

**SHOREHAM
PARISH
COUNCIL**

Parish Clerk:
Sarah Moon
07912 611048

8 High Street
Shoreham
Sevenoaks
TN14 7TD

clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk

DRAFT AMENITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday 19 October 2016 at Shoreham Village Hall from 7:45pm

Present: Cllr L Spence (in the Chair)
Cllrs R Blamey, P Dodd and J Tooley

Also Present: 5 Members of the public

Clerk: Sarah Moon

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Parkes and from District Councillor John Edwards-Winsler.
2. The minutes of the meeting of the Amenities and Services Committee held on 15th June 2016 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. Allotments
 - a) Boundary between the Allotments and the rear gardens of Crown Road

Several suggestions regarding the boundary and access onto the allotments have been received. One suggestion was that instead of installing a fence, the boundary be pegged by a surveyor to clearly demarcate the boundary. Another suggestion was that residents of Crown Road be asked to voluntarily seal their gates, preventing them from accessing the allotments directly from their gardens. Once the boundary has been established and gates have been sealed, litter and encroachment can be properly monitored.

It was agreed that a recommendation be made to full council to explore the option of pegging the boundary based either on existing plans held by the parish council or by those held by the Land Registry. The Clerk should endeavour to have these plans in time for the December Council meeting. It was also agreed to recommend to full council that residents be asked to voluntarily seal their gates, once the boundary has been properly established. A date should be set to review whether these measures have worked and, if any further action is required.

- b) Allotments Inspection

Following the inspection of the Allotments, it was noted that several plots remain uncultivated. It was agreed to monitor these plots to ascertain whether the situation improves during the growing season.

5. Recreation Ground

(a) Playground

The issue of whether to renew the surface of the playground was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk ask Craigdene, the company who undertakes the annual inspection, to come slightly earlier (November) in order that we can work out what if anything is required. It was agreed that the Clerk request quite a stringent inspection and that Craigdene make recommendations as to what exactly should be replaced.

It was also agreed that the Clerk ask Craigdene to recommend which pieces of play equipment should be replaced. Following these recommendations, we shall be able to obtain quotes. Only when we have an idea of costings, can we decide how we should fund the project. There are some reserves which we should be able to use, but these may need to be topped up with grants or money raised from crowd funding.

(b) Tennis Courts

Quotes have been requested from three companies of which two have been received.

The first quote was £380 for power washing the court and £1350 for respraying and painting the white lines. In addition to this a further £900 was recommended to apply a protective resin. The total price is £2630 plus VAT.

The second company quoted £425 to clean the court and approximately £1800 repaint. It appeared that this price included the application of the protective resin but the Clerk confirmed she would check. The total price is £2225.

A quote is still awaited from the third company but it was agreed that a recommendation be made to full council to accept the quote from the second company, unless the third company is significantly cheaper.

The work should be scheduled for the spring in time for the tennis season and the court could be relaunched with a tennis competition.

Regarding the basketball court, it was suggested to look at the condition of this after the winter to establish whether a full resurface job is required (all companies who looked at the tennis court suggested that attempts to power wash the basketball court would only further damage it, as it is already in poor condition).

(c) Tennis Shelter

Cllr Spence agreed to speak to several local builders and request they give quotes on couple of option for materials.

6. Trees

Quotes have been sent to three companies asking for estimates to undertake the medium priority tree work, identified in last year's tree survey. As yet, no replies have been received, but, using the prices given for the high priority tree work, the Clerk estimated that quotes should come in around the £2500 mark. It was agreed that a recommendation be made to full council that the medium priority tree work is required and that money is made available in order to achieve this.

7. Mowing

Only one quote has been received to date. This was for £3350. The Clerk suggested it may be easier to split the contract into small and large areas and has therefore approached the Golf Club to ask whether they may be interested in mowing the Recreation Ground and Centenary Wood.

8. Centenary Wood

It was agreed that the Centenary Wood remain closed for another year in order to give the trees a chance to become established. Another open day should however be scheduled for the spring. The condition of the new woodland is good, with only one or two trees having failed. There is a possibility that a beech tree on the Recreation Ground near the Landway could be moved and replanted in the new woodland and it was suggested that the tree companies, coming to quote for the medium priority tree work, be asked whether this would be possible.

9. Budget

The budget for next year has not yet been drafted however, it was agreed that full council be asked to authorise an overspend of £2500 from this year's budget on essential tree surgery.

10. District Councillor's Report

No District Councillors were present.

11. Correspondence/Information

(a) An email has been received from Philip McGarvey which details how KCC are asking parishes to cut the grass areas currently maintained by themselves.

(b) Family Fun Day

An email has been received from Sevenoaks District Council giving feedback about the Family Fun Day held in August. A total of 89 children attended which is more than most of the sites. Feedback was positive with parents suggesting more refreshments, a larger bouncy castle, shade/tents, a sensory tent for babies and better toilet facilities.

Public Question Time

Q. Can boundary markers be registered with GPS?

A. Yes

Q. The freighter service seems to be under utilised. Only people in Forge Way seem to use it. Could it also stop at the car park or at Mildmay Place?

A. Ask SDC whether they could split their time between Forge Way and Mildmay Place or whether they could visit each location twice per annum on an alternate basis.

Date of next meeting: Amenities & Services Meeting 15th February 2017

Closed 9.25pm.