



## CAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

District of South Cambridgeshire

### **LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE**

A meeting of this Committee was held at The Hub Community Centre, Cambourne on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

Present:

Cllr G Thompson (Chairman)

Cllr Dr S Bhattacharya

Cllr T Hudson

Cllr Dr G Mehboob

Cllr J O'Dwyer

Cllr Mrs R Poulton

In attendance:

John Vickery Parish Clerk

Shauna Roberts – Deputy Parish Clerk

1 member of the Public was in attendance for the meeting.

#### 1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr J Patel. Acceptable reasons for absence had been given.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the apologies for absence from Cllr J Patel be received and approved.**

#### 2. **MINUTES**

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017 (M70) were a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman.**

#### 3. **MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST OR REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION** for items on the agenda.

Cllr S Bhattacharya a personal non-disclosable interest in item 6.2 as an allotment holder and item 10 as a correspondent.

#### 4. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The Chairman welcomed all Councillors and thanked Cllr Mrs R Poulton for her effort, time and commitment as Chairman of the Leisure and Amenities Committee.

#### 5. **CYP**

The Parish Clerk reported that the Cambourne Youth Partnership has been conducting a survey with the youth and the local schools on how they would use the new youth building. The Parish Clerk has contacted a quantity surveyor and

Signed

Date 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017

he has given advice on how much space the allocated £738,000.00 could provide so the CYP could have an idea of what would fit into the new youth building.

It was proposed that the Council sends a thank you note to Nigel Taylor for his work with the Cambourne Youth Partnership.

A report had been received from Nigel Taylor:

We are grateful to the volunteers who carried out further decorating work at the Soul Building during the summer half-term. The building is now a much more welcoming environment and appreciated by youth workers and young people alike. We also engaged a local carpenter recently who carried out some much needed remodelling of the kitchen area, reconfigured shelving and cupboard space, repaired the fence, installed a TV bracket securely and carried out other remedial works. This has improved health and safety in the building. In addition, we are grateful for the donation of some good quality second hand sofas for the building and have also purchased some new tables and chairs.

We are grateful to the Cambridge-based youth, children and families charity Romsey Mill who continue to provide youth workers to run our Wednesday youth clubs and Friday football. Through Romsey Mill, we are still advertising for a specific Cambourne lead youth worker. In the meantime, Jonathan Buwert works alongside the Romsey Mill youth workers to run the Wednesday youth clubs and coordinate volunteers working in the music studio; Jane Brooks continues to run clubs for primary age children after school on Thursdays and also organises Family Fun Days in holiday periods. Two more Family Fun Days are scheduled for 3rd August and 31st August 2017.

We are currently discussing with the Parish Council (specifically with the Parish Clerk John Vickery and Councillor O'Dwyer, Chair of the Parish Council) how best to draw up a specification for a new youth building in Cambourne, now that Section 106 money from West Cambourne has been confirmed and can be added to the Section 106 money already set aside from the first phase of building in Cambourne.

Finally, Cambourne Youth Partnership are grateful to the Parish Council for the £20,000 grant allocated for 2017-18, enabling us to continue to offer a range of activities to young people and children in Cambourne.

It was:

**RESOLVED that the report be received and the Parish Clerk on behalf of the Council would thank Nigel Taylor for the work he has done.**

## 6. REPORT ON FACILITIES

### 6.1 BURIAL GROUND

There was recently an enquiry for an ashes plot to be purchased. After sending the documents through to the funeral directors, no further enquiries have been received.

It was:

**RESOLVED that the report be received.**

Signed

Date 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017

## 6.2 ALLOTMENTS

Allotment inspections have begun and are done on a monthly basis. After our second inspection, unfortunately 3 tenants have been sent eviction notices from Crow Hill allotments and 1 from Brace Dein allotments. A few warning letters have been sent as a reminder to maintain their plot.

There are 7 vacant plots at Brace Dein (excluding the accessible plots) and 2 vacant plots at Crow Hill waiting to be cleared and then re-let to those on the waiting list.

3 accessible plots are available at Brace Dein. They have been advertised in the Cambourne Crier but no one eligible has taken them on or shown interest. Consideration should be given to releasing them to residents on the waiting list. There are 20 residents on the waiting list and the majority on for Brace Dein allotments.

A request has been received from allotment holders at plots 70 & 72 to share the tenancy and maintenance of plot 71.

Concerns were raised that the people on the waiting list should have first option to take ownership of vacant plots. It is important to enable as many people as possible to have the opportunity of using the allotments.

The Chairman agreed and proposed that due to the extensive waiting list, at this point the Parish Council is unable to accept requests for single or joint ownership of more than one plot.

It was:

**RESOLVED that the report be received and the request from existing plot holders to take ownership of plot 71 be refused.**

## 6.3 PLAYGROUNDS, OPEN SPACES, SKATE PARK AND FOOTPATHS

The RoSPA inspection was carried out by PlaySafety Limited on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017. The reports were received and copied to the ground staff. They have been through the report and carried out any high or medium risk items identified and are now dealing with any low priority that needs attention. There were very few repairs required. One of the issues we are having with the play areas is graffiti on equipment and inside the structures. This is an ongoing problem, we are now looking at painting the inside of the structures so it is easier to cover the graffiti as it is difficult to remove from natural timber. The second issue is the wet pour to Great Cambourne Green play area which is continually being pulled up. The continual repairs are costly and time consuming and consideration should be given to an alternative surface.

The Parish Clerk also reported that the Grounds Staff will repaint the play equipment that has been affected by graffiti.

Concern was raised over the overgrown hedge on Lancaster Gate and how it prevents pedestrians from properly using the footpath.

The Parish Clerk agreed to check who maintains that area and possibly get the Grounds Staff to cut the hedge.

It was reported that residents complained of noise in the skate park and it was raised whether the Police could drive around from time to time and check the area.

The Parish Clerk stated that residents need to first call the Police with the actual complaints for the Police to take any action.

It was suggested that it might be helpful if the Parish Council re-iterates, in its monthly article in the Cambourne Crier, the importance of reporting crime such as anti-social behaviour via the Police 101 number.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the report be received.**

## **6.4 THE HUB**

### **Blue School**

The works to the cisterns in the children's toilets adjacent to Classroom 2 was commenced 2 weeks ago and has been left open to dry out, but it has been identified that there was a further leak on one of the other cisterns and more work is required. The County Council Property Manager has been approached to arrange a meeting on site to look at the extensive works as this predates the Parish Council taking on the building.

### **New Cricket Pavilion**

The New Cricket Pavilion continues to be heavily used. The Cricket Club has requested permission to fit a temporary electronic score board.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the report be received and permission be granted for the temporary score board.**

## **6.5 CAMBOURNE SPORTS FACILITIES**

The new tennis posts and nets have been installed in the court on Monkfield Lane.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the report be received.**

## **6.6 BOWLS CLUB**

A report had been received from Robin Bailey:

Sadly, the Bowls Club is not doing too well at the moment and we have had fewer people attending our open sessions than in previous years (only about thirteen players so far). We continue to put reports in the 'Crier' and notices on our Facebook page and on the Cambourne Forum but we just do not seem to be able to attract new members. We have attracted only one new member this year which has been outweighed by previous members not returning, mainly due to health issues. This is very frustrating because we have excellent facilities, plenty of equipment, so our Parishioners can try Bowls at no expense. We wish to place on record our thanks to the Parish Council and to the grounds staff for maintaining the green and facilities.

An enquiry was made if it was possible to assess whether it was good use of tax-payers' money to continue to maintain the bowls green.

It was raised whether an alternative sport could be played on the bowls grounds, or could the bowls facilities be rented to other Parishes.

The Parish Clerk advised that if an alternative sport is to be considered the bowling green would have to be offered to the developers as part of the conditions of the transfer to the Parish Council. It was not simple to change use due to the different soils and grass required for each sport. The Parish Clerk suggested that this could be timely and costly.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that report be received and the Parish Council considers a report on the cost benefit of the bowling green to tax-payers, for a future meeting.**

### **6.7 SPORT IN CAMBOURNE**

Concern was raised on the slow progress regarding the projects for the informal Muga, the outdoor gym, table tennis tables and basketball. It was asked whether a report on these projects could be provided at the next meeting.

