

EASINGWOLD TOWN COUNCIL RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES
COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE GALTRES CENTRE ON
14TH FEBRUARY 2022

Present: Councillors Varney, Johnston-Banks, Butcher, Madden

Co-opted: C Jackson

Clerk: Mrs J Fairbrother

1.	Chairman Councillor Madden proposed Councillor Varney and Councillor Butcher seconded the proposal. Councillor Varney was appointed as Chairman.
2.	Apologies: Apologies were received from Councillors Nottage, Osborne and Gledhill and reasons given approved. Councillor Fletcher did not attend.
3.	It was resolved to adjourn the meeting for up to 15 minutes to take questions or comments through the Chairman from members of the public. There were no members of the public present at this stage in the meeting.
4.	Action Plan The Recreation & Open Spaces action plan was received and reviewed. Completed items will be removed from the list. A skip will be arranged to dispose of waste at the Council plot at Dawney Allotments.
5.	Millfields Open Space 5.1 A quote to spray the path by the wildflower border at Millfields was received and it was agreed to accept the quote for £510 from Mark Horsley of Yorkshire Paddock care. It was proposed to reduce the width of the border from 5m to 3m. 5.2 An email was received from Councillor Barnes regarding the dyke alongside the permissive route and it was AGREED that Chris Jackson would assess the work involved and report back to the next Full Council Meeting. 5.3 A proposal was received from the Youth Council to site a bench near the Skate Park using the £1000 donation from Easingwold Town Council. It was AGREED to approve the £750 towards the bench and the remaining £250 to go to COZIE for use of their facilities. However, concerns about anti-social behaviour in the area of the Skate Park were expressed. 5.4 An email was received from Councillor Butcher regarding the blackthorn below Claypenny play area and a quote for £500 was received from Greg Milburn to remove the growth but not the stumps. This item will be deferred to the next Full Council Meeting to give more time to consider the options. 5.5 The maintenance of the friendship garden was considered, and it was AGREED to set a regular annual maintenance budget of £250 for Crayke Nursery to maintain the garden and provide any additional plants required.
6.	Memorial Park An update from the Memorial Park Working Group was received.
7.	Trees 7.1 A quote was received from Jamie Ulliott for work to the lime tree outside 16 Larch Rise and it was AGREED to accept the quote for £320 to reduce the crown by 30% and prune back the house side branches by 3 metres.

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	<p>7.2 A quote was received from Liam Cochrane regarding the birch tree on Copperclay Walk and it was AGREED to accept the quote for £250 from Tree & Conifer Removal for a crown thin.</p> <p>7.3 An email was received from Councillor Butcher regarding the trees in the Memorial Park playground and it was AGREED that the ivy should be removed from both trees provided that the cost from Greg Milburn did not exceed £500, being twice the amount of the quote received for one tree. It was AGREED to obtain a quote to crown lift the branches on both trees.</p> <p>7.4 An email was received from a member of the public regarding the trees on Lime Tree Avenue. The meeting was opened up to allow three members of the public to speak. Concerns were expressed about the size of the trees and the safety risks. It was AGREED to ask a tree surgeon to survey them and give a recommendation on what work needs to be carried out. It was AGREED that a copy of the report will be sent to the residents attending the meeting, and, as the trees belong to them, also to NYCC to address the issues raised.</p> <p>7.5 The previous JCP Arboriculture report was reviewed.</p>
8.	<p>A quote for the grass cutting contract was received although this had too many cuts in it – a revised quote will be requested to incorporate 12 cuts per year as well as the bank surrounding the Friendship Garden. Two further quotes had been sought but there was no response from the contractors. This item was DEFERRED to the March Full Council Meeting.</p> <p>It was AGREED to obtain a quote from Joe Tate to cover the additional grass cutting work needed as set out in Councillor Butcher's email of 31st January.</p>
9.	<p>Allotment rent The rent for 2022/23 was reviewed and it was AGREED to increase the rent to £30.</p>
10.	<p>Playground Inspections The quarterly inspections from January 2022 were received. Several items were high risk at the Memorial Park. Councillors Johnston-Banks, Madden and Butcher AGREED to compile a list of urgent repairs, and these should be presented to the next Memorial Park Working Group Meeting. It was AGREED that a meeting should be arranged as soon as possible and that a report would be prepared for the next Full Council Meeting. It was AGREED that a short list of play equipment which need to be replaced soon should be presented at the March Full Council Meeting.</p>
11.	<p>Hedges encroaching on footpaths An email from a member of the public was received. It is NOTED that this is the responsibility of NYCC and no further action will be taken.</p>
12.	<p>Fence on Woodside Close/Mallison Hill Woods An email was received from a member of the public and it was agreed to write an email as requested stating that the responsibility for the fence lies with the property owners.</p>
13.	<p>Budget The financial position as of 31st January was noted and no virements were considered necessary.</p>
14.	<p>Date of the Next Meeting 16th May 2022 at 7.30pm or on the rising of the Planning Committee</p>

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The meeting closed at 20.21