

Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on 13th September, 2023 at 7.00pm at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, King Alfred's Road, Sedbury.

Present: Councillors: Strong, Swambo (chairman) and Wall.
Officers: D Stevens (Assistant Clerk).

1. ATTENDANCE

- a. **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend, from Councillors Koning, Russell and Tullett. No apologies received from Councillor Bollen.
- b. **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillors Koning, Russell and Tullett.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers and in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members. None received.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. **Resolved to approve** as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July.
- b. **Resolved to consider** any matters arising from those minutes. There were no questions.

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

There were no members of the public present.

5. ASSISTANT CLERK'S REPORT

- a. **Resolved to accept** the Amenities budget sheets.
- b. **Resolved to note** issues with the time required to download footage on the CCTV camera at King Alfred's Road. Councillor Swambo advised discussions with the Police are ongoing with regards new CCTV cameras.
- c. **Resolved to note** request received from the church to cut patch of nettles at St Mary's and St Peter's Church. The Assistant Clerk has asked the grass cutting contractors to trim back the nettles.
- d. **Resolved to note** the Woodcroft defibrillator phone box requires cleaning to remove algae on windows, weeds, cobwebs, etc. Councillors suggests a Woodcroft resident might wish to maintain the old phone box.

6. TO CONSIDER CHURCHYARD WORKS AND ISSUES

Resolved to note a meeting took place at St. Lukes church, Tutshill with Archdeacon Hilary, Simon Moore (Church surveyor/advisor), councillor Swambo and the Clerk and Assistant Clerk. It was agreed that a community day to clear the ivy and vegetation from the walls in question would be arranged so that a more accurate assessment of their condition can be made. Revd Treharne to organise this. The Council's position regarding the lack of guidance on the level of maintenance required was discussed and will be considered further by the Diocese.

7. TO CONSIDER OPEN SPACE ISSUES

- a. **To consider** the trimming of all internal hedges at Woodcroft playground.
 - i. **Resolved to not accept** R G and E J Williams – Hedge trimming. £350 no Vat.
 - ii. **Resolved to accept** Dave Kirkham – Hedge trimming. £280 no Vat.
- b. **To consider** the quotes for the six month and one-year tree maintenance as suggested in the 2023 arborist report.
 - i. **Resolved to not accept** Greenfields.
6 Month and 1 Year work. £13,500 + Vat = £16,200.
 - ii. **Resolved to not accept** Ethical British Timber Ltd t/a Celtic Roots Tree Services.

6 Month work.	£1,400 + Vat = £1,680.
1 Year work.	£5,600 + Vat = £6,720.
iii. Resolved to accept Trunk Arb Ltd.	
6 Month work.	£750 + Vat = £900.
1 Year work.	£4,197.50 + Vat = £5,037.

- c. **Resolved to accept** hedge trimming along Shirley's Grove / Recreation Ground and Mopla Road boundary. Awaiting quote, previous quote was for £246 inc. Vat for Shirley's Grove section of hedge. The Council is now also responsible for the Recreation Ground section of hedge so assume same price as Shirley's Grove. Total, to also include 10% contingency, £542 inc. Vat.
- d. **Resolved to note** issues with grass cutting arisings on the football pitch at the War Memorial Recreation Ground and quotes for a cut and collect or increased frequency grass cutting service. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that the recreation ground grass has been cut using a gang mower since at least 2009 with few previous issues. Councillors agreed not to accept the additional costs but instead suggest options for the Trust to manage any additional cuts, etc, as currently being performed by St Johns on the Hill school grounds management who are cutting the rugby pitch. Options, including not strimming round trees, to be further discussed with the War Memorial Trust.
- i. **Resolved to not accept** Glebe Contractors Landscape Management - To cut and collect the Football pitch with a flail cut and collect mower and tip arisings on site. For the sum of £250.00 plus vat per one off visit.
- ii. **Resolved to not accept** Glebe Contractors Landscape Management To carry out weekly cut to the Football pitch on request. For the sum of £200.00 plus vat per cut.

8. TO CONSIDER PLAY AREA ISSUES

There were none.

9. TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- a. **Resolved to note** correspondence received with regards proposed chat bench's to be sited on Coleford Road, by Elm Road and near the old Police house in Tutshill. Councillors considered the correspondence and resolved that they don't envisage any problems with these locations and asked the Assistant Clerk to thank the residents for their correspondence and to proceed with the purchase and installation of the chat benches.
- b. **Resolved to note** correspondence from FoDDC offering help finding tree planting projects. Councillors resolved to propose the outside edge of the football field/skate park next to Buttington Road and to extend the orchard area on Wyebank Road. The Assistant Clerk to apply to the FoDDC tree planting project.
- c. **Resolved to note** correspondence from GCC regarding maintenance of bushes on boundary between Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall sports field and Wintour House garages. The Assistant Clerk to investigate further.

10. TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS' LOCAL REPORTS AND MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Cllr. Strong – advised that the hedges/trees growing from properties on the corner of Beachley Road and Buttington Hill are overgrown and blocking visibility for traffic using this corner. The Assistant Clerk to report to GCC Highways.

Cllr. Swambo – advised that one of the uprights on the agility trail play equipment at Tutshill Recreation Ground is loose and requires repair. The Assistant Clerk to investigate and get a quote to repair.

Cllr. Wall – advised of a problem of overhanging trees dropping leaves and blocking gutters on Wyebank Rise. Councillor Wall advised the resident has been unsuccessful identifying the registered keeper of the trees to have them trimmed. Councillors asked the Assistant Clerk to assist identifying the registered owner and requesting the trees are trimmed.

11. RESOLVED TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Next meeting 8th November, 2023.

The meeting closed at 20:09 hours.