



Public Services Committee  
Thursday 8 September 2016 - 7.00 pm

Present: Councillors R G Heseltine [Chairman], C Clark, Mrs W Clark, J Dawson, Mrs P Heseltine, E Jaquin, P Madeley and Mrs K McIntyre

Also present: Councillor J Kerr

Officers: Dave Parker [Chief Officer] and Brett Butler [Town Centre Manager]

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

None

2. To accept apologies for absence.

None.

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 9 June 2016.

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2016 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.

**Black Walk Footpath** - Members were given an update regarding the works that had taken place on Black Walk. The Chief Officer advised members that Northern Trains had already completed half a day of work clearing the pathways and helping trim back vegetation to make the area more accessible and cleaner. A scheduled work day took place and Tesco staff along with STC staff further cleaned the area and trimmed back remaining flora and fauna. A report had been compiled for the Craven Herald and submitted.

**Grass Verges** – Cllr J Dawson is currently awaiting a call from Skipton Building Society regarding the cutting of grass verges on the Bailey near, and outside the Building Society.

**Staffing** – A Grounds Maintenance Officer has now been appointed (Mark Robinson) and a second apprentice to help with groundworks (Josh Daley).

7. To undertake the quarterly review of the non-routine maintenance schedule.

Members reviewed the tasks listed in the Non-Routine Maintenance Schedule and **NOTED** the works. There was no re-prioritising of work.

8. To agree a decision in principle to underwrite the costs associated with the new Christmas Tree lights.

It was **RESOLVED** to underwrite the costs associated with the purchase of new Christmas tree lighting product provided that the Skipton Business Improvement District could fund 50%. The committee also **RESOLVED** to pass their recommendation to Full Council on Thursday 15 September for a £5000 transfer from the Town Centre Management Reserve.

Members also **RESOLVED** to look to add annually to the Christmas Tree Lights budget so that provision is made should this same issue arise in the future.

9. To consider whether the Council should strip down and repaint the goal frames and galvanised mesh side panels of the multi-use games area (MUGA) at North Parade Recreation Ground.

It was **RESOLVED** to go ahead with the work associated with stripping/painting the MUGA at North Parade Recreation Ground and advise the contractor to start work as soon as possible. It was **AGREED** that as the funds are available in the Recreation Grounds Refurbishment Reserve, that this should be utilised to pay for this at a cost of £5170 + VAT.

10. To determine whether the Council should accept the recommendations arising from a pre-meeting of the Allotments Working Group.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendations from the Allotments Working Group Pre-Meeting dated 10 August 2016 with one slight amendment, the tenant representative from Broughton Road and Burnside Chapel should state Bill Denton or substitute.

11. To decide what action should be taken by the Town Council in response to minor land encroachment at Millennium Green Play Area.

It was **RESOLVED** to write to the occupier of 19 Heather View confirming that the land does not belong to them and that they have installed the two wooden buttresses without consent.

12. To determine how best to invest the developer payment allocated to the Town Council for play equipment at Raikes Road Recreation Ground.

Members **RESOLVED** to contact Bruce Dinsmore, Sports Development Officer at Craven District Council, to ask for clarification of the procedures for the funding allocation and ask for an explanation as to why the funding has been split in such a way.

It was also **RESOLVED** that section 3.1 in the report (listed below) was to be placed on hold until a response was received from the Sports Development Officer.

- 3.1 *Before the Council can determine how the money should be spent Members need to decide the most appropriate methodology for making the decision. Should the Council:*

3.1.1 *Allow the public to decide, as with Phase I of the recent Burnside Recreation Ground and Broughton Road Play Area improvement projects (either through a series of workshops or by inviting suggestions from local people).*

3.1.2 *Draw up a proposal and then put it out to public consultation. Or,*

3.1.3 *Decide internally and implement without consultation.*

13. To decide whether or not football nets should be installed at Raikes Road Recreation Ground.

It was **RESOLVED** to write to Mr George Mavor to advise of the Council's planned discussions with Bruce Dinsmore of CDC in relation to negotiating reasonable funds so that the Council can install football nets at Raikes Road Recreational Ground.

14. To decide whether the Council should include the narrow verge on the western side of Cawder Road as part of its highways verge grass cutting contract.

Members **RESOLVED** to save all individual grass cutting requests and discuss them together at forthcoming budget meetings. It was therefore **RESOLVED** not to include the narrow verge on the western side of Cawder Road as part of its highways verge grass cutting contract at this current time.

15. To decide whether or not the Council should contact the District Council and Yorkshire Housing with a view to rationalising highway verge grass-cutting on the Greatwood and Horseclose estate.

It was **RESOLVED** to contact the District Council and Yorkshire Housing with a view to looking into the feasibility of rationalising highway verge grass-cutting on the Greatwood and Horseclose estate.

16. To receive any updates regarding:

- The perimeter wall at Holy Trinity Church
- Project and Initiatives being supported by the Skipton Town Partnership
- The Markets Management Group

The Chief Officer advised that there were no updates and that he would update Members as required in an email if necessary.

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

Cllr E Jaquin – To discuss the quantity of waste bins and dog bins in the Town Centre and whether the Council should purchase any new bins.

Meeting closed at 8.19 pm