



Arborfield & Newland Parish Council

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Clerk: Mrs Annabel Wood

Minutes from the Parks Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Pavilion.

Present: Cllrs Starkey (Chair), Clint and Strong

In attendance: Clerk and Locum Clerk

Public: No members of the public were present

- 1. Questions from members of the public in respect of the business on this agenda.** (Allotted time – 15 minutes)

No members of the public were present.

- 2. Viewing the Park**

Members of the Parks Committee viewed the play equipment to establish which equipment might need replacing. The trim-trail was found in need of repair in areas. The rest of the trim trail was viewed and considered to be in good condition. It was suggested that the Castle be cleaned and the moss appropriately removed. It was also noted that the tension of the Zip-wire is due to be re-set.

The Parks Committee suggested a second item could be installed near the single spinner and considered where to potentially place a basketball area and outdoor gym equipment. It was suggested that the Sport Active electric game, which is not currently working, could be replaced with an area to play basketball. The Parks Committee concluded the most appropriate area to place the outdoor gym was nearer to the Pavilion and would benefit from being fenced off.

- 3. To receive any apologies for absence.**

An apology had been received by the Clerk from Councillor Stevens.

- 4. To receive any declarations of interest on items on the agenda.**

No declarations of interest were made.

- 5. Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting**

The minutes of the Parks Committee meeting held on Tuesday 4th July 2023 was approved by all.

6. Play equipment in Arborfield Park

The Parks Committee resolved to update the five-year Park’s plan, publish it on the Parish website, signpost people using social media to view it, and give details when it will next be discussed at a public meeting, should anybody wish to attend.

A report from the RFO had been circulated prior to the meeting proposing figures for outdoor gym equipment and options pertaining to a basketball area with a phased approach over more than one year. It was suggested to reduce costs, a local building company could be used to remove the Sport Active game, increase the area to the size required and add a suitable surface for basketball. A quote to be obtained for this.

7. Park Signage Audit

A report from the RFO detailing the current signage in the carpark and possible options to replace this had been circulated prior to the meeting. Councillors viewed the signage in the carpark. The Parks Committee concluded the signage needs to be bigger, better positioned, and the text needs to be more noticeable and clearer to indicate exactly when the carpark gates will be closing. Signage could be free-standing and also fixed to the wall of the Pavilion. Signs placed on the gates themselves are not visible when the gates are open. The Parks Committee agreed additional signs for Park Rules are required. Quotes to be obtained for signs.

8. Update on Parks Walk 1

A quote was circulated prior to the meeting for 25 discs for walk number 1. The Park Committee approved this, a total of £141 plus VAT. All in favour. It was also agreed the discs for walk number 3 should also be ordered at the same time. The Parish Council has discs for walk number 2, the map remains to be completed. It was also agreed that the map would be available to view in the car park, could include a QR code, and that a press release be issued at the appropriate time, advertising this new walk.

9. To adopt the revised terms of reference

The amendments made to the terms of reference following full council meeting on 18th July 2023 were noted. In addition, these were reviewed as a whole and approved by the Parks Committee.

10. Next meeting

Councillors requested that the next meeting consider the budget requirements for the forthcoming year as well as consider the revised five-year park plan. The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 7th November 2023.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting ended at 20:30.