

**SHOREHAM
PARISH
COUNCIL**

Parish Clerk:
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AMENITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday 23rd January 2019 at Shoreham Village Hall from 7.30pm

Present: Cllr L Spence (in the Chair)
Cllrs R Blamey, B Jeffery, M S Parkes and co-opted member J Tooley,

Also Present: 0 Members of the public

Clerk: Sarah Moon

1. There were no apologies for absence.
2. The minutes of the meeting of the Amenities and Services Committee held on 17th October were signed by the Chairman as an accurate record.
3. No disclosures of interest were received from members in respect of items of business included on the agenda for the meeting.
4. The actions raised at the meeting held on 17th October 2018 were reviewed.

5. **Grass Cutting**

The quotes received in respect of the 2019 grass cutting tender were considered.

It was RESOLVED to instruct one contractor to undertake the flail mowing of the Centenary Wood and a second contractor to undertake the rest, including the Recreation Ground and a triangle of path in the Centenary Wood (perimeter paths are no longer required to be cut). This contractor was not the cheapest although has proven to be reliable and thorough in the past, unlike the cheapest company, who have, more often than not, failed to come and cut the grass according to the schedule.

Before confirming to the contractor who has been selected for the flail mowing, it was RESOLVED that the Parish Council look into buying a flail mower. The Parish Store needs to be checked however to ascertain whether there would be enough room to store it and whether the doorway would be wide enough for it to fit through.

6. **Recreation Ground**

a) Playground

- The Clerk reported that she had received two quotes from companies in respect of replacing the equipment in the playground and three more quotes will be obtained prior to any discussion taking place. Quotes are for replacing the whole playground but, if the budget does not allow for this, then items could be cherry picked. The Clerk confirmed that she had consulted with parents and children and has obtained some useful information as to which pieces of equipment the children play on the least and which would be desirable replacements. The Parish Council have £20,000 set aside in their reserves to contribute to

this project and hopefully will also be able to apply for match funding. The Clerk confirmed that she is currently looking into a variety of funding sources including money from landfill companies, Tesco and Co-Op. CIL money would also qualify for expenditure on this scheme.

- The playground inspection has been delayed until the first week of February but the Clerk stated that several points raised in the last report have been actioned and necessary repairs made. These include:
 - Repairing the spring on the gate in order that it closes automatically;
 - Cutting the excess chains from the top of the older children's swings;
 - Replacing the baby swings with new cradles;
 - Removing rotten panels and bolts from the slide tower.

The moss on the wet pour surface is still bad and needs cleaning and the beech masts need to be raked up and removed.

b) **Table Tennis Table**

A Deed of Dedication to protect the Recreation Ground as an amenity space has been completed and sent to Fields in Trust. Once this deed has been formally registered at the Land Registry then we will be able to receive the £5000 grant, which will pay for the table tennis table. There is a five week lead time on delivery of the table and prior to this a small amount of groundwork may be necessary to ensure the surface is even prior to installation.

c) **Tennis Shelter**

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the contractor who has been chosen to replace the tennis shelter roof and he confirmed that he was awaiting a lead time for the materials from the supplier. Hopefully work should commence in the next few weeks.

7. **Cross**

Last year, maintenance of the Cross was included in the grass cutting tender which was sent out to various contractors. The contractor chosen to do this job however failed to undertake any work on it whatsoever. Fortunately, two local residents helped out and both have stated that they would be happy to look after it this year.

It was RESOLVED that Dave Ablett be responsible for applying weed killer four times a year in February, May, August and November and for strimming the surrounding area three or four times a year in May, July and September. If Dave is unable to do this for any reason, then Jeremy Tooley has offered his services. The weed killer and spray kit needs to be ordered and kept in the Parish Store.

Jeremy Tooley also confirmed that the Garden Safari Committee had spoken about donating some of the Garden Safari proceeds to the re-chalking of the Cross. Although the Amenities Committee were very appreciative of this offer, they suggested waiting a year to see if the regular maintenance program planned for 2019 makes a difference to the appearance of the Cross. In any event, it would be logistically very difficult to re-chalk the whole Cross although a thin layer of gravel sized chalk spread over the top could be a good solution. Equally, lime washing the existing surface and surrounding stones could also be a viable and practical alternative.

8. **Allotments**

Rent request letters are due to be sent to all plot holders in March and so it was RESOLVED that any items of business which need to be communicated to members should also be included at the same time. The Committee agreed to include the following:

- that all plot holders reread their Tenancy Agreement to ensure they are aware of their obligations and that for ease of reference, a template Tenancy Agreement be included
- that plot holders contact the Clerk or a member of the Allotments Association if they encounter any problems which prevent them cultivating their plot so that this could be considered during the quarterly inspections

It was also RESOLVED that the Clerk include a piece about vacant plots in the next edition of the Shoreham Post.

9. **Centenary Wood**

- a) The provision of seating in the Centenary Wood was discussed. Jeremy Tooley confirmed that William Alexander has a bit more woodwork to complete on the benches made out of the Shepherd's Barn timbers and that they would then be installed at the top of the site. The Committee agreed that a further bench, perhaps one with a back, be installed at the bottom of the site and asked Jeremy Tooley whether he could ask the Garden Safari Committee if they might like to fund this instead of the re-chalking of the Cross.
- b) Several new trees have been donated to the Centenary Wood and it was RESOLVED that Cllrs Parkes and Spence meeting on Saturday 26th January to plant these. There is also a beech tree which needs to be removed and Jeremy Tooley stated that he would be happy to take care of that. More trees were also offered by a local resident and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should chase this up to see if they were still available.

10. **Parish Store**

The Clerk reported that work in the Parish Store to install shelving has been completed at a cost of £175. Cllrs Spence and Parkes agreed to go and look in the store and to work out which tools are still required to be purchased (a budget for this was already agreed at a previous meeting).

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 20th March 2019

The meeting closed at 9.42 pm.

Sarah Moon
Parish Clerk
Public Question Time