

**Minutes of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee Meeting
held on Monday 7th October 2024 at 6.00pm at The Beechfield
Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington**

Present: Cllrs S Adams (Chairman), J Bridgeman and D Dixon

Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer
1 Member of the public

2410/01 **Election of Chairman**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllr Adams as Chairman.

2410/02 **Election of Vice-Chairman**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllr Bridgeman as Vice-Chairman.

2410/03 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs N Denton and R Jones.

2410/04 **Declarations of Interest**

None.

2410/05 **Public Participation Period**

None.

2410/06 **Minutes**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th April and 1st July 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

2410/07 **Ellerslie Road Play Area**

Information and quotations had been circulated to members prior to the meeting in relation to the replacement of the chain-link fencing along the northern boundary at the Ellerslie Road Play Area. The resident of the property on the northern boundary had asked if the fence could be replaced with a higher wooden fence to provide their property with more privacy and if the Parish Council could assist in removal of their dead shrubs and trees which had grown over the chain-link fencing. Members agreed that the fence required replacing, however, they did not feel it appropriate to remove the property owners' trees and shrubs and install a wooden fence as requested by the property owner at the expense of the Council, members were also concerned about the precedent this would set.

After discussion it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to replace the chain-link fencing with like for like and replace any concrete posts that require replacement, the Parish Council will arrange for the dead trees and shrubs that encompass the fence on the boundary to be removed and for the property owner will be recharged for this prior to any works being carried out.

2410/08 **Assets of Community Value**
Members were informed that the Administration and Projects Manager had requested further information and assistance from members to register the pieces of land identified. It was noted that the Lagoon View Community Orchard was in the process of being registered by the group occupying the site, and members were asked if they would still like to proceed with the other areas and provide the requested information/assistance to register. Members confirmed that they would like to proceed and asked if the Administration and Projects Manager could resend the list in a questionnaire format to all Cllrs and suggested placing an item in the newsletter for residents to provide information.

2410/09 **Beechfield Play Area**
Members were informed that parts of the trail play equipment in the Beechfield Play Area were broken beyond repair, a quotation had been received to replace the broken ropes and bridge at a cost of £3,769 + VAT (£4,522.80). Members noted that the equipment is old and wearing in several places and it was agreed to seek a quotation to replace the equipment with a new piece of climbing equipment and consider the most cost effective to proceed.

2410/10 **Farmers Market**
A request had been received to host a Farmers Market on the Village Green. It was noted that the hope was for this to become a regular monthly event from spring onwards and maybe one event in December to link in with the Christmas lights switch on with around 15-20 traders, sustainability would be built into the event, there would be no single use plastic and no electricity required, the event organiser would litter pick the site following the event(s) and would hold the hire agreement with the Parish Council and be responsible for ensuring all licences are in place. Members liked the concept and felt it would be good for the village and environment holding local farmers markets but raised concerns about the sustainability of regular events on the Village Green, with a lack of parking, facilities and damage to the ground. Members suggested Riverside Park, the organiser could then link in with the Scouts to consider hiring the community building to provide facilities and there is parking on site, it was suggested that if it was to become a regular event at Riverside Park then some community engagement should be undertaken.

Members were generally supportive of the idea and concept and asked the applicant to submit a business plan.

The meeting closed at 6.37pm.

Signed: Dated: