

RECREATION, PARKS & PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON MONDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2019 AT 7PM

Present:

Cllr A Allen	Cllr D K Elphick
Cllr J Arnold	Cllr S Brooke
Cllr J Cole	Cllr S Light
Cllr K Morgan-West	

In attendance:

Cllr G J Gribble**/*
Cllr A J Kerswell*
Mr M Wells – Town Clerk
Mrs L Warren – Assistant to the Town Clerk
One member of the press

**County Cllr

*District Cllr

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Allen

Interests declared: None

RP&P.19/52 Apologies for Absence: None

****Public Participation:** None

RP&P.19/53 Minutes:

The Town Clerk provided an update re. item RP&P.19/44. Cllr Cole provided an update re. item RP&P.19/46. Ref. item RP&P.19/47 Cllr Brooke enquired if a stronger policy should be in place to ensure that events taking place on Town Council owned land/premises are environmentally sustainable. The Environment Group will discuss this and report back. The minutes of the meeting of 15th July 2019 (**copy previously circulated*) were confirmed as a true record and were approved.

RP&P.19/54 Standing Item – Climate Emergency:

Members noted the Council Declaration and will embed the climate emergency declaration across all Council services, activities, plans and other relevant work, considering the impact (emissions and biodiversity etc) of decisions, ensuring a fully integrated and systematic approach to the Council's own response to this challenge.

RP&P.19/55 Community Centre – Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP):

Members received a deferred item (FC.19/64ii) to consider the installation of an ASHP system for the Community Centre (**information previously circulated*). A discussion took place regarding the merits of an ASHP system, timescales and funding.

Resolved:

To commit to the installation of an ASHP system, subject to appropriate funding being identified and relevant permissions are in place.

RP&P.19/56 Playing Field – Little Bovey, Heathfield :

Members considered a request on behalf of the Greater Horseshoe School (**copy previously circulated*) to use the playing field on Little Bovey Lane, Heathfield. The Town Clerk advised that DCC is responsible for the field. There is a licence agreement in place allowing restrictive use of the field and the opportunity for the Town Council to hire the area to other organisations.

Resolved:

To support the request for the use of the field, as a trial arrangement, to July 2020 for sport and wildflower planting. To contact the School to enquire on a rental fee they could offer. If the arrangement progresses, the School will need to indemnify the Town Council and undertake the grounds maintenance.

RP&P.19/57 Recreation Ground – Boundary Wall:

Members noted damage caused to the boundary wall (**copy images previously circulated*) and considered further action as appropriate. The Town Clerk provided an update.

Resolved:

To accept a quotation in the sum of £690.00 for the repair of the wall.

RP&P.19/58 Tennis Club- Recreation Ground:

Members noted tree works to be undertaken in the vicinity of the Tennis Club and considered a 50% financial contribution towards these works. The Town Clerk provided an update and noted that the lease stated that the cost of maintenance work is to be shared between the Club and the Town Council.

Resolved:

To progress with the tree works at a cost of £480.00, to be shared by the Club and the Town Council.

RP&P.19/59 Use of Recreation Ground/Mill Marsh Park – Fun Run:

Members considered a request (**copy previously circulated*) on behalf of Bovey Tracey Lifesaving Club to hold a Santa Dash Fun Run on Sunday 22nd December 2019.

Resolved:

To grant permission.

RP&P.19/60 Tree Planting:

Item brought forward by Cllr Brooke to discuss the feasibility of tree planting on Council owned land (**copy of report previously circulated*). Cllr Brooke outlined the report and advised that an assessment of the Asset Register Plan would assist in determining if any Council owned land would be suitable for tree planting. She noted that the Director of Conservation for Devon Wildlife Trust and the Corporate Tree Officer for DCC have indicated they would be willing to assist and provide feedback. She also advised that Cllr Fletcher, Chair of Bovey Tracey and Heathfield Climate Action Group, is willing to lead the project.

Resolved:

To undertake a review of the Asset Plan and request expert evaluation of potential sites, prior to reporting back to the Committee.

RP&P.19/61 Matters brought forward by the Town Clerk & Councillors: (for information)

Cllr Allen advised that the town has been awarded gold and overall category winner in the Town/City Pennant (South) Category of the Britain in Bloom 2019 competition.

Cllr Elphick reported that dogs are being allowed to run free in the Recreation Ground. The Town Clerk agreed to contact TDC's Legal Team to enquire on the procedure for applying to be part of the principal authority's Public Space Protection Order.

Cllr J Arnold left the meeting at 8pm.

Cllr Light advised that the community clean-up event is taking place on Sunday 20th October and any assistance would be welcomed.

Cllr Cole provided an update on progress with the Christmas Lights Switch-on and Street Fayre.

Cllr Allen thanked Cllrs Brooke, J Arnold, U Arnold and Kerswell for progressing the Life on the Verge project.

The meeting closed at 8.12pm