



Sodbury Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of Environment & Leisure Committee
23rd June 2020
Held via Zoom

Committee Members: Councillors B Allen (Chair), S Gibson, M Gilpin, C Hays, P Smith, S Spooner & A Williams

Present: Councillors B Allen, M Gilpin (joined at 19:40), P Smith, S Spooner, A Williams

Cate Davidson – Town Clerk

Jackie Stallard – Assistant Clerk

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58. **Apologies**
Cllrs Gibson and Hays absent
59. **Declarations of Interest**
None to report
60. **Approval of Minutes of 21st January 2020**
RESOLVED the Minutes of the 21st January 2020 were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.
61. **Matters Arising**
None to report
62. **Budget**
Members received and noted the current spend to date for this committee as circulated.
- The Clerk advised that the Public Conveniences spend could go over budget due to the extra measures required due to Coronavirus.
63. **Public Conveniences**
- The Clerk reported that she was working very closely with South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) with regard to re-opening following a period of closure due to Covid-19. They, in turn, were working with Public Health England. SGC agreed to include Chipping Sodbury toilets in its cleaning regime at no cost, ie 3 x per day plus once a weekly fumigate, although it was uncertain how long this would continue. It was anticipated the toilets would re-open week commencing 29th June 2020.
 - The Clerk reported the future cleaning contract required reviewing as the current arrangement was considered unsatisfactory and the Clerk sought authority to give the current contractor notice. **RESOLVED** that notice be given to the current Contractor and quotes sought for a replacement. A quote was awaited from SGC.
64. **Play Areas**
- The Clerk reported that Government Guidelines had stated play areas could re-open on the 4th July 2020. Inspections would be carried out before that date and appropriate signage displayed. Advice on signage was being sought from SGC.

- With regard to Old Sodbury, swings were due to be installed on 2nd/3rd July. Cllr Spooner advised a bark top up was required and some weeding. Clerk to action.

65. Bus Shelters

- Following a request from a local resident to provide and install a shelter on Cotswold Road, the Clerk had received a quote from SGC for £9,799.02
- Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** not to proceed with the work and the Clerk confirmed she would write to the resident to this effect.

66. Summer Activity Packs (report circulated)

Due to COVID, the Clerk reported the Summer Playscheme had been cancelled and an idea for an 'activity pack' put forward that parents would collect from the office.

Cllr Spooner added that his daughter, a primary school teacher, would be willing to run outdoor activities. A discussion around this took place and the following points noted:-

- *2-hour sessions*
- *Equipment available*
- *Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 split*
- *Toilet situation to be considered*
- *Liaise with Town Trust*

Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** not to proceed with the activity packs but to progress the idea of outdoor activities and Cllr Spooner confirmed he would report back with further detail.


67. Public Seating

- The Clerk updated that benches have been refurbished recently. Cllr Williams reported that a plastic bench in Old Sodbury required replacement and the Clerk confirmed she would arrange for its removal and seek a quote for a new bench.
- As part of the Barnhill Development public art provision, SGC confirmed they would commission a wooden carved bench to be located on the Frome Valley Walkway. Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the town council would adopt and maintain the bench.

68. Items to Report

Cllr Gilpin reported that Sodbury in Bloom were holding a gardening competition with a closing date of the end of July. It was due to be publicised in The Gazette and entry was via Facebook

The meeting closed at 20:25

Signed 

Dated 9-2-2021