

TENBURY TOWN COUNCIL 2012/13 – PC03

Minutes of the meeting of the **PARKS AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE** held on **Monday 1st October 2012 at 7.15 pm in the Pump Rooms, Teme Street, Tenbury Wells.**

Replaced meeting originally scheduled for 17th September

PRESENT: Cllr R. Jones (Chair), Cllr J. Da Costa (Deputy Chairman), Cllrs D. Ingram, A. Rigby, E. Weston

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk

APOLOGIES: M. Drummond

3.1 Apologies. To consider the acceptance of apologies for absence from Councillors

Apologies had been received from Cllr Drummond.

RESOLVED that apologies be accepted.

3.2 Declarations of Interest.

Cllr.Jones declared a personal interest as a member of Tenbury Bowling Club.

3.3 To approve as a true and accurate record the resolutions and Minutes of the previous meeting held on 30th July 2012.

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th July were approved and signed by the Chairman.

3.4 Section Reports

Burgage – Cllr Rigby – Grass growth slowing. Grass and hedges looking tidy. Some mole activity back but colder weather should see them off. Entry past play area likely to suffer if weather is wet before Applefest and Bonfire.

Tennis Courts – Cllr Drummond - OK

Palmers Meadow – Cllr Da Costa - OK

Cemetery – Cllr Weston – OK - Perhaps improve with a shelter and water supply.

Changing Rooms – Cllr Ingram – OK

Pavilion – Cllr Rigby - OK

Old Mortuary – Cllr Jones - OK

There was discussion as to options for increasing revenue from the Burgage. To be further considered by the new Amenities committee when it first meets.

3.5 To consider damage to the Burgage Play Area: stolen gate and torn banners.

The Clerk reported that one of the gates to the play area had been stolen. Someone had come along in the night and unscrewed it before taking it away! A replacement was being made and would be installed as soon as possible. The Clerk also reported that the four banners displayed at the entrance to the play area had been taken down due to some damage to the bottom corner of two of them. It was not clear whether this was deliberate damage or due to wear and tear. Cllrs agreed that the banners had been well received and were a desirable feature which should be replaced. Clerk to investigate costs for replacement.

3.6 To be updated on a meeting with the Church regarding the Old Mortuary Building

The Chairman had met with the Vicar and reported that the Church would like to continue to use the Mortuary at their offices but could not afford to pay more rent. The Mortuary had been valued at £20K with a market rental value of £2K per annum in a more refurbished state. It would be for the new Premises committee to take this forward and decide what was to be done.

3.7 To be updated on meetings held with users of Palmers Meadow and the Burgage regarding future requirements and funding possibilities.

Two meetings had been held. The first with representatives of the Rugby and Football clubs which used Palmers Meadow and the second with the Tennis and Bowling Clubs who use facilities at the Burgage.

Mr Stephen Brewster, funding advisor from Sport England had also attended along with Cllrs Da Costa, Ingram and Weston.

The main area for improvement identified on Palmers Meadow was the need for larger and more modern changing facilities to suit all the various clubs. Previous discussion of social facilities was not now as important to the clubs. Mr Brewster explained that funding applications were likely to have most success if the users could come together as a group and make joint applications. The landowner, the Council, would need to agree a long lease of at least 10 years when permitting any use. This was not seen as an issue. It was felt it would be good to focus all the clubs to work together. Mr Brewster was to visit to look at the various facilities in the daylight. Cllrs Da Costa and Ingram agreed to call another focus group meeting to progress. It was felt this initiative should remain with the new Amenities committee.

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The second meeting had identified differing priorities for the Bowls and Tennis Clubs. The Tennis Club did not really make use of the Pavilion and it was far more important to them to have the courts resurfaced. It was agreed that they would seek quotations and discuss funding opportunities with the help of Mr Brewster. Again it was noted that a longer lease would need to be in place for funding applications to be successful. With regard to the Pavilion it was agreed that the present building needed to be surveyed to see whether it was worth saving. A joint user group could then be set up to look at funding opportunities for improvement/replacement. This would come under the remit of the new Premises committee.

3.8 Correspondence for Information

The Tennis Club had received an initial quotation for resurfacing of the courts at around £24K. New chain link fencing would add a further £4K to this cost. A mesh fence would cost £9K more. Further quotations were awaited.

3.9 Clerk's report including any Urgent Decisions since the last meeting

None

3.10 Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

None

Meeting Closed at 9:15pm

Signed

Dated