situation will be monitored. Clerk/
ALL
- Cemetery Car park – ONGOING CR
- Speed bump at entrance to Recreation Ground – ON AGENDA Asst
Clerk
- Arrangements for holiday cover for Outdoor Spaces Warden – ON AGENDA Clerk
- Memorial safety and pricing – Asst Clerk/Clerk finalising policy for memorial safety. Agreed that a separate meeting should be arranged to properly review memorial fees - ONGOING Clerk/
Asst
Clerk
Clerk
- Flailbotting at Recreation Ground – Clerk to follow up on suitable date with contractor – ONGOING
- Water Rescue Cabinet – following the installation, subsequent vandalism and retrieval of the cabinet, WBC has offered to re-install. WBC has collected the cabinet but we have not as yet had a date for installation. Clerk to chase for date. – ONGOING Clerk

Section 2 - Decision Making

GR/239 **TO CONSIDER EXPENDITURE ON ADDITIONAL PICNIC TABLES AT RECREATION GROUND**

Agreed that existing picnic tables have been well used and that additional tables would be worthwhile. The costs of purchase and installation were reviewed and accepted as reasonable. Some bolts on the

Clerk

existing decks have lifted slightly, which can hopefully be addressed by the contractor installing the new tables. Clerk to arrange purchase and installation.

Agreed to approve expenditure of £4013.00+VAT for purchase and installation of three further picnic tables, to be placed around the playground area.

GR/240 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON REMEDIAL AND EMERGENCY WORKS TO THE PLAYGROUND AND TO CONSIDER ANY ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE REQUIRED

It was noted that since the last meeting, £1,254 has been spent on replacing the zipwire cable which failed and £358.20 on emergency repairs for two high priority items (the zipwire seat and toddler boat which had fallen apart).

The most recent report from our playground inspectors (ARD) was circulated. It contains a number of items identified as requiring immediate attention, along with quotes for the repairs.

The clerk reported that inspectors have been instructed to test the state of the monkey bar main beam to ascertain whether it requires replacement. It was agreed that treating all the wooden poles with preservative would be sensible to prolong their life and the Clerk to give consideration as to the best way of doing this. The new gates are on order. Clerk will continue to chase up quotes for surfacing repairs and speak to contractors with regard to solutions for repairing the surface under the zipwire.

Clerk

Agreed that the Clerks should continue with efforts to determine solutions and rough costs for the overall replacement of the playground surface, as external funding sources will be required.

Agreed to approve expenditure of £2,985.00+VAT on the repair works identified, to instruct ARD to carry out the repairs and to continue to look at costs and solutions for patching the worst areas of surfacing.

GR/241 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE AND AGREE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FULL COUNCIL ON:

- **OSARA MEETING**
- **MEADOWS LITTER MANAGEMENT**
- **FUTURE COVER FOR OUTDOOR SPACES WARDEN**

Following the vandalism of the water safety cabinet and the continuing anti-social behaviour on the Meadows, the Clerk and Councillors met on site with Thames Valley Police, Fire Service, Water Rescue Team, Berkshire Youth, WBC (Open Spaces), WBC (Youth Intervention) along with local lock keepers and a representative from Whitchurch Bridge Co, to discuss the situation and any possible actions required. The Clerk reported that the main message from the meeting was that the Council and local residents need to continue to report any and all incidents of anti-social or criminal activity to West Berkshire and the Police as this will help them in prioritising resources.

Clerk to continue working on the following actions:

- Design and purchase of additional signage with regards to litter, BBQs etc.
- Look at strengthening or replacing hoop bins
- Look at clearing vegetation along banks of the river
- JH suggested investigating the waste removal charges to ascertain whether they were correctly categorised as litter rather than business waste.

Clerk

Agreed that the Clerk and NG would meet at the Recreation Ground in the next few weeks to consider actions for improving the area around the public toilets/changing rooms with a view to improving bin provision for this side of the Meadows and Recreation Ground.

**Clerk,
NG**

The Clerk has obtained a quote from Ringrose Tree Services for lifting the crowns of a number of trees at the Dolphin Centre entrance which will make the bin area more visible and user-friendly. The quote includes £900+VAT to crown lift the trees (including submitting the Tree Works application to WBC) and £900+VAT to fell self-seeded saplings. The quote was agreed to be reasonable.

Clerk

Agreed to approve expenditure of £1800+VAT towards crown lifting and tree clearance. Clerk to instruct Ringrose to carry out the work.

GR/242 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON RECREATION GROUND VISION PROJECT AND AGREE NEXT STEPS

NG reported that the work on revisiting the content of the 'vision' document is ongoing.

NG

The Clerk reported that she and ZM had met with the Tennis Club about their proposal for floodlights for the tennis courts. The proposal is on the agenda for the next full Council meeting. It was agreed

that efforts should be made to tie this proposal in as much as possible planning for the wider recreation ground.

GR/243 **TO CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR STORAGE PROVISION AT THE RECREATION GROUND FOR OUTDOOR SPACES WARDEN AND AGREE NEXT STEPS**

Agreed that some form of secure, external storage is required and that a suitable site would be considered when the Clerk and NG meet to review bin provision.

Clerk,
NG

GR/244 **TO CONSIDER COSTS AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE FOR CLEARANCE OF SECOND MEADOWS COPSE**

Agreed that the revised quote from Kings Trees was acceptable and that this work should now go ahead.

Clerk

Agreed to approve £2,890 +VAT for the clearance of the second meadows copse.

GR/245 **TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON SPEED BUMP AT RECREATION GROUND AND AGREE NEXT STEP**

Agreed that the solution suggested by TL Contracting for addressing the uneven speed bump was reasonable, but that the edges of the concrete surrounding the bollard be painted in a suitable high-vis paint.

Asst
Clerk

Agreed to approve £180+VAT to remove excess concrete on second speed bump and create concrete surround for bollard.

Section 3 - Updates from working groups, councillors and committee members

GR/246 **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM COUNCILLORS ON ANY WORKING GROUPS OR OUTSTANDING ACTIONS**

Asst Clerk reported that several residents had emailed with regard to access issues, in particular, regarding the gate between the Recreation Ground car park and the Meadows and also the boardwalks at the end of the Meadows. Councillors noted the comments and confirmed that access issues would continue to be considered when planning any improvements at the Recreation Ground/Meadows.

Asst Clerk informed the meeting that a resident had been in contact regarding the new bench at the end of Kennedy Drive. The bench is opposite her property and she is very concerned about people looking directly into her window. Councillors noted the concerns and asked that the situation be monitored.

GR/247 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY OR RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING**

None

Section 4 - Closure

GR/248 **CLOSURE**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.47pm

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday 19 October 2022

_____ Chairman

_____ Date