

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ESTATES & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE MEETING ROOM, CIVIC OFFICES ON
WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY 2019 AT 7.00PM

Present: Councillor S Roe (Chairman)

Councillors: G Edwards, J Charters, FW Lee, N Blanchard, G Killingsworth

In Attendance: Clerk to the Committee: Mrs S Green, Mrs R Brown
Services Supervisor: Mr C Lewis

The meeting opened at 7.00pm

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Briggs had expressed an interest in being Chairman, but was unable to attend this meeting.

AGREED Proposed by Cllr Charters, seconded by Cllr Edwards
That Cllr Roe be elected Chairman for this meeting only
Unanimous

AGREED Proposed by Cllr Lee, seconded by Cllr Roe
That Cllr Briggs be duly elected as Chairman.
Unanimous

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE OF REASONS GIVEN

AGREED Proposed by Cllr Lee, seconded by Cllr Roe
To accept reasons for absence received from: Cllr Briggs
Unanimous

3. RECEIPT OF ANY DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS UNDER THE LOCALISM ACT 2011

None received at this point.

3a. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr Edwards nominated himself for the position. Subject to him undertaking Councillor Training and Chairman training it was

AGREED Proposed by Cllr Lee, seconded by Cllr Killingsworth
that Cllr Edwards be duly elected as Vice-Chairman
Unanimous

4. NOTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7TH MARCH BE NOTED AS A TRUE RECORD OF MINUTES

Noted

5. CHAIRMANS' ITEMS

There were none

6. CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERK'S ITEMS

The Deputy Clerk advised that a periodic testing report had been undertaken by Brook and Mayo as it was due. There were a number of issues raised in the report and a quote had been received which

amounted to £5,718 for the remedial work. This had only been received today, so the Committee asked that the information be circulated and then it could be looked at in the next meeting.

The Clerk advised that a resident had phoned about a street light (Column 2, Green Lane) that had incurred collision damage whilst he had been on holiday. The Clerk had contacted EoN and there was a cost of £400 to make it safe and then there would be the cost of a replacement street light of approximately £1,000. The insurance company has been contacted regarding a claim for this. It was suggested that the Police be contacted to see if the accident had been reported.

The members tour of the facilities is due, and it was suggested that the Clerk circulate possible dates in June (Wednesdays) to see which are most suitable.

7. SERVICE STAFF REPORT

This had been circulated prior to the meeting. Craig said that as Jake is qualified in aerial rescue in tree climbing, they would like to look at the cost of a chipper so that, once a second person was qualified, they could undertake tree work themselves. The Councillors requested that a cost analysis was undertaken, taking into consideration the fact that this was all hinging on one employee's qualification, and he could leave. The option of hiring a chipper rather than buying one should also be considered.

8. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

There was nothing to report at this time.

9. VILLAGE GREEN REPLACEMENT BRIDGE – QUOTES FOR REPLACEMENT

The Clerk advised that we have 4 quotes for replacing the bridge. There was some discussion regarding the merits of the different proposals and their associated costs. The removal costs that had been suggested by a couple of companies were considered to be unreasonably high.

AGREED

Proposed by Cllr Killingsworth, seconded by Cllr Roe

That the Service Supervisor investigates the possibility of his team removing the bridge, and that the Clerk contact the preferred supplier of the new bridge to see whether their cost can be brought in line with the precepted amount.

Unanimous

10. SKATE PARK – SURFACE AND REFURBISHMENT

The Service Supervisor advised that he had spoken to a number of companies regarding the concreted surface. A couple of them had expressed a view that it was not worth spending a large amount of money re doing the surface as the cracks will reappear. It is built on a floodplain and so the ground underneath is constantly moving. He said that they have treated some of the cracks with epoxy resin and this has stayed good for 4 months. RoSPA is happy that there is no risk from these cracks. After some discussion

AGREED

Proposed by Cllr Edwards, seconded by Cllr Killingsworth

That the cracks are filled with epoxy resin and that Phase 2 of the skate park refurbishment be completed in time for the summer holidays

Unanimous

11. CHAPEL FIELDS – INTEREST RECEIVED FROM SPORTS CLUBS

A note of interest had been received from Tigers Football club to hold 5 and 7 aside matches on Chapel Fields. This would not generate any more income, but would incur additional costs in respect of staffing. Tigers had also asked whether they could use Chapel Fields for some one day Tournaments throughout the season, requiring 3 or 4 pitches. Another person had been in contact with Cllr Roe who felt that it was possible to fit a full size pitch on the field

AGREED

Proposed by Cllr Charters, seconded by Cllr Killingsworth

That the Services Supervisor contact the gentleman regarding the full size pitch. Also, to ask the business sub committee to consider suitable pricing for the one day tournaments

Unanimous

The Services Supervisor advised that Tigers Football club had asked whether they could provide sockets for the 9/9 pitch goals, so that the goals could be out all season, thus reducing the need to erect and dismantle them every game.

AGREED **Proposed by Cllr Charters, seconded by Cllr Blanchard**
that Tigers be authorised to provide sockets for the 9/9 pitches
Unanimous

12. WITHAM FIELDS – POSSIBLE SITING OF CONTAINER

Tigers Football club had asked whether they could site a 20' x 10' container at Witham Fields as the one they currently used is not local. The committee visited the possible site at the rear of the building to assess the viability of the idea. It would be hidden from view by hedges, though some of the hedge would need to be removed to allow the container to be installed. The Committee asked that the Clerk check whether planning permission would be required, and also to look at the issue of insurance.

AGREED in principle **Proposed by Cllr Blanchard, seconded by Cllr Edwards**
that the container could be sited at Witham Fields subject to there being minimal damage to the hedge, and that the garage be emptied by Tigers Football club. The charge is to be decided by Business Sub Committee
2 in favour, 4 abstentions

13. COMMUNITY HUB UPDATE – BLOCKWORK AND HEATING AND MOTION SENSORS

The Clerk advised that the main blockwork is now completed and that it has been agreed that the blockwork in the alcove is to be completed as soon as possible. An update regarding the heating has been requested and the Clerk was requested to contact John Rigby regarding this. The motion sensors had been approved at the previous meeting and this would be looked at soon.

14. REVIEW OF MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF ALL BINS WITHIN NORTH HYKEHAM

A map was circulated showing the locations and the committee was asked to review this and come back with suggestions for possible bin locations to the next meeting. The Deputy Clerk was also asked to contact the Environmental Health department to find out the cost and quantity of the bins they could supply.

15. FEN LANE UPGRADE – FRONT DOOR

Cllr Charters advised that we are awaiting 2 quotes in respect of a replacement non automatic aluminium door with remote locking and CCTV.

16. TREES AT THE BACK OF DERWENT CLOSE

A resident of Derwent Close has regularly contacted the council regarding the height of a tree on Witham Fields at the end of her garden as it blocks the sunlight into her garden. They are monitored by the service team and are considered to be healthy trees which are at a suitable height, posing no danger to people or property. There was some discussion regarding this matter and the desire not to set a precedent.

AGREED **Proposed by Cllr Charters, seconded by Cllr Roe**
that no further action be taken at this time
Unanimous

17. CHAPEL FIELDS FENCING

Cllr Roe advised that there are two gates in the fencing around Chapel Fields, and that we have not unlocked one of these so as to avoid the trench effect from walkers going from one gate to the other across the field. As a result, a resident near the locked gate has found that people are climbing over her fence and walking across her garden to avoid having to walk round. As this is a direct result of our action to not unlock the gate

AGREED **Proposed by Cllr Roe, seconded by Cllr Edwards**
that the Service Staff be authorised to erect fencing to prevent people cutting through the resident's garden, up to a cost of £300
Unanimous



Cllr Roe also advised that the Preschool who use the Hub had been advised originally that if they wished to purchase some temporary fencing to allow them to use some of the outside space during the day, that we would be happy for this to happen, at their expense. The matter of whether permanent fencing could be erected was considered, but there is a need to check with Sports England regarding this as they have provided the funding for the Hub as a sports facility. The possibility of socket fencing as a solution, similar to the socket system used for goal posts, is to be investigated.

8.38pm Cllr Charters left the meeting

18. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

Bins, feedback from tours of facilities

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

