



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ASHURST WOOD PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE** held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 7.45 pm at the Council Meeting Room.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: D Loveday (Chair), R Bright, M Bussell, K Lindsay and J Samways

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Caroline Leet (Clerk); Ceri Evans (Handyman) **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** 0

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

**199. Public Questions**

None.

Responsibility of

**200. Apologies for absence**

Apologies from Cllrs Forbes, Judge and Phillips were received and **resolved; the reasons were accepted.**

**201. To receive Declarations of Interests from Members in respect of any matter on the agenda**

None; though Cllr Lindsay did advise she was on the Community Tennis Club Committee.

**202. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

The minutes were **approved as an accurate account of the meeting.**

**203. Recorded meetings: to approve deletion of recording – *there were no recordings currently being held.***

**204. Budget**

The budget and expenditure to-date was noted; there were no questions.

**205. Clerk's report**

The Clerk's report was received.

**a To note: the defibrillator at Maypole Road/School Lane junction is now live with the ambulance service (also reported to the full Council)**

Noted.

**b To note: The trees at John Pears Recreation Ground which align the tennis courts have been noted by Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC) for thinning and height reduction work, and is included in its scheduled winter works programme for 2018/19**

Noted.

**c To Note: The Horse Chestnut tree in the play area at the Recreation Ground has been inspected by MSDC's arboriculture officer and has been assessed as being healthy. It is recommended that this tree would benefit from pruning to the previous level. However, due the good health of the tree this will become a lower priority**

Noted.

**d To note: MSDC has confirmed the bench at the Recreation Ground which had been removed temporarily will not be replaced. However, one new bench has been sited near the path from Wray Close and a second new bench will be sited between two beech trees on the north side of the field.**

Noted.

**206. To receive a report from the Handyman**

There was no activity of significance to report. It was noted that the Handyman was currently on sick leave.

**a To approve the expenditure of up to £50 to purchase a wheelbarrow for the handyman**

Cllr Bussell said she thought £50 would not be enough to purchase a decent wheelbarrow having recently researched one for herself. Members agreed and **resolved the expenditure of up to £75 to purchase a wheelbarrow for the handyman.**

Clerk

**207. Winter Management Plan**

Cllr Loveday referred to the Clerk's report which reminded members that the audit had been submitted to West Sussex County Council (WSCC) in August and salt grit supplies had since been replenished. He mentioned that the November newsletter had reminded members about using the salt grit in the colder weather. The only concern was the lack of volunteers in the event of snow, but that he had observed some residents already using the salt grit from the bins provided.

**208. The War Memorial**

**a To receive the tenders for the War Memorial renovations**

Cllr Loveday said that following the last meeting an invitation to tender was sent to eight possible stone masons and despite chasing each of these, only two tender prices had been received. Both of the tender prices had come in below the War Memorial Trusts (WMT) guidelines for the need to have a Conservation Accredited Professional Advisor (CAPA) to oversee the work. Members discussed the tenders and noted some variances; for example, the method for re-etching the lettering and the expected time the work. It was agreed to submit both tenders to the WMT, but if only one was needed to send the one which supported previous advice re the lettering and had allowed slightly longer for the work. Cllr Bussell noted that the Yew hedge would need to be cut back significantly in order for the repairs to the rear wall however, it should grow back reasonable quickly (within a year).

Cllr Bright suggested that if the WMT did not approve all of the funding, to approach the British Legion who also funds renovation work for Memorials.

**b To approve the Clerk to submit a grant application to the War Memorial Trusts To receive an update**

Members **agreed** an application should be submitted to WMT as soon as possible and instructed the Clerk to complete the application form.

Clerk

**209. To receive an update on the project for the basketball court extension for John Pears Recreation Ground**

Cllr Loveday reminded members that at the last meeting, and the October meeting of the full Council, it had been agreed to use the remaining section 106 funds in Formal Sport (£6,214) play space (£2,439) to extend the basketball area. The total funds available were £8,653. A half-sized court had been initially estimated at £5,197 and £2k had been allowed for the posts and nets. This should leave £1,455 however, Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC) were currently repricing the project and had also said that they did not have the staff resources – it is not known exactly what is meant by this. In the meantime, MSDC estates and facilities business unit leader (Thuso Selelo) would present a report to the Charity Trustees January meeting with the

recommendation to extend the basketball facilities.

The Clerk updated Members saying that she had been in touch with MSDC officers and that there was a query over the application process for the s106 money. The application form needed to be submitted by whoever was contracting the work. Ideally, this would be MSDC as the council should avoid entering in to another complicated legal process with MSDC. She had requested a meeting with the Thuso Selelo.

**210. Street Snooker Multi Use Games Wall**

Cllr Loveday referred to the previous meeting when it had been mentioned that some balls seemed to be being kicked over the Street Snooker Wall on to the tennis courts. Having approached MSDC, they had advised that a planning application would be needed if the netting was to be extended. MSDC had since obtained a price to extend the existing tennis court fencing directly behind the snooker wall by 1.8metres in height would, £1,140. Members discussed the problem with balls going on to the tennis courts. It was noted that this was mainly at the weekends and the tennis court key was available to collect.

**a To note: following a request to MSDC to consider extending the height to a section of the tennis courts netting which backs on to the Street Snooker Wall, MSDC planning department have said that as the height is greater than 2m outlined in the schedule 2 part 2 class A of the 2015 General Permitted Development Order, a planning application is likely**  
Noted.

**b To consider submitting a planning application to extend the netting of the tennis courts at the section behind the Street Snooker Wall and the expenditure of £97.50 to submit a planning application (this includes the parish council 50% discount)**  
In view of the above costs, members agreed to monitor the problem and to reconsider if complaints were received.

**c To consider approving the expenditure to extend the netting to a section of the tennis courts netting (estimate cost should be available by time of meeting)**  
Due to the costs, Members agreed that this could be reviewed once the costs of the basketball ball project were finalised.

**211. To consider approving the expenditure of £267 to purchase a replacement litter bin for Hammerwood Road outside the news store**  
Members resolved expenditure of £267 to purchase a replacement litter bin for Hammerwood Road outside the news store.

Clerk

**212. Any items for reporting or inclusion on future agenda**  
None.

Cllr Lindsay said that street light on the Lewes Road replaced following an accident earlier in the year, had not yet been painted green as previously advised by Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) who had said it would be by September. The Clerk was asked to chase this.

Clerk

**213. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018**  
Cllr Bussell gave her apologies in advance. Cllr Lindsay also said that she was unsure if she would be able to attend also.

Meeting closed: 20:05

Chairman.....

Date.....