

LUDGERSHALL TOWN COUNCIL



Minutes of:

RECREATION, LEISURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2013 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 7-30PM .

1. **PRESENT:** Cllrs Allan, Betteridge, Dance, Laing, White with Cllr Crane in the chair
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** were received from Cllrs Downie, Williams, Unwin
3. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** no declarations of interest were made
4. **MINUTES:** Of the previous RLE meeting were approved at the October Full Council meeting
5. **MATTERS ARISING:** Branches encroaching near traffic lights, have been reported to WCC by the Clerk. Potholes in Andover Road have also been reported by the Clerk
6. **PLAY AREAS:**
 - DEWEY'S LANE**
 - a) **Replace Swing seat,** replacement seat is available, Cllr Crane to replace before the next RLE meeting
 - b) **Quote to repair safety surface under roundabout.** Has been received from SD Playground Services, it was agreed to accept the quotation, the Clerk is requested to notify the company and seek a date the repair will be carried out. Quotation: £100.00
7. **PRETORIA ROAD**
 - a) **Quote re Safety surface lifting;** Has been received from SD Playground Services, it was agreed to accept the quotation, the Clerk is requested to notify the company and seek a date the repair will be carried out. Quotation: £750.00
 - b) **Quote re concrete removal;** Has been received from SD Playground Services, it was agreed to accept the quotation, the Clerk is requested to notify the company and seek a date the repair will be carried out. Quotation: £200.00
 - c) **Quote to install post outside of gate.** After some discussion it was agreed not to proceed with this work.
 - d) The intent of the rework was to eradicate a possible finger trap hazard when the gate is fully opened. It was suggested the installation of the post would not remove the trap hazard, it would just move the trap hazard to a new location, therefore the rework would not remove the hazard.
 - e) Redesign to restrict the gate from opening to a point where it introduced the possibility of a trap hazard needed to be considered.
 - f) Post Committee note; Cllr Crane has installed a mechanism to restrict the gate from opening fully. If the temporary fix proves successful a permanent fix will be installed. Cllr Crane to monitor, and speak with users.
8. **RECREATION GROUND:**
 - a) **Installation of new litter bin & removal of old bin.** The existing litter bin inner sleeve has been damaged but was left in place because removal would have introduced a trip hazard. Cllrs Dance, Betteridge and Crane are looking into utilizing the existing base when installing the new litter bin
 - b) **Youth Shelter – clerk has completed Town Council section.**
 - c) **Existing skateboard – Annual Maintenance from Lightmain.** It was agreed to request the Clerk to ask for a quotation for an Annual Maintenance Contract for discussion purposes.

- d) **Additional Skateboard equipment – request by youth.** RLE still waiting for further contact with the youths interested in additional skateboard equipment. RLE committee have offered to meet and discuss the project but to date no one has come forward.
- e) **Circus Ginnett – 2014 visit** It was agreed to invite Circus Ginnett back to Ludgershall in 2014. No response has been received by Jon Miller Circus.

9. ENVIRONMENT:

- a) **List of road signs/road markings to be removed.** At present the committee do not have any suggestions for removing unwanted road signs.
- b) **Grit Bins – please check if need replenishing.** Cllr Crane agreed to visit all the grit bins and report back to the Clerk and the next meeting. Cllr White suggested loosening the grit with a fork, Cllr Crane agreed to do this when he inspects the grit bins.

10. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – Lighting column report from Atkins. Cllrs were disappointed that some lampposts were not suitable for installing Christmas lights.

- a) Cllr Allan presented a set of lights that are battery powered and have a timer which can be set and suggested these lights may be a good alternative to purchasing brackets and fittings.
- b) Cllr Allan agreed to install the lights, take photographs and report back to the next Council meeting.
- c) The lights are inexpensive, and may provide some decoration at a reasonable cost.

11. MEMORIAL HALL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – Quote to install & take down.

- a) A quotation of £925 plus VAT was received from AJK Services for installing and removing the Christmas Lights on the Memorial Hall.
- b) Some Cllrs thought this quotation was expensive. After some discussion it was agreed to seek an alternative quotation.
- c) Cllr White pointed out that any quotation should be from a professional organization with experience in such work and needed to have appropriate insurance.
- d) Cllr Crane reminded the committee that all quotes should be passed to the Clerk. It was agreed to wait until an additional quote had been received.

12. HIGH STREET – HANGING BASKETS.

- a) Cllr White presented a report and photographs of hanging baskets and lampposts. The committee agreed this is a great idea, although location might be a problem.
- b) It was agreed to request the Clerk to seek quotations and contact WCC to see if there are restrictions on installing hanging baskets.
- c) All agreed the flowers must be real, not plastic.
- d) Watering would be an issue to be resolved at a later date if the project was to proceed.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

- a) **Damage to play equipment by Fire,** The Clerk reported an incident in the Rec where someone had set fire to something on the plastic picnic table.
- b) The Fire Brigade attended and extinguished the fire but not before the table has sustained some damage. It was agreed to request the Clerk to ask for a quote for replacement slats for the table.
- c) The whole committee were concerned about such damage that seems to be recurring, each repair costs taxpayers money which then cannot be spend on other items and new equipment.
- d) PCSO Downham has spoken with some of the youths explaining the problems of fires in the Rec. It was hoped that explain the problems with fires may help reduce the incidents.
- e) **Play Equipment Inspection and Repair.** Some members of the RLE committee were concerned with the current play equipment inspector being given the remedial work. It was felt this was a conflict of interests. It was pointed out that there were no issues with the quality of the work. Cllr White suggested, and the committee agreed, to request the Clerk to seek a quote for inspections from an alternative source, but retain SD Playground Services for the remedial work.

There being no further business the meeting was closed by the chair.

Signed

Date