

**SHOREHAM**

Parish Clerk:  
Sarah Moon

PO Box 618  
Sevenoaks  
TN13 9TW

**PARISH  
COUNCIL**

07912 611048

[clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk2012@shorehamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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**AMENITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 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 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 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 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 were reviewed.

5. **Recreation Ground/Playground**

- a) The Annual Playground Inspection Report was discussed. No actions were required to be taken apart from applying moss killer to the wet pour surfaces, which as already been done. Most of the issues raised in the 2018 report have now been addressed and the playground is in a better state than last year. It may be a good idea however to lay a paving stone in front of the gate and artificial grass under the parallel bars where the turf has worn away. The Clerk suggested waiting until the table tennis table is installed to see whether an off cut of the artificial grass required for that could be laid under the bars. Cllr Spence also agreed to see if she could find out where to source bungs for the bench.
- b) The Clerk gave the following progress report on the work undertaken to date regarding the proposed upgrade of the playground equipment.

Five quotes have been obtained. None are exactly like for like as each company produces a different range of products however the broad specification is :

1. Remove all items with the exception of the toddler swings and the trim trail
2. Replace the two slides with one larger, more challenging unit
3. Replace the climbing frame with two new swings for older children and one basket swing
4. To install a spinning cup or similar piece of equipment
5. To replace the see-saw with a role play item such as a play tractor for younger children
6. To replace all surfacing with wet pour

- The Clerk showed some pictorial examples from the various companies, quotes from whom varied between £35,000 and £48,000.
- It was RESOLVED that the Clerk proceed with an application for £20,000 of funding from a land fill trust and a second for £10,000 from another trust. A third organisation could also be approached in relation to the equipment for younger children. The Clerk also confirmed that she had already applied to Tesco Bags for Life for funding and was awaiting a response.

6. **Trees**

The tree survey inspection report was examined line by line and all work required to be undertaken within a 3 month time scale was identified. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk seek three quotes for this work and report back to full council at April's meeting.

7. **Cross**

- a) Following the recent application of weed killer to the Cross, the need for further immediate maintenance was discussed. It was RESOLVED that two members of the Amenities Committee would visit the Cross on the afternoon of Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March to determine whether the moss and weeds would sweep off with a stiff broom.
- b) The lectern for the Cross is complete and has been printed onto a board. This now needs to be fixed onto a post and installed on site. The Clerk was asked purchase two bags of post crete and also to contact Ray Froud to ask for access along the terrace for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March.

8. **Allotments**

- a) The letting of quarter plots was discussed and it was thought that this would be a good idea, potentially encouraging more people to take on an allotment. It was RESOLVED that quarter plots be rented out in future at a cost of £10 per year. This should take effect from April 2019.
- b) The Clerk reported that she had had to pay a water bill to Castle Water for some £1200. This amount has been consistently disputed as a leak had been reported in August and never fixed. However, despite many letters and documents of supporting evidence sent, Castle Water would not adjust the amount payable. The full amount therefore had to be paid in order to avoid disconnection but the Clerk confirmed that she would continue to pursue this via the Ombudsman to try and seek reimbursement.
- c) An allotments inspection was undertaken on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March. The follow up letters sent after the previous inspection had had the desired effect and the plots in question had improved. It was agreed that an extra line or two should be included in the rent letter to two individuals, asking them to consider whether they wished to retain their plots as there had been no signs on cultivation.
- d) The draft rent request letter to be sent to all plot holders was agreed.

9. **Centenary Wood**

- a) The National Trust have agreed to let us have two of their benches in return for a small donation. It was RESOLVED that the Garden Safari Committee be approached to ask whether they would be willing to contribute to the cost of these as well as to the cost of the minor repairs which are required to be undertaken (£200 in total). Jeremy Tooley agreed to contact the National Trust to arrange a delivery date. The Shepherds Barn benches are still awaiting completion by William Alexander.
- b) The installation of signage at the Centenary Wood to remind visitors to keep dogs on leads was discussed. The Clerk stated that she had included this in her Gazette article and so it was agreed to wait and see whether this request is ignored before putting up any signs.

**10) Car Park**

- a) The installation of a new rubbish bin in the car park was discussed and it was RESOLVED that Clerk contact Sevenoaks District Council to order one and to install it beside the dog bin.
- b) The viability of moving the bottle banks back in order to create an extra parking place and to reduce fly tipping was discussed. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Spence contact John Cox to invite him down to take a look and see if this would be possible.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Sarah Moon, Parish Clerk

There were no questions from members of the public

The meeting closed at 9.11 pm.