The Parish Clerk reported that he intends to meet with the suppliers in the next couple of weeks to discuss what needs to be done as it quite a lot involved.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that report be received and a report on these projects would be provided at the next meeting.**

### **6.8 TRAILER PARK**

Unfortunately, there was another incident at the Trailer Park that was discovered on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May, which affected a number of caravans on site. The primary target being caravan batteries. The fence has since been reinforced again to prevent a break in and other work to strengthen the security of the site. The Parish Clerk met with Rachel Carr the Crime Reduction Officer at Cambridgeshire Constabulary and had an email discussion with CaSSOA. The Parish Clerk will report further on possible improvements. Cllr G Thompson, Parish Clerk and Office Administrator will be arranging a meeting with the trailer park holders to discuss their concerns.

The Parish Clerk reported that since the incident where batteries were stolen, the caravan owners have decided to take the batteries out and leave the compartments open as a security measure. He also advised that there is a possibility for CCTV, however in most instances the footage evidence do not reveal much due to the person being fully covered and the lack of distinguishing marks to make an identification.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the report be received.**

## **7. BROAD STREET BUS SHELTER**

The Parish Clerk reported that he has not received the information he requested for the bus shelter and have sent further emails giving an ultimatum that he

Signed

Date 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017

would have to go to an alternative supplier to provide the installation costs and information required.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the report be received.**

**Cllr Dr G Mehboob left the meeting before the next item.**

**8. WW1 BEACONS OF LIGHT**

The Chairman asked the Committee to suggest the best way to participate in this tribute. He suggested that surrounding Parishes be invited to celebrate with Cambourne residents.

The Parish Clerk reported that it might be best to use the gas-fueled beacons, as one of the cost-effective ways of participating in the tribute.

It was put forward that it would be possible to engage 20-30 children for this tribute. The Children would make posters with their stories and vision of WW1.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the report be received, that Councillor Bhattacharya be involved in the co-ordination of the event, and the Chairman and the Parish Clerk speak with the NALC organisers and report back on the cost and the best way to participate in the tribute.**

**9. ACCESSIBLE SWINGS**

The Parish Clerk reported that the suppliers needed to inspect the sites in order to provide the information for cost and installation of the accessible swings and that he would arrange at the same time for the suppliers to provide a quote for the muga, outdoor gym and table tennis projects.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the report be received.**

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

**NALC – Email regarding Plant a Tree Charter Legacy Tree.**

It was proposed that a plaque be placed on the old oak tree in Jeavons Wood, instead of planting a new tree and to have the residents invited to celebrate this event.

The Parish Clerk will enquire into getting a plaque.

It was suggested that if a Councillor was willing to follow up the idea of planting a tree, the Council would enter into the scheme. No councillor volunteered.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the email be received and the Parish Clerk will enquire into getting a plaque for the oak tree in Jeavons Wood.**

**Dr Shrobona Bhattacharya – Email regarding funds raised by the cookery club.**

The Chairman extended thanks Dr Shrobona Bhattacharya for raising a

Signed

Date 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017

significant amount of money for the British Red Cross for Syrian war children and East Africa drought appeal.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the email be received.**

**Sue Tasker- Pet Positive – Email regarding pet ownership classes.**

Cllr Mrs R Poulton expressed her concerns of the unsuitability of the sports facilities being used by animals.

The Chairman agreed and proposed that this request not be approved at this time.

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the email be received and the Parish Council refuse this request at this time.**

**11. ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA**

No reports had been received.

**12. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

Exclusion of the press and the public.

**MOVE:** that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the Meeting.

**13. HUB ALTERATIONS TO TOILETS AND AUTOMATIC DOORS**

The Parish Clerk presented a report to the Committee

**13.1 Hub Toilets**

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the order be placed with Coulson Building Group for the refurbishment of the Male and Female toilets and the Committee agree the expenditure and suspense of standing orders.**

**13.2 Automatic Doors**

**It was:**

**RESOLVED that the report be received and the Committee agree that the Parish Chairman, Committee Chairman and Parish Clerk be given delegated authority to accept a tender up to the maximum of the quotation received.**

**14. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

Re-admittance of the press and the public.

**MOVE:** that the confidential business having been concluded, the Press and Public be re-admitted to the meeting.

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017**