

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE HELD ON
MONDAY, 13TH JUNE 2022 at CHURCH FARM at 7.30P.M.**

PRESENT: Cllrs. R. Roud (Chairman), P. Leale, J. Luque, S. Millson, Mrs. M. Tatton and D. Thornewell

Under S.O.48(a): Cllrs. T. Bishop and Mrs. A. Oakley

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr. R. Haffenden

APPROVAL AND SIGNING OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 19TH APRIL 2022

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday, 19th April 2022 be **APPROVED AND SIGNED** by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

(i) **Trees at South Ward Playing Field**

The Clerk reported that Qualitree have carried out some of the tree work at South Ward Playing Field but on the day they were called away to an emergency so will be returning to complete the work.

Cllr. Mrs. Tatton mentioned a bough that was overhanging at South Ward Playing Field which she dealt with but it was agreed to ask the Handyman to check this and remove if necessary.

(ii) **Willow Road Green Path**

It was **NOTED** that Leybourne Parish Council had provided a quotation for the above path which covers the area by the nursing home, but in effect it has been split three ways between this Parish Council, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and Leybourne Parish Council amounting to £5,344 inc. VAT. This has been sent to the Borough Council who have a few questions. They will keep us updated.

It was **AGREED** this be reviewed at the next meeting of this Committee.

(iii) **4 Way Spring Seesaw at Larkfield Recreation Ground**

The Clerk reported that the 4 Way Spring Seesaw at a cost of £1,850 exc. VAT has been ordered.

(iv) **New Ride-On Mower**

The Clerk reported that the John Deere ride-on mower had broken down and the engine was ruined so it had been necessary to purchase a new one which is more robust at a cost of £5,299 inc. VAT. S. J. Daws, the company it was purchased from have taken the old mower and the Clerk was asked to contact them to find out whether they are prepared to pay any money for parts.

The action taken was **RATIFIED**.

(v) **Any Other Matters Arising**

Cllr. Mrs. Tatton mentioned that she had received a complaint about eggs being thrown at houses believed to be by people attending the Fair.

The Clerk commented that egg throwing has been happening for quite a while now, not when the Fair are at South Ward Playing Field. The Chairman agreed with this.

ALLOTMENT MATTERS

There were no Allotment Matters.

OPEN SPACE MATTERS

(i) **Estimate for repairs to Outside Gym Equipment** – Larkfield Recreation Ground

An estimate had been received to repair the Hand Bike where the circuit is not working in the sum of £1,940.

It was **AGREED** to accept this estimate and claim from the monies held by the Borough Council under Section 106 Agreement for Outdoor Sports Facilities at Larkfield Playing Field from the Johnson Walk development amounting to £23,366.

(ii) **Playground Inspections**

The playground inspection findings report for both playing fields had been received.

There were no “red” items indicating “high risk” but still a number of “medium risk” “amber” items which had previously been accepted which we should seek to clear.

At Larkfield Play Area, 4 items had been identified totalling £3,9859.50 and Safeplay had been asked to carry out the necessary repairs. This action was **RATIFIED** and the sum would be paid from the current budget.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no Correspondence.

PARKSIDE PLANNING OBLIGATION

A copy of the Planning Obligations Agreement recorded intended changes to the A20/New Road junction and a provision for improved bus services between the site and Maidstone. These issues were being followed up and would be reported to Planning and Development and Amenities Committees respectively.

There also sums shown payable for recreational and play facilities and these seemed not yet to be allocated. It was **AGREED** further details be sought from the Borough Council and if provision could be made for East Malling Parish facilities such as resurfacing and white lining the car park forming part of South Ward Playing Fields next to the Institute.

Arising from this the Borough Council were seeking, as previously reported, details of schemes the Parish Council would like to undertake as part of their Planning Obligations Protocol. We need to submit a “wish list” with costings and the following were suggested by members:-

1. Resurfacing and white lining car park as above to the rear of East Malling Institute
2. Outside Gym Equipment at South Ward Playing Field
3. Looking at renovating Tennis Courts
4. Renovating the Lovering Sports Pavilion
5. Scheme for solar panels at the village halls and Church Farm site (to be reported to the Amenities Committee)

It was commented with two further housing sites being put forward in East Malling, priority be given to submitting schemes in East Malling. It was suggested the Institute should also consider the position.

MONEY HELD BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR PLAY EQUIPMENT AT EAST MALLING ARISING FROM VIGOR CLOSE DEVELOPMENT

As previously reported the sum held is £41,078 “towards the provision of children’s play space”. It was **AGREED** clarification is needed to be sought as to what that covers.

MONEY HELD FROM JOHNSON WALK DEVELOPMENT FOR LARKFIELD – OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES CONTRIBUTION

This amounts to £23,366. In respect of the Play Inspection the metal fence of the MUGA has a missing rail and the cost of replacing is £680. This is shown as an “amber” item and it was **AGREED** this work be carried out and claimed from the sum held by the Borough Council.

ITEMS CONTRIBUTED BY MEMBERS

There were no Items Contributed by Members.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday, 18th July 2022

CLOSURE

The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8.15p.m.

Chairman
18th July 2022

