

P R E S E N T

Parish Councillors: S Peirson (in the Chair), A Baker, B Dickinson, R Howe, E Sutcliffe, P Wardale

Clerk to the Council: L Spruce-Wan

08/22/50 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Arandale and Wilson.

08/22/51 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

RESOLVED: that Cllr Baker declared an interest in the Tennis Club.

08/22/52 **PARISH COUNCIL VACCANCIES**

Cllr Peirson informed Councillors that he had been in contact with a member of the parish regarding the current vacancy. He advised that he had requested that the prospective person contact the Clerk to confirm their intent. He expressed a desire to introduce the person at the next meeting.

08/22/53 **NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FUNDING APPLICATION**

Cllr Baker addressed the meeting and provided an update on the funding application for the new playground equipment. He confirmed that the funding application was to be submitted to the grant provider, FCC Communities Foundation, by 7 September 2022. Cllr Baker circulated the funding details which confirmed the total commitment required from the Parish Council. He explained that the total cost of the project was £46,971.82 of which a grant of £34,030.22 was to be sought, leaving a total of £12,941.60 to be funded by the Parish Council. Cllr Baker confirmed that should the application be successful the council would pay for the works carried out and reclaim the costs from the grant provider, he also clarified that all amounts stated were plus VAT. Councillors discussed the rationale regarding the total amount of the project against the amount of the grant application to confirm whether the sums requested were reasonable.

In addition to the commitment above Cllr Baker confirmed that the funding foundation required a third-party payment from the Parish Council of £3,658.25 and that payment would be required as soon as the application was successful which Cllr Baker believed would be December 2022. Councillors discussed the reasons for the third-party payment. Cllr Baker advised that should the third-party funding payment be agreed a letter of confirmation from the Parish Council would need to be attached to the application.

Due to the large sums involved Councillors discussed the timeline of the project and the dates the payments were to be made. Cllr Baker outlined the process to reclaim the monies and advised the current advised timeframe provided by the grant provider. Councillors queried whether it was possible for the grant provider to pay the supplier invoices direct. A discussion was held regarding the possibility of a direct payment. Cllr Baker believed that it was possible and would request further information.

Councillors were advised of the benefits of the project and it was highlighted that the new equipment provided would benefit a wider age group and also enabled children with disabilities to access the playground. Cllr Baker confirmed the support received from the parishioners and noted that all properties that held a boundary with the play area had agreed to the project continuing.

Councillors unanimously agreed to proceed with the funding application as presented to Councillors and that the third-party payment also be agreed. It was agreed that the signatories for the application would be Cllr Peirson and Cllr Baker.

A Councillor queried what would happen to the current equipment on the playground following the project. Councillors were advised that the project was in addition to the current equipment. Cllr Peirson noted that he had received a quote to repair the current equipment and it would require it to be removed, repaired and reinstalled. Councillors discussed the repair needed and it was requested whether areas could be galvanised before it was repainted. Cllr Peirson agreed to request further information.

- RESOLVED:
- a) that the new playground equipment funding information be received;
 - b) that Cllr Baker contact FCC Communities Foundation to obtain information regarding the direct payment of invoices;
 - c) that the amount requested in the funding application be approved and submitted by 7 September 2022;
 - d) that the signatories for the application be Cllr Peirson and Cllr Baker;
 - e) that the third-party payment be approved;
 - f) that the Clerk provide a letter to confirm the approval of the third-party payment;
 - g) that Cllr Peirson request information regarding galvanising the current playground equipment.

08/22/54 **TENNIS COURT LIGHTS**

Cllr Baker provided Councillors with an update of the floodlight project. He confirmed that the amended planning application had been submitted to change the project from 12 pillars to 8 pillars and confirmed that the project would be more efficient. Councillors were provided with an updated projection of costs and it was noted that there had been a total reduction of £800.00 which would reduce the grant required from the Parish Council.

Councillors discussed the need for a contingency budget to be included within the projected costs. Following a discussion, it was unanimously agreed that there would be contingency budget of £2,000.00 available from the Parish Council in addition to the new, lower grant required of £5,200.00.

- RESOLVED:
- a) that the new floodlight projected costs be received;
 - b) that a contingency budget be approved and included in the projected costs.

08/22/55 **NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED: that the next meeting be held on Tuesday, 13 September 2022, 7.30 pm at the Sports Pavilion.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Chair's Signature – 13 September 2022