

WENDOVER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting

19th March 2024 at 7:30pm

St Anne's Hall, Aylesbury Road, Wendover, HP22 6JG

Present: Councillors Mark Standen, Jennifer Ballantine, Julie Williams (ex-officio) Sam Walker, Julie Lloyd-Evans, Leigh Porter and Clive Gallagher (ex-officio)

Absent:

Apologies: Councillor Worth

Chair:

Clerk & Minutes: Andy Smith

Members of Public: 1

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

A23/104 Apologies were received and **ACCEPTED** from Cllrs Worth

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A23/105 None.

3. MINUTES

A23/106 The minutes of the meeting of 23rd January 2024 were **RESOLVED** as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A23/107 The member of the public was there to speak to the Ivy Management Policy and it was agreed to accept their contribution when we reached that section of the agenda.

5. UPDATE REPORT FROM THE CLERK

A23/108 The report was noted. The issue of the vandalism was of concern to the Council. It was generally agreed that issue should be considered more seriously by the open spaces working group to bring options to Amenities and Full Council. The Parish Council on 2nd April should consider a motion to give authority to the working group to investigate options

6. FINANCE

A23/109 The payments to consider totalling £3469.65 were **RESOLVED** and signed.

7. OPEN SPACES AND HAMPDEN POND

a) Ivy Management Policy

A23/110 To consider approving the ivy management policy and implement a 12 month trial of ivy clearance

It was noted that we need to manage the damage that ivy does to trees but that should be done with a balanced approach that preserves habitats. The area where the pilot would need to be discussed with the office. It was noted that there is a counter argument for keeping ivy and some organisations advocate it, such as the RHS but there has been no significant scientific evidence on this issue. It was noted that we could still keep ivy in our environment but manage where it grows, it was also noted that this could be a very useful academic study on ivy and biodiversity with many benefits.

A23/111 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Ivy Management Policy and implement a 12-month trial period for ground ivy control in a location designated by the office.

A23/112 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the expenditure of up to £500.00 for the trial.

A23/113 It was **RESOLVED** to authorise the office to order and purchase the tools and equipment listed in the paper.

Open spaces hire policy & form

A23/114 It was **RESOLVED** to agree the proposed information to be captured on a new form and the guidance on the open space hire conditions

A23/115 It was further **RESOLVED** to authorise the office to get the form designed to be more user friendly and to be able to be signed electronically.

Playpark repairs

A23/116 To consider approving repairs to the swings in the Ashbrook park
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the cost of the install of the repair and install of the swings as set out in the paper.

Playpark inspections

A23/117 To consider the quote for quarterly inspections

It was noted that we currently undertake inspections with a company that then makes the repairs after the inspection and this was not good practice. Recent issues highlighted in the parks that we would be advised to change the company that undertake our inspections. It was **RESOLVED** to waive the need for 2 additional quotes for the first year of inspections due to the specialist nature of the work and the need to commission the contractor as soon as possible to meet our H&S inspection needs.

A23/118 It was **RESOLVED** to accept the quote for quarterly inspections and award the work for £1,988 to the contractor listed in the paper. It was noted that one of those inspections would be undertaken to the level of an annual inspection and there would not be a need for a separate annual inspection.

Tree Maintenance -

A23/119 To consider the quote for tree maintenance and approve the required works It was noted that the quote for the works represented good value and there was difficulty in obtaining further quotes therefore it was **RESOLVED** to authorise the work without the need for additional quotes.

A23/120 It was then **RESOLVED** to accept the quotes for tree maintenance and award the works totalling £1200 from the contractor providing the quote in the paper

8. OTHER MATTERS

A23/121 None presented

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

A23/122 It was noted to email any items for the next agenda to the Clerk by Monday 8th April It was noted that the agenda should include the allotments and soft plastic bin Collection.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A23/123 The meeting on Tue 16th April 2024 at 7.30pm was noted.

11. CLOSURE OF MEETING

A23/124 As all business was transacted the meeting was closed at 8.08pm

Signed by
Chair of the Amenities Committee

Date: 16th April 2024

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