

Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on 10th January, 2024 at 7.00pm at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall, King Alfred's Road, Sedbury.

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

1. ATTENDANCE

- a. **Resolved to receive** apologies for absence from those councillors unable to attend, from Councillor Russell.
- b. **Resolved to accept** those apologies received with reasons for absence from Councillor Russell.

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 8th November.
- b. **Resolved to consider** any matters arising from those minutes.

Page 8, item 8a – Counsellor Koning asked about plans to undertake a survey of what local people would like in the playgrounds and plans for a draft proposal. Councillors discussed the benefits of using Facebook and also the Parish Council Newsletter to survey what parishioners would like in the playgrounds. Councillors also discussed the high cost of playground equipment, the potential impact on the budget and possible increase in Council precept (council tax) and the need to secure grants to help pay for equipment. Councillors proposed to create a working group to investigate further at the next full council meeting.

4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

There were no members of the public present.

5. ASSISTANT CLERK'S REPORT

- a. **Resolved to accept** the Amenities budget sheet.
- b. **Resolved to note** the Crazy Gander springer at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall was reported broken and made safe with the broken parts and exposed spring being removed.
- c. **Resolved to note** the overgrown ivy/vegetation growing on the stone walls at St. Luke's Church, Tutshill have been removed. Quotes for the churchyard wall surveys to be sought and considered at the next meeting, the survey to be conducted in the spring.

6. TO CONSIDER CHURCHYARD WORKS AND ISSUES

There were none.

7. TO CONSIDER OPEN SPACE ISSUES

- a. To consider the replacement of soon to be out of date defibrillator pad packs. Web based quotes as below.
 - i. **Resolved to accept** Defib Store Ltd. 8 x £57.00 + Vat, free delivery for orders over £75.00.
£456.00 + Vat = £547.20.
 - ii. **Resolved to not accept** Defib Warehouse. 8 x £61.00 + Vat, free delivery for orders over £100.
£488.00 + Vat = £585.60.

8. TO CONSIDER PLAYGROUND ISSUES

- a. **Resolved to not accept** the additional repair of the agility trail equipment at Tutshill Recreation Ground play area. The original repair was considered at November meeting but additional repair work was identified in the annual inspection. Councillors considered this motion and resolved to

consider further after the playground survey and proposals from the working group, see item 3.b above.

- i. Greenfields Garden Services Ltd. Original resolution to accept repair quote.
£385.10 + Vat = £462.12.
- ii. Greenfields Garden Services Ltd. Additional quote for repair work identified in the annual inspection.
£1,937 + Vat = £2,324.40.

b. Resolved to not accept the replacement of the Crazy Gander springer at Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall infant play area. Councillors considered this motion and resolved to consider further after the playground survey and proposals from the working group, see item 3.b above.

- i. Kompan. Original equipment manufacturer, quote can be tailored. £7,005.37 + Vat = £8,496.44.
- ii. Greenfields Garden Services Ltd. £1,891.00 + Vat = £2,269.20.
- iii. WM Garden Services Ltd. £1,850 + Vat = £2,220.
- iv. WM Garden Services Ltd. Replace with Crazy Scrambler. £1,500 + Vat = £1,800.

c. To consider the repair of the gates and fences that surround the playing field behind the Sedbury and Beachley Village Hall. Quotes were obtained from original installer of the gates and fences.

- i. **Resolved to accept** WM Garden Services Ltd. Repair gate hinges and stops.
£600 + Vat = £720.
- ii. **Resolved to accept** WM Garden Services Ltd. Replace bent post on fence next to car park.
£300 + Vat = £360

9. TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- a. **Resolved to note** correspondence with regards trees overhanging Wyebank Rise. Councillors asked the Assistant Clerk to write to GCC Highways Customer Services to request that they review with Offa's Mead Academy and identify who has responsibility for these trees, and for the party responsible to decide actions that need to be taken with regards tree management to avoid further neighbouring resident concerns.

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

Cllr. Bollen – Advised she received a concern with regards the unkept St. John's churchyard in Beachley. The Assistant Clerk advised that a contractor, as resolved at a previous meeting, is cutting back the overgrown hedges and will be clearing the debris. The contractor hopes to have this work completed by 20th January.

Cllr. Wall – Asked about the status of the chat bench installation. The Assistant Clerk advised that the wording for one of the chat bench plaques has been received, and, once the remaining two plaques wordage has been received the chat benches will be ordered. Councillor Swambo committed to send all plaque working and requested that the Chepstow Covid Group be contacted to confirm their support of the chat bench and plaque wording.

11. RESOLVED TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Next meeting 13th March, 2024.

The meeting closed at 19:37 hours.