

DRAFT Minutes of the Lands Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 17th July 2019 in The Cell at The Old Court House, Bridge Street at 7.00pm.

1. Apologies:

None, all present.

Present:

Cllr D Carter, Cllr P Collins (Chairman), Cllr C Eastwood, Cllr M Hine, Cllr G Kitching and Cllr J Simpson

In attendance:

Eileen A Coe (Town Clerk/RFO) and one member of the public (FAYAP Manager)

2. Declarations of interest:

None.

3. Public Comment:

3117719 Cllr Collins proposed to adjourn the meeting for Public Comment which was agreed.

One person (FAYAP Manager) reported on the use of the youth bus on the Pageant Field, which had been very successful and they had used a softly, softly approach to problems such as drug and alcohol use. He had visited the schools and spoken to some quite angry parents, and noted that the Schools are not there to tackle these issues but primarily to educate the children. More help and funding is needed to address the issues.

He made a request that the Town Council consider the use of the new Pavilion for FAYAP youth work and mentoring during after school hours.

A Creative Computer Club would be starting in the Autumn term with a view to future training and apprenticeships, but funding is needed.

A permanent space may be made available for a youth club for older 16 + year olds in the old Con Club, but again funding was needed.

He noted that activities and life skills are needed that will lead to positive experiences for the youth that are not quite so motivated as others. He also urged the Town Council to consider paying for increased police presence in the town in the 2020/2021 budget.

3117719 Cllr Collins proposed to reconvene the meeting which was agreed.

4. Minutes of previous meeting:

4117719 Cllr Eastwood proposed that with one amendment (item 16 additional wording ‘from 2020’ added) the minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday 19th June 2019 (circulated in draft form prior to the meeting) were approved as an accurate record, which was seconded by Cllr Collins and with one abstention due to absence, all were in favour.

The Chairman signed the minutes.

5. Churchyard Maintenance:

Informal pathway:

The Town Clerk reported that the PCC had acknowledged the email and would respond following a site visit during their next meeting on 22nd July.

Tree canopies:

The Town Clerk had contacted Eastwood Tree Services Ltd who had provided a quotation to carry out all the work as specified at a total cost of £500.

It was agreed to recommend approval of the cost to Full Council on 1st August. The Town Clerk would advise the PCC and request its approval to proceed.

Lime tree felling at back of Churchyard:

The Town Clerk reported that written confirmation of approval from the Archdeacon was still awaited and due to delay the work cannot be carried out until the autumn as the tree is now in full leaf.

Churchyard Trees Survey:

Quotations received from Eastwood Tree Services £650 including assessment of Limes and recommendations for pollarding and Haydens £968.50 were considered.

The Town Clerk advised that if the members decided to reduce the height of the Limes in Church Street as well as pollarding, then following the results of the assessment a Bat Survey may be required, in order to meet the recommendations of the Diocesan Tree Advisor and gain approval for the work from the Archdeacon.

It was agreed to recommend approval of the quotation of £650 from Eastwood Tree Services to Full Council on 1st August.

Overhanging vegetation:

The Town Clerk reported that she had met Kindlewood on site and the quotation to cut back the vegetation overhanging the Church wall along Church Street at £175.00 was considered and approved. The Town Clerk would now seek the approval of the PCC at its next meeting on 22nd July, so that the work could be carried out as soon as possible.

6. Cemetery:

War Graves sign:

It was noted that the new sign had been installed.

Management of weeds in Memorial Rose Beds:

The Town Clerk had met with Mr Clark (volunteer) on site to review the situation relating to the honey fungus in Rose Bed 1, three more roses had been affected and had died. It was also noted that deer are leaning over the fencing and eating the roses.

It had been recommended to relocate the remaining rose in the autumn and section off the affected part of Rose Bed 1, which was agreed.

It had been recommended to increase the height of the fencing to stop the deer leaning over and eating the rose shoots, which was agreed. The Town Clerk advised that there was sufficient funds in the cemetery maintenance budget for the materials and the G&P Contractor could undertake the work within contracted hours.

The Town Clerk advised on the option to extend Rose Bed 2 or create two new rose borders either side of the middle seat, with specific disease resistant roses as recommended by Mr Clark. Ashes could be buried in between the roses and plaques installed along the front. It was agreed for the Town Clerk to investigate the costs of treated sleepers, top soil/compost and roses for consideration at the next meeting.

Driveway resurfacing:

The Town Clerk had met with Ker-Way contractors on site and the resulting quotation for the resurfacing of the Cemetery driveway was considered. The Town Clerk/RFO advised of the funds available in Ear Marked Reserves for the project, which was noted. It was agreed for the Town Clerk to source a second quotation for comparison purposes, which would be considered at the next meeting.

Cemetery Parking proposal:

The Town Clerk reported that she had been approached by a resident with the following proposal: Relocate the cemetery gates and railings to the other end of the driveway near the sheds and pathway to the Memorial Rose Garden, which would create a wider entrance splay and allow the hearse off road access into the cemetery, rather than blocking the road.

Remove the hedging and small trees either side and resurface as a pay and display car park, the revenue from which would contribute to the upkeep of the cemetery and provide much need parking in the centre of the town, as well as parking including disabled parking for the cemetery. It was noted that access to the cemetery was difficult for disabled people and there was little parking available on Fore Street.

There followed some discussion and it was noted that the small oak trees and maybe others would need to be felled as well as the hedging along both sides of the pathway and there was an abundance of primroses and violets in this area in the spring. The need for parking in the town was appreciated but it was felt that this suggestion was unacceptable.

Cllr Simpson proposed not to support the suggestion of parking in the cemetery and to take no further action, which was seconded by Cllr Kitching, and with one abstention all were in favour.

The Chairman proposed to re-order the agenda to consider items 12 and 14 first, which was agreed.

