

Snodland Town Council – Amenities and Recreation

14 October 2021

Committee Members present:	Mrs D Crook (C), P Hickmott, and Mrs S Bell
Council Members present:	Mrs K Sowten (CEO)
Members of the public:	None

1.	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllrs A Barden, Ms D King, Mr A Bennison, Mrs K Mordecai-Woolf and Mr W Mallard.</p>
2.	<p><u>Declaration of Interests</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
3.	<p><u>Minutes - To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2021</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2021 were agreed as a correct record.</p>
4.	<p><u>Questions from the public</u></p> <p><i>Pursuant to Standing Order 3 e & g Members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda. A member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes.</i></p> <p>There were no members of the public present.</p>
5.	<p><u>To reconsider a request from a resident regarding the purchase of amenity land</u></p> <p>The CEO advised that the council had been asked by a resident to reconsider a request to purchase amenity land at Willowside. She advised that there are gas pipes that runs through the open space.</p> <p>0777 RESOLVED – to decline the resident’s request to purchase amenity land. It is the councils policy not to sell areas of amenity and public open space.</p>
6.	<p><u>To receive a report from the Allotment Committee</u></p> <p>The draft allotment committee report was distributed to the Committee members.</p> <p>The CEO raised the recommendations made by the Allotment Committee:</p> <p>0778 RESOLVED – that all members of the committee should carry out yearly and bi-yearly inspections.</p>

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<p>0779</p> <p>0780</p> <p>0781</p> <p>0782</p> <p>0783</p>	<p>RESOLVED – that a 6 week intervention letter be sent to new allotment holders the committee members on new allotments that become neglected and the probation period changed to 2 months. Tenancy agreements would be sent out as soon as the Allotment holder took on the plot (pro-rata rates would apply during the year). If the new tenancies are terminated, the rent should not be refunded.</p> <p>RESOLVED – that Mr Eastwood devise a new 21 day letter with a more compassionate tone.</p> <p>RESOLVED – to reduce larger plots in order to offer new allotment holders a smaller plot to cultivate.</p> <p>RESOLVED – that committee members advise the office staff in a timely manner so that the paperwork can be drawn up in time for the new tenant.</p> <p>The CEO requested for the office to authorise the erection of sheds, greenhouses and polytunnels outside of the standard size quoted in the agreement in order that tenants could purchase their equipment as soon as possible.</p> <p>RESOLVED to allow for the office to authorise sheds, greenhouses and polytunnels outside of the standard size quoted in the agreement</p>
7.	<p><u>Snodland goes cleaner</u></p> <p>The next litter pick is scheduled for Sunday 7 November 2021 at 11am, meet at Recreation Avenue entrance. Cllr Hickmott to lead on the litter pick. This will be advertised on Facebook and Website.</p>
8.	<p><u>To receive a request to plant an oak tree in Nevill Park</u></p> <p>A request has been received from a resident to plant an oak tree in memory of her late husband. A councillor raised a question regarding whether a charge should be made. The Committee advised that they did not feel that a charge would be appropriate. The tree will be planted in a position that the council feel appropriate and on the understanding that the council cannot be held responsibility if it doesn't survive.</p> <p>0784 RESOLVED to plant the oak tree in Nevill Park.</p>
9.	<p><u>To consider plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee</u> www.queensjubileebeacons.com</p> <p>The lighting of the beacon to take place on Thursday 2 June (Bank Holiday). In previous years the Beacon has been lit on the top of the hill. A discussion took place with a view to placing the Beacon in Potyns and light the Beacon as part of a celebration which could include individual pipers and pipe bands are being</p>

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	<p>asked to play “Diu Regnare” as their personal tribute to Her Majesty The Queen. This could also include a community celebration of some kind, further planning is needed and would be dependent upon the number of volunteers.</p> <p>RECOMMEND to discuss further at Full Council.</p>
10.	<p><u>To consider plans for Remembrance Day</u></p> <p>The CEO advised the Council that the Road Closure was in place and an email would go out requesting Volunteers for Road Closure Marshalls. Refreshments would be served in the Paddlesworth Rooms at the Community Centre. A representative would be required to lay the Council wreath of behalf of the Chairman as Cllr Bell will be representing Tonbridge and Malling in her role as Deputy Mayor.</p> <p>RECOMMEND to discuss further details at Full Council.</p>
11.	<p><u>To consider plans for Christmas In Snodland</u></p> <p>It was previously resolved that the lights would be switched on automatically. The Scouts are going ahead with their Christmas Market. The Council need to make a decision with regards to Santa’s Grotto. A Gazebo could be erected and have Elves giving out presents, rather than having our regular Grotto which is a confined space. There are concerns regarding the number of volunteers available to help. A request can be put forward to the Choral Society to ascertain whether they would like to carry out their normal carol singing.</p> <p>RECOMMEND to discuss further details at Full Council.</p>
12.	<p><u>To consider and if agreed accept new prices for Cemetery and other Amenities</u></p> <p>The CEO reported on the Cemetery and Amenity Prices that have been increased in line with RPI. Prices remain competitive compared with other service providers. It was requested that prices are rounded to the nearest whole pound.</p> <p>The CEO reported that enquiries would be made regarding the requirement of a PPL/PRS licence and this cost will need to be reflected in the increases for the Amenity charges for the Hall Hire.</p> <p>0785 RESOLVED to increase Cemetery prices in line with RPI rounded to the nearest whole pound.</p> <p>0786 RESOLVED to increase Amenity prices in line with RPI and to increase Hall hire facilities to take into consideration additional costs required for the additional licences again rounded to the nearest whole pound.</p> <p>0787 RESOLVED to look into the costs and requirements of the PPL/PRS licence.</p>

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13.	<p><u>To discuss current concerns relating to the cutting of KCC Footpaths</u></p> <p>Councillors have growing concerns regarding the level of maintenance carried out by KCC on footpaths. KCC are cutting their budgets and this is not an excuse to relinquish their duties relating to footpaths. Residents have raised a number of complaints. The Town Council have on occasions maintained the footpaths. It was suggested that a list is compiled of areas that the council have been maintaining and request financial assistance from KCC. Cllrs are very concerned that KCC are not providing the service that is expected of them and not fulfilling their obligations in relation to maintenance. It was also suggested to approach Cllr Hohler at Full Council and request an Officer from KCC attend a council meeting to address the issues.</p>
14.	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>None.</p>

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20:15.