

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

LEISURE & AMENITIES COMMITTEE held at 6.00 pm.
ON WEDNESDAY 03 JULY 2019 AT WEST SWINDON LIBRARY

Minutes

Present:

Cllr Umar Ali
Cllr Mike Burtenshaw
Cllr Steph Exell
Cllr Tim Makofu
Cllr Trish Philpot
Cllr Tim Swinyard
Cllr Caryl Sydney Smith
Cllr Keith Williams (Chair)

Officers:

Leanne Curtis (Assistant Clerk)
Paula Harrison (Parish Manager)

Public: Fifteen

Cllr Tim Swinyard chaired the meeting.

Public Participation:

Resident gave thanks to everyone involved in the Conisborough Clean Up, everyone worked very hard and the results were good.

Resident asked when Toothill would get its own noticeboard? Chair advised that notices were being displayed at the village centre.

Resident asked why the Parish Grounds team were continuing to cut back hard. Had this been reviewed, no information available online? The Parish Manager advised that the Full Council discussion had reviewed a number of aspects of the Streetsmart contract including future use of the team undertaking tall reduction work. This team have the biggest impact on the local environment. No decision has been made to re-timetable work.

Resident asked where work had got to arranging for volunteers and staff to issue fines for littering. The Parish Manager advised that this work came to a halt as the Parish Council couldn't bring together enough people to run the training course. The Litter and Flytipping Working Party has not been reconvened.

Presentation from Toothill Big Local

Kareen Boyd from Toothill Big Local (TBL) gave a presentation to the Committee indicating that the Big Local funding had acquired the Toothill Tavern on a 62 year lease. Ms Boyd advised that there was lots of work to be done before being open and

up and running for business. The team would be holding drop in sessions over the coming weeks to let everyone know more about this. In order to operate such a facility, TBL has set up 'The Hub @ Toothill' a Community Interest Company limited by guarantee. TBL investment and many months of work will allow the site to be transformed. Aspirations include but are not limited to; a variety of community and short term/start up office/work space, outdoor children's play area and general family space, a family pub with daily food offering, community fridge, a defibrillator as well as access to IT services and a Mashed / Repair café nearby. The hire cost of facilities will reflect the nature and location of the hirer and any distributable profits will be re-invested in the facility, activities and the continuation of the TBL grants programme. In summary, we believe that this investment of lottery funding will provide a lasting and sustainable legacy benefiting not only Toothill but also the wider community. A number of questions were asked about security, sustainability and accessibility.

Meeting started 6.30 pm.

81. Apologies

Cllr Suresh Gattapur (Vice Chair)
Cllr Nigel Gibbons
Cllr Nick Martin

82. Declarations of Interest & Applications for Dispensation

Cllr Sydney Smith declared an interest as a member of the Toothill Big Local and a school governor.

83. Bin Update

The Parish Manager indicated that 15 new litter bins had been installed and the remaining 10 were due to be fitted over the next two weeks. Recently two bins have gone missing and may have been stolen. These are very heavy items that cannot be easily transported. The Parish Manager will seek costs to have bins fixed down – particularly those in more vulnerable locations.

RESOLVED that the Parish Manager updates on costs at the next L&A Committee meeting.

- 84. Youth Shelter** – requested by Cllr Steph Exell/Communications Working Party
A report outlining a request for the removal of the Flint Hill youth shelter, was circulated. A copy appears as **Appendix A** in the Minute Book. Cllr Exell introduced the issue and asked Councillors to consider resident requests for removal or relocation. Councillors discussed the issue and considered whether more activity on the site generally would in itself deter anti social behaviour.

6.42 pm Standing orders suspended to invite public feedback.

6.45 pm Standing orders reinstated.

- 85. **RESOLVED**** that the Parish Manager drafts a letter in consultation with the Toothill Parish Councillors to invite residents neighbouring Flint Hill/mudhills to comment on options to

improve the area including new ball play and the youth shelter.

6.55 pm Cllr Keith Williams joined the meeting.

86. Play Area Inspections

Councillors received a quote for annual play inspections, a copy of which appears as **Appendix B** in the Minute Book.

RESOLVED that the Parish Manager commissions the next round of play inspections from the Play Inspection Company.

87. Conisborough Clean Up

Councillors received a report reviewing the community clean up at Conisborough a copy of which appears as **Appendix C** in the Minute Book. Cllr Exell confirmed that the event had gone well and was very enjoyable, including great refreshments. Concerns about the skip proved unfounded and the pilot should be able to be repeated for future projects.

88. Play Area Programme 2019-20 and Bloomsbury Park and Uxbridge Play Area – as requested by Cllr Geoff Gould and supported by Cllr Trish Philpot.

Councillors received a report outlining tender papers for play area refurbishment 2019-20/20-21, a copy of which appears as **Appendix D** in the Minute Book.

The Parish Manager advised that papers were drafted for the public tender process and additions could be made. A timetable set out in the report aims to put the tender documentation out by the end of July in order to receive designs and costs by end of August ready for decisions in the Autumn and installation scheduled to get underway. This would be weather dependent and reliant on permissions being in place. At the previous Committee meeting it had been agreed that five areas should be drafted as follows:

- Shelfinch & The Chesters – 2019-20 budget
- Nine Elms, Tumpy Field and The Holbeins - 2021 budget.

The Parish Manager advised Councillors that the Council is not tied to any particular company and can define a shortlist of respondees in order to refine final ideas or final budgets. There would be economies gained from advertising a tender opportunity on multiple sites particularly if work can be distributed across the sites at a similar timeframe.

Councillor Philpot asked that Bloomsbury Park and Uxbridge Road play areas be added to the list for the tender documentation and this was duly noted.

Councillors reviewed and discussed the list.

RESOLVED that

- a) The Chesters and Shelfinch play areas are prioritised for refurbishment taking into account resident feedback on sites/changes proposed
- b) the Parish Manager identifies any relevant budget underspend from

2018-19 that could be allocated to the play budget and includes this in a report to Full Council

c) the report to Full Council sets out a recommendations that the following seven play areas are included in tender documentation to be issued in July 2019:

1. Shelfinch
2. The Chesters
3. Nine Elms
4. Tumpy Field
5. The Holbeins
6. Bloomsbury Park
7. Uxbridge Road

Meeting finished at 7.11 pm.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 07 August 2019 7.00 pm.

Signed:
Chair, Leisure & Amenities Committee

Date: