

A RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING OF ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL WAS HELD AT 7.00PM ON MONDAY 22 OCTOBER 2012 AT GLOBE HOUSE, ALCESTER (Seggs LANE ENTRANCE)

Present

Cllr. Bunting, Cllr. Payne, Cllr. Adams, Cllr. Hine, Cllr. Brown, Cllr. Cargill and Jan Rowlatt.

Public Participation at Discretion of Chair

There were no members of the public present

1. Apologies

Cllr. Kenyon sent his apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 September 2012 were approved and signed.

4. Recreation Facilities

a. Conway Fields

i. Play Areas – Talks are ongoing with School Governors regarding funding of the proposed fencing to the play area. We are awaiting a report of the outcome from the Mayor.

ii. Pavilion – The toilet refurbishments are almost complete. It was suggested that we should apply for planning permission for external toilets also. Damage caused to the communicating door between the depot and the kitchen has caused problems with the lock.

iii. Fields – Councillor Adams asked if 2 new seats could be requested.

b. Collins Way – Repairs to fences and clearing of weeds etc. has been completed.

c. Moorfields – The broken light has been reported to WCC but has not yet been fixed. The trees from Morgan Sindall are due to be delivered to Globe House any day now and will be planted out as soon as possible.

d. Bleachfield Play Area - Nothing to report.

e. Recreation Ground – The Planning Committee is dealing with the current issues on Stratford Road.

5. Ground Maintenance

a. Grass cutting – It was agreed that the specification for the grass cutting contract should be kept the same as the current contract with an area by the river bank where the footpath has been diverted, designated for the sowing of wild flower seeds. If the wild flowers are successful, an area could be removed from the contract to expand the area.

b. Footpaths – There are still some areas that require top dressing repairs.

6. Environment

Cllr. Knapman reminded the Committee that Saturday 27th was the date for the Garden Share Public Meeting and expressed her hope that some of the Committee would attend. Concern was voiced that progress with the trees destined for Moorfields was slow. A request was made by Cllr.

Knapman to report to Warwickshire County Council the state of the path on the Allimore Lane footbridge of the by-pass.

7. Allotments

The waiting list is increasing and now stands at 12. Cllr. Hine asked for the clearing work scheduled to be carried out on a disused plot on Bleachfield South be brought forward to ease the situation. A request was made to get a quote for putting a door on the old air raid shed. Planning consent with conditions has been granted to remove the fir tree on Bleachfield North – we now have to apply for Ancient Monument Consent.

8. Cemetery

a. Maintenance issues are occurring with plots that have been edged with kerb stones. Our rules expressly state that these are not permitted and we will be looking into how long this rule has been in force with a view to removing the kerbs. It was also noted that we should try to contact surviving relatives of some of the very old graves that have broken kerbs to request the removal of the damaged kerbs.

b. Vision – Ideas including a Remembrance area and book of Remembrance are being looked into.

c. Capacity – Although there are currently no problems, in the future there may be a need for costly geo-phys to be carried out and it was agreed that we should ask for Section 106 money for this.

e. Memorials – The Inscription for the Dyer Memorial was approved.

9. Vision for Alcester

Report about the skate park to be presented next month.

10. Section 106

Concerns were expressed that we were losing out in our bidding attempts and that we should look again to Bloor to gain the maximum for enhancing Open Spaces, Allotments, Play Areas and Cemetery.

11. Items for recommendation to Full Council

Recommend that we must remain robust in our Section 106 bid.

12. Terms of Reference and Current Projects

To review the Terms of Reference of the Recreation & Open Spaces Committee.

13. Correspondence

None

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 26th November 2012 7.00pm at Globe House.