

Framlingham Town Council
Minutes of the Lands Committee Meeting held via Zoom
on Wednesday 17th March 2021 at 7pm

All documents relating to this meeting were made available to Councillors (Cllrs) in advance

1. APOLOGIES:

None, all present.

2. Present:

Cllr D Carter, Cllr P Collins (Chair), Cllr T Higham, Cllr C Eastwood and Cllr G Kitching

3. In attendance:

Eileen A Coe (Town Clerk/RFO)

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

6117321 Cllr Collins proposed the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th February 2021 (circulated in draft form prior to the meeting), be approved as an accurate record, which was seconded by Cllr Eastwood with all in favour.

Cllr Collins signed the file copy of the minutes.

7. Cemetery:

7.1 Cemetery gates:

Response from Blacksmith- None

The Town Clerk was requested to contact Moore Bros for help and advice.

8. Trees:

8.1 Cemetery Tree Work:

The Town Clerk reported that work to the Beech trees had been completed as agreed.

8.2 Fens Tree Work:

The Town Clerk reported that 2 x Willows (T42 and T43) had been identified as needing to be pollarded as there was a further deterioration in health.

The quotation from Kindlewood at £425 was considered.

8.2117321 Cllr Collins proposed to accept the quotation of £425 from Kindlewood for the pollarding of two Willow trees on the Fens using Budget 1613 along with a transfer of £120 from Budget 1620 and £354 from Budget 1502, which was seconded by Cllr Kitching with all in favour.

8.3 Churchyard Tree Work

The updated quotation from Kindlewood was considered.

The Town Clerk/RFO advised that there would be insufficient funds in the 2021/2022 Budget to meet the cost. However, savings from this year's Budget 1510 could be transferred to an Ear Marked Reserve and used to top up Budget 1613.

8.3117321 Cllr Collins proposed to recommend approval to Full Council to accept the quotation from Kindlewood for three areas of work to trees in the Churchyard as identified in the Tree Survey and noted in the Tree Schedule at a total cost of £6,340.00 from Budget 1613 (2021/2022) which was seconded by Cllr Eastwood with all in favour.

The Town Clerk advised that she had contacted the PCC with the details of the work required to trees in the Churchyard requesting approval to proceed, and they would consider this matter at the next meeting on 23rd March.

8.4 Draft Tree Policy:

The Town Clerk had produced a draft Tree Policy which she had sent to the ESC Arboricultural Officer for his opinion and had received approval.

8.4117321 Cllr Collins proposed to recommend approval to Full Council to adopt the Tree Policy which was seconded by Cllr Higham with all in favour.

9. The following Tree Work Applications were considered:

9.1 DC/21/0707/TCA Tanyard Court & Maulden's Mill Bridge Street IP13 9GA

T1 - 2 x semi mature Alders to be reduced in height by approximately 30% (3-4m) and lateral branches reduced to suit aesthetically. Deadwood to be removed from within canopy. (Tree officer already been on site and met with representatives from Tanyard Court about these trees)

9.1117321 The Committee supported the application.

9.2 DC/21/0778/TCA St Clare Catholic Church, Fore Street

Apple tree to rear of church building - reduce crown overhang over neighbouring property.

9.2117321 The Committee supported the application.

9.3 DC/21/0997/TCA Units 1 and 4 The Old Mews Market Hill IP13 9AN

T1 - Walnut - reduce height and spread by 1.2-1.5m and crown lift to 3-3.5m T2 - Alder - section dismantle to near ground level and herbicide stump with eco plugs to inhibit re-growth as roots are moving kerb edging and car park pavers. T3 / T4 Alders - Crown lift to 4-4.5m to clear car park and footpath and remove stubs from previous poor pruning works.

9.3117321 The Committee supported the application.

9.4 DC/21/1125/TCA The Old Tithe Barn, Market Hill IP13 9BA

Trees adjacent to access drive: T1 Hornbeam - to be felled; growing over neighbour's property because of overcrowding from adjacent Beech T2 Beech - to be felled; tree has outgrown location, causes very heavy shading, and is unlikely to survive a heavy crown reduction.

9.4117321 The Committee supported the application.

10. Pageant Field:

10.1 Pageant Field Inspection Reports:

The Inspection Reports were noted and filed for reference.

The update on additional actions by G&P Contractor were noted:

Cemetery Sheds painted

Fixed plastic roof panel to rear walkway roof on Pavilion which had blown off in the wind

10.2 Play Area and COVID-19 restrictions:

Update – no change.

10.3 New Pavilion:

No business

10.4 Caretaker/Cleaner:

The Contract was reviewed and would be further reviewed in relation to emergency call outs.

10.5 Toilet Cleaner:

The quotation for toilet cleaning by SCN from 1st April @ £28.41 per visit was considered along with the option of a local contract @ £13 per hour. The Town Clerk had provided a draft Toilet Cleaning Contract and a list of consumables with costs, which was considered. It was agreed that a local contract would save considerable funds and it was agreed to pursue this course of action.

