

Environment and Recreation Committee Meeting held at the Peace Memorial Hall on Tuesday 19th March 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr C Argent (Chair), Cllr J Bundy, Cllr R Green, Cllr G Gilbert & Cllr C Mayger

In Attendance: The clerk, Mr Simon Crosier and one member of the public

2023/24/091 To receive apologies and approval for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Kane, Cllr Fothergill, Cllr Bexton, Cllr South & Cllr Walker, these were noted and unanimously **approved**.

2023/24/092 Chair's Remarks

None.

2023/24/093 Public Participation

93.1. Codicote Rewilding Group to address Council on spring projects.

Unfortunately, the Codicote Rewilding Group were unable to attend to address Council.

One member of the public left the meeting.

2023/24/094 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd January 2024

The minutes were unanimously **approved** by council and signed by the chair.

2023/24/095 To set allotment fees for the 2024-25 financial year and approve any actions

Council unanimously **resolved** to reinstate the yearly fee. The level of fee will be confirmed at the full Council meeting next week. The resulting figure for the different size plots is to be rounded either up or down to the nearest whole pound. **Action:** - The clerk will issue the annual fee letter to all tenants explaining the rental fee reinstatement once the costs have been agreed.

2023/24/096 To set sports club fees for the 2024-25 financial year and approve any actions

Council unanimously **agreed** that this should be discussed at the full Council meeting next week when there would hopefully be more councillors present. **Action:** - The clerk will add this as an agenda item to next Tuesday's full Council meeting.

2023/24/097 To discuss replacement planter lamps at the John Clements Sports & Social Club and approve any actions

Cllr Bundy stated that the planter lamps are inoperative due to water ingress. This is also affecting the car park lighting as they are wired into the same circuit. Council discussed the replacement option, but firstly want to approach the original contractor for the car park lighting to set up the APP for remote control of the lighting. Council **resolved** that the clerk should speak to Current Solutions about setting up the APP. **Action:** The clerk will contact Current Solutions and arrange for the APP to be set up now that a data cable exists for the CCTV.

2023/24/098 To discuss cleaning the inside of the defibrillator located outside the PMH and approve any actions

Cllr Argent explained what was required to clean the defibrillator and that the only Health & Safety issue to be aware of is a heater at the top of the box that could be hot. Cllr Gilbert offered to carry out the task and Council unanimously **resolved** for Cllr Gilbert to carry out the work.
Action: - Cllr Gilbert will carry out the work.

2023/24/099 To discuss and approve any actions for tidying up the Parish Council owned bus stops in Codicote

Council unanimously **resolved** to look at what work was required and report back to Council.
Action: - Councillors will look at the bus stops and report back to Council on the work required.

2023/24/0100 To provide an update on the progress of discussions with Welwyn Garden City Cricket Club on using the sports field and approve any actions

John Gillard from Codicote Cricket Club updated Council on the discussions to date. It has been decided that Codicote CC will not be able to accommodate WGC CC at the sport field for the 2024 season. WGC CC have asked whether Council would consider reducing the original fee set at £200.00 to £150.00. Cllr Argent asked how the fee would be split, John confirmed 40% would go to the ground's person, 30% to the Parish Council and 30% to Codicote CC.
Action: Council will discuss this at the full Council meeting.

One member of the public left the meeting.

2023/24/101 To provide an update on the disposal of the contents of the Parish Council storage container and approve any actions

Cllr Bundy stated, that despite his best efforts no takers have been found to purchase the contents of the storage container. Cllr Mayger asked Cllr Bundy to forward pictures of the contents for disposal, Cllr Mayger would then add these to Freecycle for disposal. Council unanimously **resolved** to agree to this course of action. **Action:** - Cllr Mayger will arrange for the items to be uploaded to Freecycle and disposed of. The clerk will update the Asset Register accordingly.

2023/24/102 To discuss a quote received from Lamps & Tubes to bring the support infrastructure for the Christmas lighting up to date in order to receive a stage 2 licence approve any actions

A quote from Lamps & Tubes has been received for the necessary repair work to bring the support infrastructure up to stage 2 licence requirements. Cllr Argent had previously met with Lamps & Tubes and had asked whether all lamp posts needed to be included in the quote if not all posts were using for the Christmas lighting – the quote doesn't make it clear if this is the case. **Action:** - Council unanimously **agreed** that the clerk should contact Lamps & Tubes to clarify the quote. Council also unanimously **resolved** to source a second quote from a different contractor, so Council can compare costs and ensure that public money is being spent appropriately. **Action:** - The clerk will seek a separate quote for the work from a different contractor.

2023/24/103 To discuss an email from a resident concerning recycling opportunities and dog fouling at the allotments and approve any actions

Council have noted the comments from the resident. It was established that recycling opportunities are a District Council issue. **Action:** - The clerk will suggest to the resident that

they should engage with District Councillor Ian Moody concerning recycling opportunities. The Parish Council has already added extra dog bins in Codicote and has recently upgraded the 'No dogs' signage at the allotments. The Council are not aware of any dog wardens operating in North Herts. **Action:** - The clerk will relay this information to the resident.

2023/24/104 To retrospectively agree emergency repair works to a toilet in the pavilion and approve the costs involved

Cllr Bundy explained that the toilet is misaligned and over time this has created enough play in the cold-water supply pipe to create a substantial leak. Cllr Bundy also confirmed that the mixing valve for the showers had failed leading to very hot water. The clerk stated that both these issues are Health & Safety related and needed immediate remedial work. Council unanimously **resolved** for the work to be undertaken to resolve both issues. **Action:** - The clerk has already instructed Cllr Bundy to arrange for the work to be carried out.

2023/24/105 Matters for consideration at future meetings

None.

Meeting closed at 20.19pm

The date of the next Environment/Recreation committee meeting is TBC.

Signed..........

Date: 19th March 2024