

MINUTES of the Parks and Recreation Committee held online, on Monday 25th January 2021 at 7.00pm

Membership:

Cllr Brett (East) Chairman	*	Cllr Fryer (Broadway)	*
Cllr Davis (East)	*	Cllr Pitcher (Broadway)	A
Cllr Doyle (East)	A	Cllr Robbins (East)	*
Cllr Fraser (West)	*	Peter Hewitt (co-opted)	A

Key: * Present A Apologies AB Absent

In attendance:

Officers: Tom Dommett, Assistant Town Clerk, Stuart Legg, Parks and Open Spaces Manager, Judith Halls, Office Manager

Online Meeting Attendees:

PR/20/046 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Doyle and Pitcher and from co-opted member Peter Hewitt.

PR/20/047 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Davis declared a non-pecuniary interest under Warminster Town Council's (WTC) Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, as he is a neighbour of the Town Park, but he would remain for the discussion and vote.

PR/20/048 Minutes

PR/20/048.1 The minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on Monday 23rd November 2020 were **approved as a true record and signed**.

PR/20/048.2 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on Monday 23rd November – **Noted**.

PR/20/049 Chairman's Announcements

Cllr Brett thanked all Warminster Town Council officers and staff for their continued hard work in keeping the park up to a high standard in these difficult times.

PR/20/050 Public Participation

No public participation.

PR/20/051 Reports from Unitary Authority Members

Cllr Davis reported that owing to the current situation the transfer of assets from Wiltshire would be delayed.

PR/20/052 Assistant Town Clerk's Report: Lake Pleasure Grounds and Associated Land

The Assistant Town Clerks report was **Noted**.

PR/20/053 Accounts up to 31st December 2020

Cllr Davis asked about the electricity charges for the Central Car Park Toilets and if this covered the car electric charging point that had been installed by Wiltshire Council. It was confirmed that this charge was just for the toilet usage.

Cllr Fryer asked if the sweeper went along Imber Road, to clear the leaf debris. The sweeper does clear part of the area and further investigation will be undertaken to see if the area further along the road could be cleared.

The accounts for the Parks and Recreation Committee until 31st December 2020 were **Noted**.

PR/20/054 Utility Vehicle

At a meeting of the Full Council on 21st September 2020 members decided to bring in house grounds maintenance services which were currently contracted to Idverde, because of this Warminster Town Council now needed to purchase equipment to provide this service.

Cllr Davis had a few questions which were answered by the Park and Open Spaces Manager.

Q) Does the Polaris have a safety roll bar?

A)The Polaris has roll bar protection and safety seat belts fitted.

Q) Can the Polaris go across all terrain and where the electric mowers cannot access?

A)The electric mowers can cut any grass type.

Q) Can the Bateson Trailer be used by other vehicles in the Warminster Town Council fleet and is a special licence required?

A)The Bateson Trailer can be hitched to any other vehicle and can be towed by any qualified driver as its maximum gross weight is up to 750kg

Cllr Robbins asked if this trailer would be large enough for the future, Cllr Brett confirmed that Warminster Town Council already owned a larger trailer.

Members unanimously agreed to the purchase a battery-powered Polaris Utility Vehicle EV Mid T2a, electric 48V, canopy, front screen, tow bar, road lighting kit and road registration at a cost of £13,725 plus VAT and Bateson Trailer B64, with ramp tail gate, mesh side, spare wheel and prop stands at a cost of £1135 plus VAT..

PR/20/055 Tree Works

In October 2020 a tree condition survey was carried out on the council's land (except play areas) as part of the councils ongoing risk management strategy. The report outlined recommended works to be undertaken.

Members unanimously agreed to the quotation from Idverde for £1,514.05 plus VAT.

PR/20/056 Queensway Play Area

At the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee on 23rd November 2020 members noted the recommended schedule of works for the councils' play areas. **PR/20/042 refers.** Owing to the ongoing COVID-19 situation the priority 1 works had been delayed, but officers were able to present members with quotations for these works.

Cllr Davis asked if eco mulch was like Wetpour or bark chippings. The Park and Open Spaces Manager, Stuart Legg confirmed that eco mulch was a safety surface similar to Wetpour but made from recycled rubber and this was finished into the ground which reduced the possibility of shrinkage.

**Members unanimously approved the two quotes from Proludic for:
Removal of existing basket swing and replace with POD metal swing at a cost of £3,620.45 + VAT
Removal and disposal of existing safety surface. Replace with 40mm eco mulch at a cost of £1,960.00 + VAT
Total £5,580.45 + VAT**

PR/20/057 Communications

PR/20/57.1 Members did not require a press release to be issued at present, but supported one about the utility vehicle when it had been delivered.

PR/20/57.2 Cllr Brett, Chairman of the committee would be their spokesperson to report on the Council's decision if required.

Meeting closed 7.35pm

**The date of the next Parks and Recreation Committee will be
Monday 29th March 2021 at 7.00pm**

Minutes from this meeting will be available to all members of the public either from our website www.warminster-tc.gov.uk or by contacting us at Warminster Civic Centre.