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RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 5th July 2017 10:30am Cheswick Green Village Hall

Present:

Cheswick Green Parish Councillors: Brian Brown, Steve Hall and Mick Swain.

In attendance

Clerk: Marie Zizzi

0 members of the Public

1. To elect a Chairman.

1.1 Cllr. Swain agreed to Chair the Recreation Committee.

Resolved: proposed Cllr. Hall, seconded Cllr. Brown – that Cllr Swain is elected as 2017-18 Recreation Committee Chairman.

2. Apologies for Absence and to approve, if thought fit, the reasons if any given, for absence from the meeting.

2.1 Not applicable everyone present.

3. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations.

3.1 None.

4. Public Participation.

4.1 Not applicable - no members of the public present.

5. To discuss any issues that relate to Solihull MBC. Mr. Matthew Gardner invited to participate.

5.1 Mr. Gardner had arrived for the meeting and a brief discussion had taken place prior to the meeting, which was potentially going to be cancelled, due to Cllr. Brown being called away unexpectedly. However, after Mr. Gardner had left, Cllr. Brown returned and the meeting then took place.

5.2 Matters discussed with Mr. Gardner were in relation to a message from Cllr. Gosling regarding the state of the footpath between Cheswick Way and Saxon Wood Road and a tree overhanging the footpath by 42 Saxon Wood Road. Mr. Gardner had said he would take a look.

5.3 It was noted that the road sign nameplate that had been missing from opposite 1 Cheswick Way was now back in place.

5.4 Issues raised in a letter from Mr. Tonks dated 18th April 2017 were noted and Mr. Gardner said he had considered these.

6. To resolve to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 24th April 2017.

Resolved; proposed Cllr. Brown, seconded Cllr. Swain; that these were accepted as a true and accurate record.

7. To report any issues from site risk assessments since the last meeting and to provide Clerk with reports for filing. Update on Grounds maintenance, litter picking and bin emptying.

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7.1 The site risk assessment for the Recreation Ground with some work to be carried out prior to the CGRA Party in the Park was noted, it was stated that the Parish Councils Grounds Maintenance contractor was aware of the date for the Party in the Park and annually did some work prior to the event taking place, it was pointed out that some shrubs around the Village Hall had already been cut back, it was felt that this matter was in hand.

7.2 The site risk assessment for the Village Green was noted there were a few observations; Greenside was becoming slightly overgrown by shrubs from house fronts and roses were obstructing the footpath; a quote needed to be obtained for the bench by the footpath on the Village Green for wood staining and to replace slates (this is the bench that is dedicated to Godfrey Nall); it was noted that the tree ties had been replaced now, thanks to Cllr. Brown; the hedges and shrub beds needed cutting soon – the Grounds Maintenance specification was reviewed and it was noted that it stated for this to be done once a year; it was noted that both the Grounds Maintenance Specification and the Village Green monthly risk assessment form needed to be updated and that any reference to work outside the shops needed to be removed.

7.2.1 There were comments about an oak tree overhanging on the Village Green and damaged/broken branches that needed to be removed.

7.2.2 It was noted that the wood chips from the stump would eventually rot down.

7.3 Cllr. Brown referred to the flood protection barriers, he said the holes needed to be vacuumed so they were clear if/when the barriers needed to be installed. It was agreed to add this to the list of on-going issues for the Parish Council, as a constant reminder.

7.4 In relation to updating the Grounds Maintenance Specification, it was pointed out to clarify that one bag of rubbish was to be removed from the Village Hall per week, regardless of what was in it.

8. To discuss the roses in the WW1 memorial garden and the memorial trees.

8.1 It was noted that former Cllr. Phillips had sent an email to Mr. Ranson, requesting for 3 roses and compost to be delivered and to invoice the Parish Council for this. The Clerk had also resent this message, as there had been no reply and the items had not arrived.

8.1.1 Cllr. Hall offered to purchase some roses and compost and to deal with the flower bed.

8.2 It was noted that Cllr. Brown had replaced the tree ties on the memorial trees and purchased some bark mulch. Cllr. Brown said he had spoken with Stephen at Friday Lane Nurseries for advice about the memorial trees and he had now given them both a good drench.

8.2.1 In relation to Friday Lane Nurseries, it was noted that Mr. Gardner had said that a member of the Parish Council or the person from the Boys Brigade should visit and talk to someone about a tree and bulbs for the Boys Brigade.

8.3 The committee discussed a wreath for Remembrance Day for the rose bed and where this could be located. It was suggested that a timber pole/stake could be inserted and to use cable ties or to hang it, as the wreath needed to be visible and secure. Cllr. Brown said it had been very difficult to position the wreath last year. It was also suggested that a clamp could be used around the post. It was agreed that this needed some thought and to discuss this again at a future meeting.

8.3.1 Cllr. Hall referred to the War Memorial to be erected within the Bloor Homes development. It was suggested that there could be a wreath for both memorials.

9. To discuss the Christmas lights.

9.1 Cllr. Swain said he would look at some possible options and costs in relation to this and what could be done. It was stated that SMBC linked the lights to the lamppost and there was no other option than this, it was felt that if the lights were left in place they would deteriorate and that they could get damaged or vandalized and be broken.

9.1.1 It was noted that SMBC stored the lights, installed them, arranged for the switching on and turning off as well as then removing them.

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9.1.2 Cllr. Swain said he would look at what was the most indestructible type of Christmas tree lights available. There were comments about solar lights and LED lights.
 9.2 There were comments about the date for switching on the lights and about trying to find out when the school Christmas Fayre was taking place. It was suggested to aim for Friday 1st December or Friday 8th December and noted that 12 days after Christmas Day was Sunday 7th January 2017.

9.3 It was noted that Shirley Round Table needed to be contacted for their 2017 Christmas Rounds and to see if they could carry out the official switch on.

10. To discuss Tesco Bags of Help funding.

10.1 It was noted that everything – all documentation and photographs - had now been submitted for the final funding to be released, an acknowledgment had been received.

11. To review the Recreation Committee Plan 2013/14.

11.1 This was looked at, it was stated that work at the Mount was ongoing; that some of the planters underneath road signs looked a mess and needed to be removed; the ideas about asking residents to give road name signs a wipe when cleaning their car and regarding regular walkers cutting back overgrowth were noted. In relation to the clearing of the River it was noted that a license had been obtained.

12. Review of actions list (*issued to committee members with the agenda*).

12.1 The list was reviewed and it was agreed that several items could be removed.

13. To consider and resolve any action(s) in relation to any items of correspondence received; email from Charter for Trees, Woods and People regarding becoming a Charter Branch and trying to obtain a free tree for planting; email from Brian Brown regarding cars parking on Village Green; email from Lucy Lang regarding overhanging tree(s).

13.1 The email from the Charter for Trees was read out. It was agreed that CGPC could sign up for this as there was nothing to lose and there was a possibility of obtaining a tree, which could then be donated to the Boys Brigade for planting. Cllr. Hall agreed to do this.

13.2 An email circulated by Cllr. Brown regarding a resident complaining about cars being parked on the Village Green was noted and discussed. It was felt that if this was happening on a regular basis, it would be picked up during the monthly risk assessment. No-one present had seen any cars parked on the Village Green and it was stated that this would be monitored.

13.3 An email from a resident regarding overhanging trees was discussed. It was agreed that this would be monitored via the monthly risk assessments and that at present it did not appear to be too bad to warrant any action. It was noted that the resident had been informed that the Parish Council had all trees properly inspected every 3 years and carried out any necessary work as reported from the inspection.

13.4 It was noted that no progress had been made in relation to the goal posts. That it had been agreed to find out the cost for cleaning, repainting and purchasing new nets and to then compare this with the cost for purchasing two new goals posts. Cllr. Brown agreed to request a quote from the company that had repainted all the other equipment on the Recreation Ground.

14. To discuss co-opting members.

14.1 It was noted that no-one had come forward. Cllr. Swain said he had an idea about someone that he could ask.

15. Date and time for next meeting and any agenda items.

15.1 Monday 11th September 2017 at 10:30am.

Meeting closed 12:30

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