10.5 Cllr Collins proposed to advertise the Toilet Cleaning Contract with a closing date of Monday 29th March and to agree the contract and appointment at Full Council on 1st April, which was seconded by Cllr Kitching with all in favour.

10.6 CCTV:

It was noted that all cameras are in working order.

10.7 Pageant Field 3-5 year Plan (To 31st March 2021)

10.7.1 Upgrade/new equipment:

Play House replacement item

The Town Clerk advised the results of the consultation were that a play house similar to the current item is very suitable for toddlers as there are no hidden areas and it is easy to see who is in there.

The Town Clerk was requested to obtain further quotations for a new Play House to be considered at the next meeting.

10.7.2 Bonded mulch safety surfacing:

Work scheduled for May

10.7.3 Replacement fencing:

It was noted that a meeting had been arranged with Kiwi Fencing to confirmed the exact measurements so that an updated quotation could be provided in time for the next meeting.

10.7.4 Boules pitch:

Sports Space Application successful.

Quotation approved by Full Council and accepted (Roger Gladwell Landscapes) and work scheduled for February 2021- delayed due to bad weather.

10.7.5 Table Tennis Table – concrete:

Installation schedule for spring 2021- Update

It was noted that the Deputy Town Clerk was coordinating delivery and installation for after April.

A Pioneer was required for the project and it was agreed that the Lands Committee would take on this task.

10.7.6 Path:

Response from SP Committee relating to Local CIL funding for the project. It was noted that the meeting had been cancelled and the next meeting would be held on 14th April.

It was agreed that the work when funding agreed would be arranged after the summer holidays in September.

11. Skate-Park:

No business

12. The Fens:

No business

12.1 Friends of the Fens:

A suggestion had been made relating to signs for the Fens advising why the grass is being left to grow.

Cllr Higham suggested a competition for the Primary School to design a poster with the heading: "Leave the Weed and Feed the Bees". It was suggested that this could be either A4 or A3 which could then be laminated and erected at the Fens.

The Town Clerk was requested to contact the Headteacher at Primary School with this suggestion.

13. Churchyard Maintenance:

13.1 Town Clock:

It was noted that the clock is about 3 minutes slow and the Town Clerk was requested to contact the volunteer horologist for advice.

14. Riverside:

14.1 Management of riverside vegetation:

The response from the Environment Agency was considered and it was noted that the approximate cost of the work involved would be around £2,500.

It was agreed for the Town Clerk to contact the Co-op with a copy of the proposal to see if they would be prepared to make a contribution.

A site meeting would be arranged to discuss if required after 29th March.

15. Allotments:

The Town Clerk reported that there were currently 21 residents on the Waiting List. The Town Clerk was requested to contact Bruce Hinton to see if there was any land available for allotment use in the town.

The Town Clerk advised that a date for the installation of the new fencing was awaited and once known she would contact all Allotment Tenants to advise of the project. She would also contact Framlingham College to request the vegetation along the Community Garden side was cut back so that access could be attained.

16. Jeaffresons Well:

No business.

17. Commemorative sign next to Oak tree by the Station Hotel:

It was noted that the results of Land Registry search had been inconclusive and therefore the owner of the land and the Oak tree was unknown.

Commemorative sign restoration – Regardless of who owns the land it was felt that the sign could be restored and returned with the Town Council taking no responsibility or liability for the land or tree.

Cllr Higham noted that there may be a fund in relation to George V for memorial trees via Fields in Trust, which may be worth pursuing.

18. Correspondence:

18.1 Resident

Email relating to Muntjac in the Cemetery.

Cllr Eastwood noted that Suffolk Pest Control suggest culling by shooting but this does not solve the problem as even if they are removed more will move in.

While the concerns were appreciated the only solution is to cull in the countryside in general and this may be resolved by landowners in time.

18.2 Resident

Email relating to overhanging trees along the cemetery boundary with the new dwellings in The Mews.

The Town Clerk had obtained a quotation for the work required from Kindlewood.

18.2117321 Cllr Collins proposed to approve the quotation from Kindlewood at £245 for the work required to cut back the trees along the cemetery boundary which are overhanging using Budget 1613, including a transfer of £245 from Budget 1510, which was seconded by Cllr Kitching with all in favour.

There was some concerns that the development had been built too close to the cemetery boundary which has been detrimental to the trees.

It was agreed to review the planning application for the new development and the DTC would be requested to circulate the plans to the Committee.

Following this action the Committee would then decide whether to write to the Developer to ask for recompense for the cost of the work involved.

18.3 East Suffolk Council

Letter regarding grass cutting and 'conservation areas'. Noted

19. Action Plan:

The Town Clerk noted that the new design of the Action Plan was being finalised.

19.1 Updates:

None.

19.2 Projects for Local CIL funding:

None.

20. Matters of Report or Items for next agenda:

None.

21. Date of next meeting:

(Tuesday 6th April 7.00pm – additional meeting to consider G&P Contract)

Wednesday 21st April 2021 at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed: 20.43