

Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee Meeting 29 January 2019, 7.00pm

Held in the Community Centre, King Georges Avenue, Leiston

Present: Cllr Lesley Hill (Chair)
Cllr Bill Howard
Cllr Bing Boast
Cllr Colin Ginger
Cllr Selena Levermore
Cllr John Last
Cllr David Bailey
Mrs Hannah Everett-Spearing (Facilities Co-ordinator)
Mrs Caroline Rinder (Deputy Town Clerk)

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Everett-Spearing to the meeting.

Action

1. PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public attended.

2. APOLOGIES

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 26 JUNE 2018 AND 26 SEPTEMBER 2018

All agreed the minutes of 26 June 2018 and of the walk around on 26 September were a true record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Memorial Trees

Cllr Levermore confirmed the resident wishing to plant a tree in the autumn did not get in touch, no further action.

Haylings Pond Sign

Despite contacting Mr Hanger several times, Mrs Rinder was disappointed that he had not progressed the project of students designing a sign. It was agreed that Mrs Rinder would arrange for 2 signs to be designed, one for 'Haylings Pond and Picnic Area' and the other as a safety sign due to the pond area. Mrs Rinder will also contact the fishing club for their input.

CR
CR

CCTV

On hold until SCC decision on the back building at the Waterloo Centre.

Victory Road Fencing

Cllr Bailey again raised concerns that the fencing posts were not rigid and had been cut unnecessarily for the Big Weekend event. The fencing is not a safety hazard but it was agreed that Cllr Hill and Mrs Rinder would take a look and see what could be done to rectify the issue.

LH/CR

5. OLDER CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA ON KING GEORGES AVENUE

Report and quotes previously circulated. Mrs Rinder confirmed the primary school had been consulted and used their suggestions for the quotes. Both quotes were of a similar cost, Playdale slightly higher at £37,337.45 for four pieces of equipment and Wicksteed £36,900 for three pieces. The safety matting was the main cost within the total quotes from MATTA at £15,579 and £12,500 respectively. Mrs Rinder explained that we currently hold £25,000 in the play equipment reserve but could use funds from the CIL reserve or the divestment contingency reserve to cover the remaining cost of the chosen quote. After further discussion it was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed to recommend to Council to use funds from the divestment contingency reserve to cover the remaining cost of approx. £12,000. It was further proposed by Cllr Levermore, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed to recommend Playdale be given the contract for the project at a cost of £37,337.45. This was because we would have four pieces of equipment and it was aimed at the older children's age range.

Council

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Maintenance Gate on Toddler Play Area

Cllr Bailey mentioned that the maintenance gate separating the toddler play area and older children's play area on King Georges Avenue recreation ground was broken. Children were swinging on the gate which has bent the post so the gate does not close. Mrs Rinder will contact Norse and get this repaired.

CR

Play Area Signs

Cllr Last suggested installing new signs for the play areas detailing Leiston Town Council as the owner as the existing signs still give SCDC as the owner. Mrs Rinder will action.

CR

Victory Road Bollard

Cllr Last raised concerns that the bollard to the Victory Road recreation ground is always down. This was installed to prevent joy-riders getting access onto the park. Mrs Rinder will investigate further.

CR

Middle School Field

Cllr Boast queried what is happening with the old playing field at the back of St Margaret's Crescent. Cllr Howard confirmed it is owned by SCC and we have a licence to keep it open green space. The Town Council pays for mowing as part of the Norse grounds maintenance contract. If the housing development comes to fruition on the land behind St Margaret's Crescent, we may need to review this playing area.

Community Orchard

Cllr Levermore suggested having a plaque to celebrate the opening of the orchard and also plaques for each tree detailing type. Mrs Rinder will look into costs.

CR

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A walk around is scheduled for Wednesday 10 April 2019 at 5pm, meeting at Victory Road recreation ground.

Meeting finished at 7.50pm

