



Minutes of the Grounds Committee meeting held on 23rd January 2024 commencing at 10.30am, in the Town Council Office, Lady Street, Dulverton.

Present: Chairman: Cllr. Mrs Christine Dubery. Cllrs: Mr Alan Ottey: Mr Bill Gash, who left at 11.45 and Mrs Louise Parrish.

Deferment of Business for comment by the public. None

Apologies: Cllrs. Mrs Allison Crisp and Mr John Preston.

Declarations of Interests: None that are not already declared.

Chairman's Comments & Meeting Management: None

Matters Arising:

All Saints Church School House Boundary Wall:

Nothing further to report.

Members considered the proposal that due to the instability of the current economic situation members that any further spending on the boundary wall is temporarily suspended. As we are still awaiting information from Steers it was decided to await further information before considering this proposal.

Barnsclose – SWW Works:

Members consider that ideally the area should be reinstated before SWW leave the site; however acknowledge that the weather may prevent this.

They would like any delay to be in agreement with the Town Council and within an agreed time scale.

An amended draft agreement to incorporate the above is awaited.

Grounds Men – Annual Contracts & Job Specifications.

After lengthy discussion it was:

RESOLVED: To offer the grounds men £14.00 per hour for work done for DTC. Proposed by Mr Gash, seconded by Mrs Dubery and carried.

RESOLVED: To pay 4.5 days' work, owed to Mr Bryant for the year commencing April 23. Proposed by Mrs Dubery, seconded by Mr Ottey and carried.

Parish Lengthsman Scheme

Members discussed the viability of maintaining the scheme giving the Parish Lengthsman the opportunity to negotiate individual contracts. It was agreed that the participating parishes are contracted to obtain their views.

Play Equipment - Annual Inspection Report – Dec 23.

To be deferred until the next meeting.

Annual Servicing of Grounds Equipment:

Three quotes were submitted for consideration

RESOLUTION: Annual servicing for the Bobcat, Isecki and Wessex to be undertaken by Masons Kings, providing a quote concerning the Wessex is competitive. Proposed by Mr Gash, seconded by Mrs Dubery and carried.

Further quotes required from Masons Kings regarding the two rotary mowers as well as the extra items, (e.g.2 rotary mowers and strimmers & leaf blowers etc.)

Further quotes required from Andrew Symons & Mid – Devon Lawnmowers regarding the two rotary mowers as well as the extra items.

Reports from Members as follows:

Cemetery: Cllr. Mrs Louise Parish

Christmas wreaths are to be removed.

The laurel immediately on the left of the entrance requires pruning.

Church Yard: Cllr. Mrs Louise Parrish / Parish Lengthsman: Mr John Preston

Nothing to report.

Sports Field: Cllr. Mrs Christine Dubery

Nothing to report

Barnsclose: Cllr. Mr Alan Ottey

Nothing further to report.

Kings Corner: Cllr. Mr John Preston

Nothing to report

Exmoor Lawns: Cllr. Mrs Louise Parrish

There exists a mole problem to be dealt with.

Abbots Way/ Abbots Way Pond: Cllr. Allan Ottey

The pond is still leaking around the exit pipe. A contractor has been asked to take a look and also advise as to measures to deal with the existence of the oxygenating weed.

Pound Walk: Cllr. Mr John Preston

Considerable work has been undertaken by the Highways Steward.

Lorna Doone Roundabout & Grass Cutting: Cllr. Mrs Louise Parrish

Nothing to report.

Urgent maintenance issues with regards all other grounds with permission of the Chairman:

None

Chairman.....