MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Monday 20th January 2025 at 6:30pm, Small Meeting Room
Old School Building, Main Street, Burton Joyce

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Cllrs G Hadjigeorgiou (Chair) (from 7pm) P Hyde (Vice Chair) Y Greenfield (from 6:50pm) and H Chadbourne-Doyle
In attendance: J Sherrin (Clerk) D List (Grounds & Amenities Manager) and Chair and Member of the Garden Holders' Association (GHA)

Meeting commenced 6:50pm

AM25/470 **Apologies for Absence –** Cllr R Fife

AM25/471 **Declarations of Councillors' interest for items on the agenda** – Cllr Hyde has an allotment

AM25/472 **Minutes of meeting held on 13th November 2024 –** Approved as a true record and signed by the Vice Chair

AM25/473 **Trees Survey –** Survey not yet booked – D List to follow up

AM25/474 **Allotments**

(i) GHA Update

a. Changes to tenancy agreement explored. Suggested that a set period of e.g 3 months for tenants with a genuine reason for not upkeeping their plots should be instigated (to prevent long-term deterioration of the plot) but that this should not be built into the agreement. There should also be a referral to the committee for anyone over 28 days of the notice period. GHA Chair offered to review plots 2 weeks after inspections to ensure that action is taken. Proposed that the agreement from GHA to be merged with existing agreement by Ops Manager and circulated by Monday 10th February in preparation for the next meeting. Agreed for new signs to be made for gates – allotment holders only / no public access. Clerk to action.

b. Update on insurance policy – GHA advised by the Clerk that own insurance needs to be used for voluntary work as operating own machinery. In grass growing season Grounds Manager will cut headlands approx. every 2 weeks. GHA will keep on top of the edges / strimming.

c. Update on storage shed options. GHA requested plot 39B (end plot, water-logged at bottom) as a communal area for a storage shed. Agreed for it to be relinquished by the plot holder. (Period of GHA use of plot to be agreed at next Amenities Committee meeting).

d. Feedback from tenants re holding an Open Day – to be re-evaluated and advertised locally when ready.

e. Agreement on date for BJTV interview to showcase allotments – Aim for summer

(ii) Plot numbering posts – 2 options of concrete posts (approx. cost £100 per post) and small wooden posts discussed. Detailed costings and options to be brought to next meeting by Grounds Manager for consideration.

(iii) Clearance of Plot 34B – Notice served. Agreed for weed-suppressing sheets to be purchased by Parish Council. GHA to install. Budget and water bills to be reviewed.

(iv) Months for inspections agreed to be March, July and October each year. Deputy Clerk to set up specific inspection dates.

(v) Waiting list update – 4 residents, 2 non-residents, all for existing plots. Agreed for GHA to post on Facebook that plots are available – to liaise with Deputy Clerk over responses. Other updates - GHA AGM will be April / May. Will be applying for lottery funding.

GHA members left at this point

AM25/475 Roberts Recreation Ground

(i) RoSPA report – Update on works. Ops Manager and Grounds Manager met at site to review quotes required. Multi-pongo parts are ordered. Zip wire – to monitor and follow manufacturers instructions. Clerk to find name of original suppliers.

(ii) Quotes for surface and equipment repairs - Surface on roundabout would benefit from being completely replaced, but repairs being quoted for first.

(iii) Maintenance – Ops manager has emailed supplier re broken spinner.

AM25/476 War Memorial

(i) Ramped Access – Concerned resident and history society chair met on site to discuss alternatives. Post put on FB from Cllr Hadjigeorgiou to advise Parish Council is exploring options. Response – queried whether permanent structure is needed. War Memorials Trust advised 'need assessment' would be required. Agreed to explore use of Bowls Club's temporary ramp as alternative, to possibly be kept on site and combination locked. Grounds Manager to ask Bowls Club and Clerk to organise site visit.

AM25/477 Cemetery

(i) Works now started on laurel hedge cut-back for Chestnut Grove. Box hedging and roses on arch have been dug out. Hedge being replaced with pittosporum and rose being replaced with clematis.

(ii) Portacabin ceiling – Ceiling replaced – needs plastic covering. Grounds Manger to action.

(iii) Wall – Quote requested. Grounds Manager to circulate once received.

(iv) Headstone replacement following fallen branch – Ground is ready. Deputy Clerk to follow up

(v) War grave sign at cemetery entrance – forms completed, photo taken. Waiting for installation.

(vi) Purchase of replacement ride-on mower considered. Grounds Manager reported that the Kubota ride-on mower [purchased Nov 2019] is starting to deteriorate and will cost too much to repair, but drives ok. Suggested to use it for 3G sweeping instead (where cutting deck not needed). This would replace existing Countax ride -on tractor used for 3G sweeping. Countax could be sold or part-exchanged for approx. £500. To be proposed to Full Council to purchase replacement for Kubota – approximate cost £6k with Countax part-exchanged or sold. Machine supplier to be approached re selling or part-exchanging the Countax.

AM25/478 The Grove

(i) Memorial Mountain Ash Tree – now planted

(ii) Bins – now installed

(iii) Wayleave request from OpenReach – Can't be contacted by phone or email.

AM25/479 Old School Building Maintenance

(i) Drainage – To be reviewed by community garden contractors.

(ii) Storage Shed Clearance – Awaiting conversation with Brass Band.

AM25/480 Information update – None

AM25/481 Date of next meeting – Monday 10th March

Meeting closed 8:20pm

Signed: _____ Date:_____

Chair of Amenities Committee