



Public Services Committee
Thursday 2 July 2015 - 7.00 pm

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- Present: Councillors R G Heseltine [Chairman], J Dawson, Mrs K McIntyre, Mrs P Heseltine, Mrs W Clark and E Jaquin.
- Officers: Les Chandler [Estate Manager], Larry Mowlam [Allotments Officer] and Wendy Allsopp [Administration Assistant].

Three members of the public were in attendance.

1. To accept representations from the Public between 7.00 pm and 7.15 pm.

Mr Michael & Mrs June Shadenburg of Plot 10, Middletown Allotments, attended the meeting.

Mr Shadenburg explained that he and his wife had concerns relating to vehicular access to his allotment garden.

He stated that he believed the Council's decision to discontinue vehicular access to part of the allotment site by erecting a lockable bollard had caused problems for him and his neighbours whilst attempting to deliver heavy loads to and from their gardens. Mr & Mrs Shadenburg asked the Committee to consider providing them with a key to the bollard.

Ms Katie Shaw from 'Friends of Aireville Park' spoke to Members about her groups' concerns, primarily in Aireville Park, caused by dog mess. She requested that the Committee consider supporting the Green Dog Walkers who would like to start spraying dog mess with bio-degradable luminous spray to 'highlight' the extent to which dog owners did not clean up after their pets.

Ms Shaw left the meeting.

2. To accept apologies for absence.

Apologies given from:

Cllr Calvin Dow (work commitments) and Cllr P Madeley.

3. To record declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in items on the agenda.

None.

4. To consider the recommendations of the Chief Officer relating to requests for dispensations to Members on items requiring a declaration of pecuniary and non pecuniary interests.

None.

5. To approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on 11 June 2015.

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2015 were accepted as a true and fair record of what transpired at that meeting.

6. To report and receive information arising from the minutes of items not on the Agenda from Members and the Chief Officer.

Highways verge grass cutting – Members noted that a plot of land adjacent to Kingsway Vets on Otley Road was not being maintained. It was agreed that the Estate Manager should investigate.

It was **RESOLVED** to bring agenda item 8 forward.

8. To decide whether tenants should be issued with a key to the collapsible bollard installed at Middletown Allotments.

Members acknowledged that the collapsible bollard at Middletown Allotments has been installed to protect a pathway that is not designed to carry motor vehicles and noted that, as a general rule, tenants do not need vehicular access to their allotments because, if required, they can arrange with the Council Office for assistance in transporting heavy items.

However, given that three tenants have demonstrated that they have special needs and require occasional vehicular access to their allotments it was **RESOLVED** to provide them with a personal key to the bollard subject to strict conditions for use.

It was further **RESOLVED** that the Committee should review this decision at its meeting in October 2015 to confirm that the dispensation granted to the three tenants concerned has not been abused and to assess the impact of their vehicles on the condition of the pathway.

Mr and Mrs Shadenburg left the meeting.

Mr Mowlam left the meeting.

7. To discuss dog fouling issues around the town.

Given the issues surrounding dog fouling it was **AGREED** that the Council should obtain quotes and look into the feasibility of issuing a bio-degradable luminous spray to each Councillor to enable them to assess the extent of the problem within their Ward.

It was also **AGREED** that the Town Council should write to Craven District Council to ask for consideration to be given to increasing the resources available to the Dog Warden.

9. To receive an update with regard to issues surrounding members of the public using the field adjacent to Burnside recreation ground to access and cross the railway line.

In accordance with advice received from the Council's independent playground inspector it was **RESOLVED** that the Council should continue to monitor the public's use of the field adjacent to Burnside Recreation Ground to access and cross the main Skipton to Leeds railway line.

10. To determine what action to take in relation to unauthorised access to Shortbank Recreation Ground.

It was **RESOLVED** to:

- Write to the householders at 158 and 160 Moorview Way to acknowledge that they have created an unauthorised access into Shortbank Recreation Ground and that the Council cannot accept responsibility for maintaining the access.
- Request that the householders sign an 'heirs and successors' indemnity, drawn up by the Council's legal advisers, to cover the cost of any third party claims relating to the presence or use of the access and;
- Advise the householders that if they refuse to sign the indemnity the unauthorised access will be made good and the costs recovered from them.

11. To authorise a number of payments which fall outside of Officers' delegated authority.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment, to Blachere Illuminations, of the two instalments relating to the Christmas Lights Lease for 2015 in the total sum of £29,014.29 (excluding VAT).

It was further **RESOLVED** to suspend Standing Orders relating to the need to undertake a full tendering process for the procurement of additional market stalls at the 2015 Christmas Market and approve the order placed with Eventmen Ltd for the provision of additional market stalls at the 2015 Christmas Market, together with the subsequent payments totalling £5,912.20 (excluding VAT).

12. To receive notification on matters that members would like included on a future agenda.

Dog fouling.

Meeting closed at 8.12 pm