



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MARDEN PARISH COUNCIL AMENITIES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2018 HELD IN THE PARISH OFFICE MEETING ROOM, MEMORIAL HALL, MARDEN COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

044/18 PRESENT

Cllrs Adam, Boswell, Harvey, Jones, Newton, Robertson, Tippen and Turner. The Clerk was also in attendance.

045/18 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

046/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Jones declared an interest to item 050/18(Playing Field) as a neighbour to Marden Playing Field; Cllr Boswell declared an interest on item 050/18(Southons Field) as a neighbour to Southons Field; Cllrs Harvey, Newton and Tippen declared an interest in item 054/18(Marden Memorial Hall) as Trustees of Marden Memorial Hall. The Clerk is also a Trustee of Marden Memorial Hall.

047/18 GRANTING OF DISPENSATION

Cllrs Newton and Tippen had both been granted four years dispensation on Marden Memorial Hall.

048/18 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS AMENITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th September were agreed and signed as a true record.

049/18 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS INVOLVING PUBLIC SPEAKING

There were no members of the public in attendance.

050/18 SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Open Space

19:38 Cllr Turner arrived at the meeting

Playing Field

Play Inspection Reports

Reports had been received from MBC and the village caretaker. No new issues had arisen. The Assistant Clerk would be asked to contact other play equipment suppliers to replace the ropes with chains on the buddy swing.

Changing Room

Chairman of MMFC has been contacted in regard to attending the meeting however the Clerk had not received notification that he would be attending. No issues had been raised since the last meeting.

Pitch hire increases for 2019/20 agreed by Finance Committee

Noted

Site meeting to be arranged

Date agreed for Friday 14th December during the day.

Other Playing Field issuesSports Wall

Still two panels to fit and should be installed shortly. Cllr Tippen believed there were some fittings still to be done at the front of the wall – The Assistant Clerk to be asked to review and liaise with Wickstead.

Youth Shelter

The caretaker to disconnect the solar light and the Clerk to purchase anti-climb paint.

CCTV

Cllrs Tippen and Boswell together with the Clerk had met with the Open Space Officer of MBC to discuss CCTV and it was proposed that this would be included with the S106 request for funding for the running track/footpath and adult gym early in 2019.

Morello Path

Cllr Adam reported that the footpath around the sewer manhole was sinking causing a problem for users (especially in poor light). The Clerk to contact Kent Highways in the first instance.

Rocking Horse

To be discussed at item 53/18(a) later in the meeting.

Southons FieldPlay Trail Inspection Report

Received from the village caretaker – no issues reported.

Closing of Southons Field

Cllrs agreed for the field to be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day.

The Clerk would write to neighbouring residents and arrange for a sign to be erected.

Hire increases for 2019/20 agreed by Finance Committee

Noted

Site meeting to be arranged

Date agreed for Friday 14th December.

Other Southons Field issuesSky lanterns

The latest publication of MBC's "Borough Insight" stated that MBC had banned the use of sky lanterns on their land. The Clerk was asked to contact MBC to ascertain how they intend to achieve this.

Driveway

The Clerk was asked to purchase some cold tarmac for the caretaker to fill in the potholes in the driveway.

Other Open SpaceOpen Space Action Plan

Previously circulated to Cllrs. The four litter bins for the playing field are due to be ordered as soon as the proforma invoice is authorised later in the meeting. The bench in memory of Ken Rhodes is to be installed shortly.

TreesTree work update

The two caretakers had undertaken work on all but one of the trees. The Clerk would therefore produce a list of what else is required and contact tree surgeons for quotes.

Tree report from Kent Men of Trees 2018

The report had been received and circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. A copy would be passed to Marden Parish Church regarding the trees in the churchyard and Maidstone Borough Council for the car park.

CemeteryNew Section

The Cemetery Caretaker would undertake work on the centre circle in the next few weeks.

Cllr Boswell to advise what needs to be done.

Cemetery fee increases for 2019/20 agreed by Finance Committee

Noted

Site meeting to be arranged

Date agreed for Friday 14th December.

