



Arborfield & Newland Parish Council

Parish Office, Arborfield Green Community Centre
Sheerlands Road,
Arborfield, Berkshire, RG2 9ND
Tel 0118 976 1489
E-mail parishclerk@arborfield.org.uk
Clerk: Mrs Annabel Wood

Minutes from the Parks Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 4th July 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Pavilion

Present: Cllrs Starkey (Chair), Stevens and Strong

In attendance: Clerk and Locum Clerk

Public: No members of the public were present

1. **To receive any apologies for absence** – none were received.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest on items on the agenda** – none were received.
3. **Minutes of Council Meeting** – the minutes of the Parks committee meeting held on Tuesday 7th March 2023 were approved by the Parks Committee and signed by Cllr Starkey.

4. Play equipment in Arborfield Park

The Parks Committee received a report from the Clerk and considered what equipment could replace the SportActive electric game and how to prioritise any suggestions. It was suggested that a second spinner could be installed at the same time.

There was a discussion that incorporated the feedback from the Annual Parish Meeting, that as there is sufficient play equipment for primary aged children that new equipment should be aimed at teenagers or adults. It was also suggested that visits be made to other local parks by committee members to consider options. It was confirmed that there is a total budget of £21k to invest in capital play equipment, as well as a budget for annual maintenance and repairs. It was suggested that public consultation would be undertaken to gauge opinion of the most suitable piece of equipment within the above budget.

It was resolved that clarity would be sought over the delegation of the parks' budget responsibility to the committee to take this project forward.

5. Five-year Park plan

The Parks Committee discussed the following items within the five year plan:

- a. The introduction of Wildlife information boards
- b. The introduction of Wildflower meadow and possible locations, and the establishment of a volunteer group to help with their maintenance.
- c. The ongoing maintenance of the Old Churchyard that included responsibility for the perimeter wall and secure access.
- d. The need for an annual tree survey followed by remedial action.
- e. The ongoing maintenance of Pound Copse, that includes tree management.
- f. To complete the first of three walks, creating a map, promotion on social media, using a QR code to a description and the siting of foot path markers.

It was resolved that the main priority would be to complete the first walk, and then develop a second walk.

6. Next meeting

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 5th September 2023 and it was requested that the parks budget be an agenda item.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 20:52