



PANGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

GROUNDS COMMITTEE MINUTES

At a meeting of the Grounds Committee held virtually via zoom on Wednesday 18th November 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present: C. Hartley (Chairman), S. Ferguson, N. Goodwin, J. Higgs, P. MacIver, J. Power, Mal Sandham, G. Child, Jackie Simpson (Asst Clerk), R. Elkin (Clerk)

Apologies: G. Hurley, P. Sanderson

Resigned: M. Shakespeare

No MoP were in attendance

Section 1 – Procedural

GR/157 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

G. Hurley and P. Sanderson did not attend and M. Shakespeare has resigned from the Council which was noted.

GR/158 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

J. Higgs is a member of the Bowls Club.
C.H and J.P are Allotment holders

GR/159 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 21st October 2020 were approved and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record. The following were amended: attendance of JS, installation of football nets rather than football goals and that full planning permission was been attained for the CCTV.

GR/160 OUTSTANDING ACTIONS, MATTERS COMPLETED AND MATTERS ARISING ON THE MINUTES

- Asst Clerk has approached the grave digging firm for a quote for Memorial Testing and is hopeful of progress on this matter as a good working relationship has been cultivated in recent months. **Asst Clerk**
- Football nets at Chiltern Walk were installed earlier in the summer by MS. MS reported that he has nearly run out of pegs so it was agreed that an alternative will be researched. **ALL**
- CH offered to repair the fencing at Chiltern walk. This requires the purchase of clips at a cost of £15. **CH**
- There will be a meeting on 24/11/20 to discuss the matter of the Leases, Licenses and Charitable Trust matters at the recreation Ground. This should hopefully enable everyone to brought up to date and agree a course of action.
- CH gave an update on the tree works which have taken place this year since the last meeting. The recreation ground is complete, with just some rubbish needing clearing. There is a lot of rubbish that is believed to have emanated from the houses along Thames Avenue so it was suggested that they need to be contacted to be asked to remove it or they will be charged for its removal. **CH**
- The bank in the Dolphin Centre car park has been cleared and Alise has begun planting spring bulbs. Any additional ones will be planted around the Chiltern Walk sign and Jo Power suggested at the Allotments. This would complement the new noticeboard to be installed at the Allotments in the near future. **ALL**
- JS provided an update regarding accessing some funds from the Co-op garage to help fund new planting at the Chiltern Walk play area. The aim of this is to provide a sound barrier for residents **JS MS**

against the footballs, help offset emissions from the garage and generally improve this area. If funding is obtained, JS will compose a letter to the local residents asking for their input and MS offered to distribute these.

- There remain outstanding matters to be resolved with the waste contracts after some inconsistencies with the collection times. **Clerk**
- Marble grave markers are on order and the new noticeboard will be installed in the near future. **Various**
- Following the removal of various trees at the meadows/recreation ground, further work will be done to review whether and what type of fence may need to be installed to secure the area. **Various**
- All other outstanding matters are agenda items
- G. Child left at 8:10pm

Section 2 - Decision Making

GR/161 FINANCE AND BUDGET SETTING 2021/22

- **TO REVIEW GROUNDS EXPENDITURE YTD (2020/21)**
- **TO CONSIDER AND RECOMMEND THE GROUNDS BUDGET AND PRECEPT TO FULL COUNCIL FOR 2021/22**

The Clerk stated that the global Covid 19 pandemic has had a large impact upon the Parish Council finances which has meant that our income from the village hall and cemetery are considerably less than last financial year. This means that the budget needs to focus on things the council have to deliver before other projects are considered. It has been proposed to full council that this will mean a 10% increase in the amount of precept we will ask for and the spending of some reserves.

Clerk

The various areas of the budget were discussed. It was noted that it would be worth reviewing the contract we hold with Scofell as MS has obtained a quote from another contractor which might be worth considering. It was generally noted that the Council is satisfied with the current contract, however it was agreed to assess against alternatives on a regular basis.

Asst Clerk

GR/162 TO AGREE A PLAN OF ACTION PLANTING 40 TREE SAPLINGS RECENTLY OBTAINED BY THE COUNCIL AND AGREE A TIMEFRAME AND VOLUNTEER GROUP TO LOOK AFTER THE TREES ONCE PLANTED

It was agreed that it would be advisable to plant out the 40 new saplings as soon as possible so they have chance to establish themselves before the spring. It was agreed that a small working group of JS, RE, CH, PAWS and Jo Power to be established to manage this planting. The initial step will be taken by JS to print maps of our trees from Parish Online to show where it might be best to plant them. PAWS have been asked to provide their input about how to ensure their survival and continued watering for 2-3 years. It was also discussed that it would be prudent to get bigger saplings in the future to help ensure they survive.

GR/163 TO AGREE ELECTRICAL WORKS REQUIRED AT THE PAVILION

CH

A budget of £924 inc vat was agreed to progress the full electrical check and PAT testing work at the Pavilion. This is essential for safety purposes and to meet the conditions of our insurance.

It was agreed that notices will be made up and displayed to request no "plugged in" electrical items be left on charge or plugged in overnight going forward

Clerk /Asst Clrk

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

GR/164 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM COUNCILLORS ON ANY WORKING GROUPS OR OUTSTANDING ACTIONS

There were no updates from councillors. Jo Power will inform the Clerk when the water has been shut off for the allotments and then the contract will be switched to Water2Business. JS will contact Jo Power to agree the placement of the new noticeboard at the allotments.

GR/165 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY OR RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING**

None

Section 4 - Closure

GR/166 **CLOSURE**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:50 pm

Next meeting to be scheduled

_____ Chairman

_____ Date