



CHURCHILL PARISH COUNCIL.

OPEN SPACES AND ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23rd January 2017 at 7.30 pm

Present :-

Councillors Sue List (Chair of Committee), Brenden Hill, Trudy Silverton and Bill Caruthers.
Sian White (Co-Opted member)

Also present : Martin Dolton – Clerk of the Council, and 2 allotment plot holders.

1617/OS/040 Apologies for absence.

Allotments Holders;- Clare France, Annabel Thomas

1617/OS/041 Declarations of Interest.

NIL

1617/OS/042 To confirm and sign minutes of meeting held on 26th September 2016.

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th September 2016 had been previously circulated and displayed on the council's website.

RESOLVED:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th September 2016 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

1617/OS/043 Public Participation

No issues were raised.

ALLOTMENTS

1617/OS/044 Budget vs spend update year to date

The detail of the spending against budget to date for the allotments was presented to the committee. No issues arose.

1617/OS/045 To receive an update on current tenancy levels

Councillor Sue List updated members that at the date of the meeting there was only one full plot that had just become vacant.

1617/OS/046 To note the change to the Council's bank account arrangements during 2017 – 2018 financial year.

The Parish Council had agreed that the three accounts currently operated by the council would be merged into one over the new financial year starting April 2017. The Clerk would be writing to all allotment plot holders to inform them of the change and request new payment arrangements for August 2017 payments of rent.

1617/OS/047 To plan any further maintenance work required

No work was considered necessary over the winter period, and the committee would further consider whether a remedial tidy up would be necessary in the late summer of 2017.

1617/OS/048 Matters for Information

Sian White requested information on the availability of more tree bark becoming available, and was informed that this will be made available in the coming weeks.

OPEN SPACES

1617/OS/049 Floral Planting

Members noted that the order for the summer plants had been sent to North Somerset Council, and the Clerk / Councillor Sue List will arrange for the collection and planting of those when available in June.

1617/OS/050 To consider planting work required at 'The Hand' area

The committee discussed the need to renovate and work on the planting area at 'The Hand' sculpture. After discussion it was agreed that quotes would be sought for a double step square arrangement to create a more aesthetic scene of the planting. The quote(s) would then be considered at the June meeting of this committee.

1617/OS/051 To consider a screening facility at 'The Hand' area

As part of the improvement of the area the committee agreed that quote(s) should be sought by the Clerk and Councillor Brenden Hill for providing background screening of intermittent fencing and evergreen planting as a backdrop to the sculpture. The quote(s) would then be considered at the June meeting of this committee.

1617/OS/052 To consider action and a quote relating to the damage caused to the wall and railings at the Dinghurst Road enclosure.

Unknown person(s) had caused damage to a stone pillar and the railings at the Dinghurst Road enclosure. Quotes had been sought and quote of £800.00 received. It was agreed that the implications of an insurance claim would cause more cost and members agreed that the quote should be accepted and the work completed.

RESOLVED:-

The quote of £800.00 + VAT from Back2Front Landscaping Ltd for repairing the damage to the pillar and railings at the Dinghurst Road enclosure is accepted and the work should be conducted.

1617/OS/053 To consider action and a quote for urgent repairs to the Clocktower Wall, Dinghurst Road

The Clerk updated members that a contractor had commenced work on re-pointing the wall as authorised by the Chair of committee. However, in commencing the work the wall has been discovered to be in need of complete re-build due to the condition of the length of wall.

A quote for the re-build was presented to the committee.

The Clerk informed members of the committee that due to the quote being in excess of the amount that can be authorised by committee any recommendation made by them would go forward to the meeting of the full council.

It was agreed that the committee would recommend to full Council that the work be conducted, subject to the Clerk attempting to obtain a further quote, and clarifying the listed status of the wall.

RESOLVED:-

The committee recommend to full Council that the work on rebuilding the wall at the Clocktower enclosure (Front Street side) be conducted, subject to the Clerk attempting to obtain a further quote, and clarifying the listed status of the wall.

1617/OS/054 To consider the Provision of Christmas Tree / Lights for the Parish

It had been agreed at a previous meeting that Councillor Brenden Hill would investigate the costs and practicalities of such a provision. Councillor Hill reported that he had received details of provisions that would result in high costs being incurred. Councillor Hill will continue to explore more lower cost alternatives and bring back to the committee at a future meeting for further consideration.

1617/OS/055 To review the 2016-2017 budget vs spend, and discuss projects for Open Spaces to work on during 2017-2018.

The committee were provided with full detail of the spending to date (including committed funds and funds now resolved to be spent at this meeting). The spending is within budget and no issues arose.

1617/OS/056 Bins & Signs

- ***To consider complaints relating to the recently placed litter bin in Front Street / Orchard Walk and decision as to location of the bin***

Councillor Sue List and the Clerk updated members on the considerable difficulties they had encountered in dealing with matters concerning the placement of the bin. The bin had been removed from the original location, and all members agreed that it should be stored for the short to medium term, and the situation in the area be monitored and reported as necessary.

- ***To consider action relating to the theft of the litter bin at the layby in Dinghurst Road.***

It was noted that the bin had been removed by person(s) unknown. North Somerset Council are responsible for the bin, and would be informed and asked to consider replacement as soon as possible, as it was well used by the public.

- ***To discuss progress with parish fingerposts.***

Councillor Brenden Hill updated members on the current status of the work on the fingerpost signposts within the village. Some of this work would involve heavy manual work and it was therefore agreed that Councillor Hill would make contact with a contractor to obtain a quote for the necessary work to be completed.

1617/OS/057 Bus Shelters

No issues were raised.

1617/OS/058 Matters for Information

No matters raised.

There being no further Business, the meeting closed at 8.43pm.

Next meeting – Monday 19th June 2017 (Provisional)

Signed.....

Date.....