



Arborfield & Newland Parish Council

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Clerk: Mrs Annabel Wood

Minutes Parks Committee Meeting - Tuesday 7th March 2023

Present: Cllrs Starkey, Stevens, Murphy, Hughes, Strong, also the Clerk.

Absent: Cllr Kaiser

Other – No members of the public were present.

1. **To receive any apologies for absence – none.**
2. **To receive any declarations of interest on items on the agenda** - As Chair of Arborfield Village Hall Committee, Cllr Stevens declared item 7. Parish Office, as an item of interest.
3. **Minutes of Council Meeting** – The minutes of the Parks Committee meeting held on Tuesday 8th November 2022 were approved and signed. Proposed by Cllr Hughes, Seconded by Cllr Strong; all in favour.
4. **Plans for 2023**
 - 1) Wicksteed SportActive Game to be removed and replaced with something different. Clerk to obtain a quote from Wicksteed for removal. The Parks Committee decided the residents could vote on what they would like to replace the game from the following options:
 - a. Basketball/Netball hoop
 - b. Climbing Frame made of rope
 - c. Skate Skills Park

Action on Clerk/Cllr Starkey to research costs of 1) – 3) above.

The Parks Committee decided that the replacement item of equipment could be decided at a full council meeting.

- 2) A second item of equipment to be placed in the same area as the 'twister'.
- 3) Distance markers – for jogging/running - to be placed around the edge of the park – wooden posts concreted into the ground showing the distance from the pavilion. Eli to measure the distance round the park.

- 4) Arborfield Walks – The Council discussed three walks which included the following areas of the Parish:

Walk 1: Coombes Wood

Walk 2: Pound Copse

Walk 3: The Old Church Yard

A description and map of walks 2 and 3 remains to be compiled.

5) Themes for the three/five year plan – including climate emergency action plan.

Cllr Starkey guided the Parks Committee through a Powerpoint of the 5 year plan and identified the following items as remaining to be completed:

- 1) Signage for Pound Copse – ‘Do not enter signs’ yet to be put up, but have been purchased.
- 2) Map of trees in the park to be updated and possibly a new display unit may be required.
- 3) Old Church Yard – Obtain quote for wall to be checked and repair wall where leaning over – complete in 2023 budgeted if possible.

The Parks Committee agreed the following were to be replaced in the longer term:

- 1) Wooden Trail - replaced using 2024 budget
- 2) Slide unit

6) Nursery – Any further preparation required before opening.

Repositioning of water tank in roof space from centre of ceiling towards the kitchen. Cllr Murphy to obtain quotes for this.

New ceiling – either wooden planks bolted in and ceiling fitted to this or, fit an MLC suspended ceiling.

- 7) **Parish Office** - The Parks Committee discussed the possibility of the Parish office being located at:

- 1) The existing Community Centre on Sheerlands Road.
- 2) The Royal British Legion
- 3) Building on Eversley Road – previously a hairdresser.
- 4) The pavilion as either:
 - a. A temporary/modular building with a toilet.
 - b. An additional room built on to the pavilion.

The Parks Committee agreed that option 4) b. would be preferable.

8) Football – possibility of a second pitch

The Council discussed the need for a second pitch for a lady’s football team. This would involve having to remark two pitches be at 90 degrees to current pitch. It was highlighted that previously the lower end of one of the pitches get very boggy. It would also require an annual maintenance

cost and a set up cost to set the 4 goals up. Arborfield Mens Football Club play matches on Sunday morning. Ladies could play on the same pitch on Sunday afternoon.

Action on the Clerk to ascertain when the ladies would be training/playing matches.

9) Any Other Business – none

10) Date of next meeting – the next full Council meeting will be on Tuesday 21st March 2023.

There being no further item of business to discuss, the meeting ended at 20:45