



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Fairground, Trees and Amenities Committee Meeting

held on Thursday 31st August 2017 @ 7:00 pm

at The Parish Council Office, 27 Victoria Road, Mortimer. RG7 3SH

Present:

Councillors: Cllr. N. Kiley (Chairman), Cllr. J. Earl, Cllr. J. Bull, Cllr. C. Lewis, Cllr. M. Lock, Cllr. A Richardson, Cllr. P. Wingfield.

Clerk: Haydn Selwyn-Jones – Parish Clerk

Public/Press: No members of the public and no members of the press present.

17/18	Public Questions: None	
17/19	To receive any apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Cllr. M. Dennett.	
17/20	To receive any declarations of interest and dispensations: None	
17/21	Matters arising from Minutes of the 30th May 2017 meeting: None	
17/22	To receive Clerk's report for approval regarding necessary tree work on the Fairground: The Clerk's Report was received and after discussion, during which it was made known that The Clerk had approached 4 recommended tree surgeons and only received 1 quote, which was from our regular tree surgeon, who has been used for a number of years to do work on the Fairground, it was proposed by Cllr. P. Wingfield, seconded by Cllr. M. Lock and AGREED by 6 votes for and 1 abstention to proceed with the necessary tree work subject to the final cost being £4,999.99 as there was concern expressed by the Councillors that the 2 items of tree work required had been disaggregated and would be in breach of Section 4.1 of SMPC's Financial Regulations, despite The Clerk's assurances that they were two separate items of work and had been two separate quotes.	
17/23	To receive Clerk's report for approval regarding necessary fencing work on the Fairground: The Clerk's Report was received and after discussion, during which it was made known that The Clerk had approached 3 recommended fencing contractors and only received 1 quote, which was from our regular grass and maintenance contractor, who has been used for a number of years to do the work on the Fairground, it was proposed by Cllr P. Wingfield, seconded by Cllr. A. Richardson and AGREED unanimously to proceed with the required work.	
17/24	To receive Clerk's report for approval regarding necessary ditching work on the Fairground verges of Windmill Rd. and Hammonds Heath: The Clerk's Report was received and after discussion on a question raised by Cllr. P. Wingfield regarding the ownership of the verges and the ditches, it was proposed by Cllr N. Kiley, seconded by Cllr. J. Bull and	

	AGREED unanimously to proceed with the recommended work.	
17/25	<p>To receive Clerk's report for approval regarding necessary security work on the Fairground:</p> <p>The Clerk's Report was received and after discussion as to whether the proposed bollards would prevent the contractors getting access to cut the grass, it was proposed by Cllr N. Kiley, seconded by Cllr. J. Earl and AGREED unanimously to proceed with the recommended work subject to the Clerk confirming with the contractors that access could still be made to cut the grass.</p>	
17/26	<p>To receive an update on the re-surfacing of the Fairground Car Park.</p> <p>The Clerk's update that potentially 2 quotes will have been received by the closing date of the bid process was received and noted.</p>	
17/27	<p>To receive Clerk's report on the repairs and refurbishment of the Fairground Car Park fencing and gates:</p> <p>The Clerk's update that 1 quote had been received for the repairs and refurbishment of the white painted metal fencing around the Fairground Car Park and that other quotes would still be sought was received and noted.</p>	
17/28	<p>To consider special projects for expenditure this year:</p> <p>Following discussion the following projects were put forward for further consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Repair of Conservation Area footpath crossings. This needs advice from an independent pathway consultant which could be then be presented to WBC for their authority to repair the paths ourselves. 2 Replace the Conservation Area fencing along the Fairground side of the area to be in-line with the style of the fencing on the Grazing Area side of the area. 3 Improvement of the 2 existing ponds on the Fairground. Cllr N. Kiley advised that he had been in contact with Clear Water Pond and Lake Management and arranged a visit to inspect the ponds on Tuesday 26th September and to provide a quote. 4 To build more ponds to enhance the Conservation Area. 5 To provide a second picnic table on the Fairground in the area of the existing picnic table, which is well used. 6 To investigate creating a wild flower meadow between the top of the mown area around the Cricket outfield and The Street and Hammonds Heath gorse area. Cllr. P. Wingfield advised that he felt that ex-Cllr. P. Blagden had a previous report and plan for this, which could be further investigated. 7 Fitness Trail. 8 Replace the Information boards on the Fairground. 9 Reconsider providing Toilets on the Fairground. 10 Consider providing electrics to the Tennis Courts for ball machines and other equipment to make the Tennis Courts more usable for training and practice. 11 Provide coat hooks and a bag hanging area for the players on the Tennis Courts. <p>As this was considered a long list of projects that would need to be properly project managed, which the current office staff would not able to</p>	

	handle, The Clerk was requested to collate the list with information on the needs of each project, especially professional needs so that a more formal overall project plan can be drawn up.	Clerk
17/29	<p>Minor Matters – for information only:</p> <p>Cllr. C. Lewis requested information on the scheduled Fairground gorse management plan.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Wingfield advised that <i>Crassula helmsii</i> had been identified as being in the Fairground ponds again and that action needed to be taken.</p> <p>Cllr. N. Kiley suggested that it would be appropriate to get Mr. B. Newton's agreement for the plaque wording for the planted tree commemorating the Queens 90th birthday.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
17/30	<p>Matters for Communication:</p> <p>None</p>	
17/31	<p>Future Agenda items:</p> <p>None</p>	

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm.