



Minutes of the Property & Environment Working Group of Costessey Town Council, held on Tuesday 27 July 2021 at 7:30pm via Zoom

Present: Cllrs J Amis (Chairman), M Bedford, G Blundell, D Burrill, L Glover, J Newby, P O'Connor; H Elias (Clerk), N Bailey (Deputy Clerk) & L Trabucco (Minutes Secretary). Three members of the public: CTC Honorary Tree Warden, the Chairman and the Treasurer of Costessey Sports Club

To receive apologies for absence

PE063/21: Apologies were accepted from D Bowles (Building Manager).

To receive declarations of interest

PE064/21: Min: PE069/21: Cllr P O'Connor declared an "other" interest as he is a member of the Friends of the Tud Valley

To sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 June 2021

PE065/21: Noted that the minutes had already been received by Full Council on 13 July 2021.

PE066/21: Min PE052/21: a small typo where it should read "either" and not "ether"

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2021 with the above amendment.

To receive an update on the previous meetings

PE067/21: Quotes had been received to enhance one of the current play areas at Queen's Hills. The Street Light programme had been approved by Full Council. A meeting at the River Tud Bank at Gunton Lane with a small group of Councillors to be arranged. The new equipment at Breckland Park Play Area was officially opened on Saturday 24 July 2021 with a mini opening event which had been a success.

To consider installing privacy curtains at the Queen's Hills Community Centre Dinneen Hall

PE068/21: After discussion it was decided to get more quotes from local businesses for the option of privacy and frosted films and combine it with curtains of similar design to the those in the Stafford Hall at Costessey Centre. **ACTION: D Bowles (Building Manager)**

RECOMMENDED to full Council to agree in principle to get prices for all options for frosted film, curtains and blinds

To consider a request for a 'Well-BEE-ing' Garden at the Costessey Centre (Pauline Williamson)

PE069/21: A design was circulated before the meeting and Pauline Williamson gave a brief explanation behind the idea/design and link to bees and explained the importance of the support it will give to the more elderly and disabled residents as well as having an educational element for schools and with members of the community. It would also encourage pollinators into their gardens. Friends of the Tud Valley made an application ahead of this meeting for £5,000 from the National Lottery/IKEA fund "Places Called Home" to receive a grant to fund this project, but if unsuccessful an approach to other funding streams would be key to ensure that this project could proceed. Planting would be made during the wintertime, ready for an opening event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Cllr P O'Connor declared an "other" interest as he is a member of the Friends of the Tud Valley and raised a question about the maintenance around this project; he was reassured that there was a potential within the community for a Gardening Club and residents involved would take care of the maintenance.

PE070/21: A query was raised on the location of this project and a suggestion was made to have it located at Breckland. A comment was made that it could be considered in the future and suggested that in future location should be made available closer to Breckland Centre to gain access to water.

PE071/21: It was suggested that if the grant from the National Lottery/IKEA fund Places Called Home was unsuccessful there might be way of funds available for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee **RECOMMENDED to full Council to support a 'Well-BEE-ing' Garden at the Costessey Centre**

To consider installing an outdoor tap at the Costessey Centre (Pauline Williamson)

PE072/21: The Head Groundsman had informed that a lockable box could be installed at the back of the centre from the gent's toilet water supply. A suggestion was made to allow key access to volunteers when at the Costessey Centre and to add an override inside of the building to allow it to be shut off during the winter months. After discussion it was decided to install the tap and a lockable metal box to hold the hose. **ACTION: Deputy Clerk, Ground Headsman**
RECOMMENDED to full Council that an outdoor tap and lockable box be installed at the Costessey Centre

To agree new location for a piece of play equipment at Longwater and consider replacement swings

PE073/21: Cadent the pipeline and gas company supervised CTC in removing two pieces of play equipment, a yellow tub and a wooden set of swings, as the pipeline goes underneath both. They had taken two days to clear and remove the equipment and advised that the replacement of the play equipment would have to be clear of the pipeline. The wooden swings equipment would have to be removed completely as it has been condemned as too old and no longer safe and a like for like replacement should be bought. The surfacing under the existing equipment had been recessed under the grass. After discussion it was agreed that a small group of Councillors could meet onsite to identify and mark the location where to relocate the yellow tub and eventually a new set of swings to replace the old wooden ones. The option of buying a tango swing which had been a success with local residents in the past was suggested. **ACTION: Deputy Clerk to arrange for a small group of Councillors to meet onsite and identify and mark the location of both items of play equipment, and to seek quote/options of buying a tango swing**

To review the Breckland/Longwater Pitch Hire Agreement

PE074/21: After much discussion **RESOLVED to take this item above the line.**

A brief update was given to explain the recent request from Costessey Sports Club (football) to extend the Pitch Hire Agreement to start one week before 1 September 2021 and one week after 30 April to accommodate their football season.

PE075/21: The Chairman of Costessey Sports Club joined the meeting at 8.11pm

PE076/21: A query was raised regarding the availability of the pitch grounds around the football season which usually runs from August through to May and an explanation was given about the seeding which would have an impact from a practical and operational point of view as it can only be done in a small window of time. The advice of the Head Groundsman based on experience of the ground conditions was access to the grounds should be made available September to April. A comment was made subject to other circumstances an allowable margin could be allowed a week earlier then 1 September 2021.

PE077/21: The Treasurer of Costessey Sports Club joined the meeting at 8.13pm

PE078/21: The Chairman of Costessey Sports Club explained the reason behind the request for early access to the grounds as the football season started on 7 August 2021 through to early May 2022 and therefore would like CTC to consider extending the agreement to accommodate teams a week before and a week after.

PE079/21: A comment was made to emphasise the importance of the grounds during the summer holiday season and it should be made available for all residents as a shared recreation area. A recommendation was made to go forward with the current Pitch Hire Agreement with the timeline it had been set in place which allows both scenarios.

PE080/21: The Treasurer of Costessey Sports Club spoke in support of the Sports Club and echoed the importance of the availability of the grounds and requested access for training through to the summer months at Breckland and suggested that a timetable could be implemented to respectfully stay off the pitches and have a shared usage in order to maintain the grounds for the season.

PE081/21: A comment was made to consider the expert opinion of the Head Groundsman who had been taking care of the grounds for almost 25 years and advised that Longwater grounds were not in the best condition outside the suggested dates of September to April and there were limits to what CTC could provide and therefore a suggestion was made to allow the usage of the grounds in Breckland for a training purpose only.

PE082/21: A query was raised to check the current request which had almost a similar request than the one made weeks before and therefore asked clarification regarding the standing order and emphasised that it should not be discussed again for another 6 months. A comment was made that it may be of a similar request but it is not identical and therefore it could be discuss and therefore considered to have a leeway at the start rather than at the end of the period from a practical point of view and with the maintenance of the pitch grounds.

PE083/21: After much discussion it was proposed that a more relaxed approach to the training could be implemented like using cones rather than using heavy equipment and not using studs and using other open spaces and to define a semi recreational use/area only during the summer evening months. A suggestion was made to use Breckland as the grounds are better.

PROPOSAL to accept the proposed Pitch Hire agreement (with the wording 1 September to 30 April (inclusive))

AMENDMENT to allow Costessey Sport Club for ad-hoc training only at Breckland grounds on dates to be arranged by CTC as a semi-informal get together specifically not using heavy equipment and no studs on boots.

RECOMMENDED to full Council to approve the above amendment

RECOMMENDED to full Council that the Pitch Hire Agreement between Costessey Town Council and Costessey Sport Club for the period of 1 September to 30 April (inclusive) should stand

To receive an update on bus shelter repairs and provision at Lodge Farm

PE084/21: A verbal update was given of the provision of bus shelters at Lodge Farm and that negotiation had started to relocate proposed bus shelters in Phase 1 and Phase 2 as the bus company had decided not to run a service through the development. A resident would like to donate a bench to the Dereham Road bus shelter opposite the nursery but this would need to be approved by NCC Highways. Repairs should take place outside the medical centre bus stop and matching panels should be replaced and it is work in progress. Due to some bus shelters not having power to the display a suggestion was made to add solar panel to power the display timetable when looking at replacing them. **ACTION: Deputy Clerk**

To confirm the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 24th August 2021 at 7.30pm

PE085/21: RECOMMENDED that this to be re-arranged to another date due to shortage of office staff. ACTION: Deputy Clerk

PE086/21: The meeting finished at 9.05pm

Chairman:

Date: