



Rushmere St. Andrew Parish Council

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"Seek The Common Good"



Minutes of the Environment and Services Committee meeting held on 25th April 2024 at 6.30pm at Tower Hall

CHAIRMAN: Mr J Wright

PRESENT: Mr J Wright, Mr R Whiting, Mr D Francis, Mr M Newton, Mr R Nunn, Mr B Ward, Mrs Odam, Mr K Driver, Mr Westrup

APOLOGIES: None

CLERK: Mr Massey

ALSO PRESENT: Member of the Public 0

1. APOLOGIES & APPROVAL OF ABSENCE, PROTOCOL AND CONDUCT REMINDERS

Mr Wright reminded Councillors of the Code of Conduct, protocol for debate and statutory rights to film, record, photograph or otherwise report on the proceedings of the meeting.

No apologies, all present.

2. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18TH JANUARY 2023

Mr Nunn proposed acceptance of the Environment and Services Committee minutes seconded by Mr Ward. Resolved with ALL in favour. The minutes were duly signed as a correct record.

3. DECLARATIONS OF COUNCILLOR INTEREST

Mr Wright declared a non-pecuniary interest in SCL and Greenways.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

a. To Identify Public Participation with Respect to Items on this Agenda

None

b. Public Forum – Members of Public/Parish Councillors May Speak on Any Matter

Mr Driver reported incidents of anti-social behaviour on the Rushmere Commons. A fire was started at a bench beside the 13th green, cyclists digging holes and creating ramps and some activity of digging holes from a metal detector without permission. The Commoners Committee are dealing with this and the police is aware of this.

Mr Westrup reported that he contacted Mr Lawson about a no through road at Holly Lane.

5. ALLOTMENTS

a. Report by Allotment Manager

Mr Westrup reported that it is going well at the allotments. There are currently two empty plots, one still has to be cleared by the contractors before it can be let out.

b. Report Back on Community Shed

The Allotment Manager informed Councillors that the position for the base has been marked and that the base will be laid in the first week in May. The shed arrived the morning of the 24th April and is now at the allotments. Once the base is laid and dried out the shed can be erected.

Councillors noted this.

c. Other Matters

From the Parish Council meeting on the 11th April it was agreed to subscribe to the National Allotment Society. The cost quoted on the website was for £55 + VAT. Unfortunately, when the application has been downloaded to join it further states that the initial joining fee is £67 then £55 thereafter. Which was not clear on the website. The additional funds of £17 + VAT is therefore required to subscribe to the society.

Councillors discussed this.

Mr Wright proposed the additional funds of £17 + VAT should be allocated to enable the subscription to the National Allotment Society. Seconded by Mr Francis. Resolved with ALL in favour.

6. ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE

a. To consider and agree Defibrillator Replacement Pads for 3 Defibrillators

The Clerk informed Councillors that 3 of the defibrillator pads are due to expire in June 2024 and therefore 3 replacement pads are required. The remaining defib pads do not expire until November 2025.

Three quotes were sourced for the replacement pads specification iPAD SP1 and SP2 Adult/Child Electrode Pads.

JAX First Aid Supplies – Pads cost £59.00 + VAT each to a total cost of £177 + VAT for 3 pads.

St John Ambulance – Pads cost £72 + VAT each to a total of £216 + VAT for 3 pads.

DS Medical – Pads cost £62 + VAT each to a total cost of £186 + VAT for 3 pads.

Mr Driver proposed that three replacement pads be purchased from JAX First Aid Supplies at a total cost of £177 + VAT. Seconded by Mr Newton. Resolved with ALL in favour.

b. To consider and agree Playground Risk Management Policy

Mr Wright informed councillors that the Policy has been reworded and amendments made following the review after the Parish Council meeting of the 14th March 2024 where the item was deferred.

It was agreed to defer this item to the next Parish Council meeting.

c. To consider and agree course of action regarding adult gym equipment in Tower Hall Play Area, Broke Hall Playing Field and Chestnut Play Area

The Wright informed the Councillors that following the ROSPA report in January 2024 it was highlighted that some of the gym equipment is not compliant with current regulations. The reports were made available to the Councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors discussed the ROSPA reports which highlighted the issues with the gym equipment. Three quotes were sourced for the repairs required for the gym equipment.

Playquip - £2,474 + VAT

Safeplay – £2,835.81 + VAT

Sportsafe UK – Unable to provide quote free of charge. Quotations for work start at £127 + VAT for call out fee and £16 + VAT per piece of play equipment to be inspected.

Mr Nunn proposed that delegated authority be given to the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Council to determine if the best option would be to fix the play equipment at Broke Hall Playing Field, Chestnut Play Area and Tower Hall Play Area up to a maximum of £2,474 +

VAT. Funding from reserves will be recommended to Parish Council. Seconded by Mr Ward.
Resolved with ALL in favour.

d. To Consider and Agree Final Plans for Rewilding Project at Land Opposite Baptist Church, The Street

A report was circulated that Mr Wright wrote on the project and the suggestion for planters at the site. Approval will have to be obtained from Suffolk County Council for the street furniture. Grant money has been received from Cllr Dan Clery for the rewilding project.

Mr Driver proposed that two planters be purchased and installed at the site to trail this project. Chalk or sand will be laid around the planters to ensure that it is maintained properly. The planters will be purchased from the grant money already received for this purpose. Seconded by Mr Ward. Resolved with ALL in favour.

7. ROADS, VERGES AND FOOTPATHS

a. To Report on Speed Indictor Devices and Speedwatch

Mr Wright provided Councillors with a report on SIDS and Speedwatch in the parish. Councillors noted this.

8. CORRESPONDENCE & ANY OTHER MATTERS

a. To Note Correspondence received

Mr Wright informed Councillors that Mr Brazier will be doing the training on quarterly playground inspections rather than Mr Nicholls as the latter is no longer able to attend the training. Councillors noted this.

b. Dates to Note

Thursday, 9th May. Village Hall. Annual Meeting of the Parish Council
Thursday, 16th May. Tower Hall. Planning and Transport Committee
Wednesday, 22nd May. Village Hall. Annual Parish Meeting
Thursday, 6th June. Tower Hall. Parish Council Meeting.

9. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Planters, Risk Policy

11. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.15pm.