12. Pageant Field:

New Pavilion:

It was noted that the Town Clerk had completed and submitted a Pre-Application Advice application.

Cllr Collins proposed to recommend approval to Full Council to use the £75,000 S106 funds plus interest from the Old Drill Hall site and the balance from local CIL. The total cost of the project was £115,000 including furniture and contingencies.

Details of booking arrangements and management of the facility to be discussed at the next meeting in September.

The Town Clerk would contact the ESC S106 Officer to advise of the proposal and seek approval for the use of the funds.

Replacement bonded mulch:

The Town Clerk advised that there were four items of play equipment left to be resurfaced and the quotation from Playquip Leisure was considered. The Town Clerk/RFO advised that there was £3,000 in Budget 1504 and £2,000 in EMR 328. The cost to resurface all four item was £5,095.86.

Following discussion it was agreed to recommend approval to Full Council on 1st August for the cost to resurface two items of play equipment with bonded mulch at a cost of £661,80 (Spinning Cup) and £1,522.14 (See-Saw) Total cost £2183.94 from Budget 1504.

The two remaining items (Spica £992.70 and Supa Nova £1,919.22) would be considered at a later date.

14. Skate-Park:

Update on Flood Lighting Quotes:

Cllr Collins and the DTC had met Kingfisher Contractors on site on 11th July in order to confirm the specification and cost as the quotation was significantly less than others received.

There had been no provision for a timing device to include motion detection, which could possibly be staggered over several lights and this would be addressed and discussed further at the next meeting.

Drug issues:

Noted under Public Comment.

7. Trees:

No business.

8. G&P Contractors Report:

Pageant Field Inspection Report.

Noted and filed for future reference.

It was noted that 2 x new and 1 replacement Fido bins had been installed as instructed.

The new Litter bin in the Churchyard had been installed and the old one removed.

The hedging/trees at the entrance to the Pageant Field from Pageant Place had been cut back as instructed by the Chairman.

The G&P Contractor had also assisted with the repair and relocation of one of the flowered cycles following vandalism.

9. Riverside:

Cllr Collins, Cllr Eastwood and the DTC had met with the Environment Agency on site on 12th July

Four people had attended in their various roles within the EA and were very helpful, resulting in a positive meeting. They would meet again in a few weeks after they have considered new ways to manage the river running through the town. Coir type matting to direct the water flow was suggested. The channel is hand cut annually, so any new initiative to save money and improve would be welcome and it had been suggested that maybe money saved annually could be contributed to the initial cost. Funding streams were being investigated by interested parties.

10. Correspondence:

10/1 Youth Voice Summer 2019 Report:

Ideas put forward by the young people to East Suffolk Council of what they would like to see happen in their area:

Events at Framlingham Castle

A Youth Café

A Basket Ball Court

A Rock Climbing Wall

The Town Clerk would respond to ESC with details of the Basket Ball Area on the Pageant Field.

The Report would be circulated to members.

10/2 Resident:

Request for a dog litter bin near to footpath in Pepperswash Lane

The Town Clerk/RFO advised that the cost of a new red Fido dog bin was £86.52 and following advice from the Town Clerk/RFO on the budget it was agreed to transfer £60 from Budget 1617 to Budget 1614 for the purchase and request installation by the G&P Contractor and to add the location to SCN's schedule of emptying.

11. Seats on Market Hill:

The opportunity to sponsor the remaining 1/3 of a bench had been advertised in the July Newsletter and funding for both seats had now been secured and an order placed.

13. CCTV:

The Town Clerk reported that a new DVR as agreed had been installed on 2nd July and all cameras were now working. She also reported that the camera on the skatepark was being moved by individuals climbing the pole. The CCTV Engineers had recommended a guard rail similar to the one on the main CCTV pole be installed to prevent access to the camera. It was noted that the cost would be £360.

The CCTV Engineers had re-positioned the camera whilst in the area on 9th July and had painted the top of the pole with some anti-climb grease. The Town Clerk had erected a warning notice on the pole.

It was agreed to monitor the situation and consider a guard rail further at the next meeting if required.

The Town Clerk/RFO was requested to obtain a cost for an additional camera to cover the new Pavilion when installed.

15. Allotments:

The Town Clerk advised that there were 15 residents on the Waiting List and 3 current tenants had requested additional plots.

It was agreed for the Town Clerk to contact Framlingham College to see if there was any room for expansion or space elsewhere on land they own and to investigate other options with land owners/developers.

A second email had been received raising concerns relating to rats on the Allotments. The DTC had responded.

16. The Fens:

It was noted that the Fens had been cut on 1st July.

A meeting with Suffolk Wildlife Trust with a view to obtaining advice on the management of the Fens from 2020 had been requested and the Town Clerk would circulate the dates to Cllr Collins, Cllr Eastwood and Cllr Hine who would attend.

Communication via the 'Next door' app regarding a survey relating to the Fens was noted. The Town Clerk would make contact with the resident to clarify the situation and request a copy of the results of the survey.

It was noted that a resident had raised concerns about the overhanging brambles along the riverbank on the Fens which was felt should be flail cut in order to be kept under control. The members would consider this in conjunction with the SWT site visit.

18. Jeaffresons Well:

No business.

19. Action Plan:

Updates agreed and it was agreed to remove 'low priority' wording.

Projects for Local CIL funding – None

20. Matters of Report or Items for next agenda:

Request for item of play equipment suitable for younger children – Cllr Hine and the Town Clerk to pursue and report back to the next meeting

Tree Warden – to work alongside Ms Bennell – Agenda item next meeting

God Parent Scheme needs updating – Agenda item next meeting.

20. Date of next meeting:

NO MEETING IN AUGUST

Wednesday 18th September 2019 at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 20.50