

Snodland Town Council – Amenities and Recreation

27 May 2021

Committee Members present:	Cllrs Mrs D Crook (C), Mrs S Bell, A Bennison, P Hickmott, Mrs D King and W Mallard
Council Members present:	Mrs K Sowten (CEO) and Miss E Jones
Members of the public:	None

1.	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs A Barden, Mrs N Misy and Mrs K Mordecai-Woolf.</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 4th March 2021</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 4th March 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 take representation, answer are advised that 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>No members of the public present.</p>
5.	<p><u>Snodland Goes Cleaner – Great British Spring Clean 28 May – 13 June</u></p> <p>The litter pick schedule was sent to the Committee members prior to the meeting and the CEO suggested that the litter pick scheduled for the 5th June 2021 would coincide with the Great British Spring Clean. The CEO asked Cllr Mrs S Bell if she would be happy to co-ordinate the litter pick and provide volunteers with litter pickers and bag hoops. The litter pick would begin at the end of Hollow Lane. It was also suggested that R Kinslow took part and could dispose of the rubbish at the end.</p> <p>0722 RESOLVED – Cllr Mrs S Bell to co-ordinate the litter pick on the 5th June 2021 and the event would be advertised on FB and the Council website.</p>
6.	<p><u>To receive a report from the Allotment Committee</u></p> <p>The CEO advised that an allotment advisory meeting was held on 18th May 2021 and Miss E Jones apologised for omitting to send the invite to Cllrs W Mallard and A Keeley. The CEO gave a report on the matters that were raised at the meeting:</p> <p><u>Water Butts</u> – the CEO asked the Committee for their approval to amend the Tenancy Agreement next year requesting that allotment holders who had</p>

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<p>0723</p>	<p>sheds on their allotments should obtain water butts in order to conserve the rainwater. This would then be implemented in 2023.</p> <p>RESOLVED – to revise the Allotment Tenancy Agreement next year to advise that water butts should be obtained by shed owners on to their plots. This would then be implemented in 2023.</p> <p><u>Play Equipment on plots</u> – The CEO advised that over the years, allotment holders have placed bulky plastic play equipment on their plots for their children/grand children to play on and although the Council welcome children at the allotments to take part in the cultivation of vegetables and plants, the allotment is not a play ground. Invariably, the play equipment also gets left behind when the tenant vacates the plot and Council staff eventually have to dispose of the equipment. The CEO asked the Committee if the Tenancy Agreement could be revised to state that no play equipment would be allowed on the sites.</p>
<p>0724</p>	<p>RESOLVED – to revise the Allotment Tenancy Agreement next year to advise that play equipment would not be permitted on the allotment sites.</p> <p>The CEO advised the Committee that there was a confidential item to be discussed at the end of the Agenda.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><u>To consider a request to place a memorial Bench in one of Snodland’s open spaces</u></p> <p>The Committee members received information regarding this item prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The CEO advised that a request had been made to erect a Memorial Bench in an open space in memory of 3 brothers who lived in Snodland but had now all passed way due to muscular dystrophy. The family now reside in Birling. The CEO advised that the person making the request was a friend and had raised at least £1500.</p> <p>0725 RESOLVED – It was agreed that before the bench could be positioned, enquiries should be made with the brothers family to confirm that they were in agreement for the bench to be placed in Snodland and not in Birling, where they currently reside. It was also agreed that if the family agreed for the bench to be situated in Snodland, it would be placed in Willowside (near the trees) and spaced away from the other bench. The bench would be a metal butterfly design, similar to the one in the dog walking area and at Holborough Park. The Council would fix the bench and a charge would be made for this service.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><u>To receive an update on TMBC “Welcome Back” fund</u></p> <p>The CEO advised that in order to receive the “Welcome Back” funding for the town, the CEO had to respond very quickly with items that the Council required to enhance the town’s appearance. The CEO confirmed that it had been agreed at the previous Full Council meeting that wooden planters (holding mature trees) and seating could be situated outside the old China Chaps</p>

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	<p>building. She advised that she had also tentatively asked for funding for the hanging baskets and for street furniture (lamp posts, bollards and railings) to be painted but advised that before the painting could be carried out, certain safety certificates needed to be obtained. She said that she would keep the Committee updated as soon as further information was received from TMBC.</p>
9.	<p><u>To consider the nominations for the Pride of Snodland Awards</u></p> <p>The Committee members received information of the all the nominees put forward for the Pride of Snodland Awards prior to the meeting. The CEO explained that these awards would be presented, along with the KALC and STC awards at the Annual Town meeting which would normally be held in June. It was agreed, that due to the uncertainty of the pandemic, that the Annual Town meeting would be postponed to a later date. It was agreed that all the nominees would receive an award which would be discussed at the next Full Council meeting.</p> <p>RECOMMEND – to discuss what awards should be given to the Pride of Snodland nominees ie plaque, gift vouchers etc.</p>
10.	<p><u>To discuss new arrangements for the Christmas Lights</u></p> <p>The CEO explained that the contract with the Council's current supplier of the Christmas lights was due to end in 2022 and wanted the Committee's views on whether to discontinue providing local businesses with lights on their shop windows. It was</p> <p>0726 RESOLVED – that it would be prudent to discontinue supplying lights for the businesses and to enhance the town centre with varied and lavish lighting options for 2022.</p>
11.	<p><u>To discuss a way forward with regard to disabled access arrangements to Holborough Park</u></p> <p>Cllr P Hickmott reported that he had recently met a resident who was partially disabled (occasional wheelchair user) and had complained that she was unable to gain access to Holborough Park via the entrance near the Tarmac offices. He advised that upon walking the route himself, he confirmed that the only access was via steep steps or through the Tarmac car park, which was now permanently closed due to staff working from home. The CEO advised that as the land belonged to Tarmac, permission would need to be sought from them before any decision could be made.</p> <p>0727 RESOLVED – to await a response from Tarmac with regard to disabled access to Holborough Park.</p>
12.	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>There was no correspondence.</p>

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	THE COMMITTEE HAS AGREED that in view of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw
0728	<p>The CEO raised a confidential matter concerning an allotment holder breaching his tenancy agreement and sought the Committees opinions on how best to deal with the matter.</p> <p>RESOLVED – that the allotment holder’s tenancy should be terminated with immediate effect.</p>

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.58pm.