Other Cemetery issues

No future issues to report.

051/18 PUBLIC CONVENIENCES AND CAR PARK

Public Convenience issues

Contract ending for Public Convenience cleaning

Notification had been received from the current cleaning company as the current employee has given her resignation from 24th December. The email states that no other person has been able to be employed. The Clerk has responded stating that the Parish Council accepts the end of the contract.

Obtaining quotes for new cleaning contract

The Clerk had obtained a list of companies from neighbouring parishes along with one from Marden. Letters, along with the specification, would be sent out requesting quotations.

Site meeting to be arranged

Date agreed for Friday 14th December.

Car Park Issues

There were no car park issues raised.

052/18 CORRESPONDENCE

Letter received regarding Hopper Huts at Chainhurst

A copy had previously been circulated to Cllrs. Cllrs requested that a site meeting be arranged and to contact the History Group and uniformed groups asking if they wished to attend.

053/18 ACTION GROUP REPORTS

Stilebridge

Update: Cllrs Boswell and Tippen delivered the newsletters and spoke to one of the residents on site. Residents were concerned about the cost of electricity paid by them. The Clerk was asked to contact John Littlemore to discuss further.

Christmas

Update: The Christmas trees had been erected on properties last weekend; the library tree was due to be erected on Friday; Cllrs had been sent a list for Saturday 8th asking for them to indicate what they are able to do; the Main Hall and Grotto will be set up on Friday 7th December. The Clerk reported that several of the property trees were getting beyond repair and that Cllrs consider other options, or budget for replacements, in the next few years. The Clerk also reported that the caretaker had looked at other ways they can be stored – this would enable easier access for maintenance prior to them being erected on properties.

Litter Pick

The 16th or 23rd March were discussed as possible dates for the 2019 litter pick. Once a date has been confirmed it would be placed in the next newsletter, on Facebook and on the website.

054/18 OUTSIDE BODIES REPORTS

Memorial Hall

Update from meeting held on 26th November: It was reported that the new fire alarm system would be installed during February half term; the pre-school storage box had been taken down but still needed to be moved from site and Trustees were looking to install CCTV. Once the alarm system had been installed and the policies etc had been drafted the Health and Safety Officer would be invited back to undertake a further inspection.

Youth

Update: The PCSO had reported that more information was coming through to the police enabling them to deal with the issues. Youth Club were currently only open for one hour each week; 5 members of staff were now working at Marden as there were a number of

challenging youngsters attending; Youth Leader was also looking at starting a junior youth club for 8-11 with the help of the Primary School.

055/18 OUTSTANDING ISSUES

Update from To Do list

Updated list sent to Cllrs and noted.

It was proposed to put before Finance Committee the request to include the fingerpost refurbishment in the 2019/20 budget.

056/18 FURTHER ISSUES FOR DECISION

MBC Parks & Open Spaces – Strategic Play Area Grant

The Clerk had received information from MBC on a play area grant. Cllrs asked the Clerk and Assistant Clerk to look into a piece of equipment, and wetpour, to replace the rocking horse at the playing field play area.

057/18 FURTHER ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

Meeting held on 23rd November with MBC Open Spaces/S106 Officer

The minutes of this meeting had been circulated to Cllrs. Cllr Tippen gave a brief update informing Cllrs that the Cabinet Member was in talks with the Head of Planning regarding possible virement of S106 funds.

059/18 INVOICES FOR PAYMENT:

Electronic Payments

Invoices submitted for payment

Ian Jones – Southons Field and toilet locking £200.00

Wybone – Playing Field litter bins £1,819.00

KCPFA – Annual Playing Fields Association Subscription £20.00

Pitney Bowes – Franking Machine Rental £15.54

HMRC – PAYE/NIC £974.87

Total: £3,029.51

Invoices agreed and electronic banking authorisation would be made by Cllrs Newton And Tippen.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.53pm

Date:

Signed:

Cllr Jean Robertson

Chairman, Amenities Committee

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