

BRAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Meeting of the Parks and Gardens Committee held in the Council Chamber at 2.00 pm on Wednesday 3 April 2024

Present Cllrs: D Spear, M Shapland, R Shapland, L Childs, V Cann and M Cann.

Also in Attendance Tracey Lovell (Parish Clerk).

1 members of public

PG/36/2023/24 **Apologies** None

PG/37/2023/24 **Declarations of Interest** Cllr L Childs declared a Non Registerable Interest (NRI) in Minute Ref: PG/41/2023/24, as she is a member of the Community Garden group.

Cllr R Shapland declared a NRI in Minute Ref: PG/41/2023/24, as he is a member of the Community Garden group.

PG/38/2023/24 **Minutes** a. The committee noted that the Minutes of the Parks and Gardens Committee meeting held on 8 November 2023 had previously been approved and ratified by full Council and the Minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair. (NC)

b. The committee noted that the Minutes of the Parks and Gardens Committee meeting held on 8 February 2024 had previously been approved and ratified by full Council and the Minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair. (NC)

PG/39/2023/24 **Play Park Improvements** a. Braunton Recreational Ground
The Clerk had obtained quotations for a new access pathway at the Recreational Ground to the new equipment. The Council had requested a pathway from the middle gate on Exeter Road to the Park Villas

path. The Clerk explained that this would be 100 meters long and 1.2 meters wide and cost £20,000 in tarmac or £13,000 in stone. She explained that the Council did not have sufficient funds in its budget for either and reserves would need to be used if the Council wished to proceed with either of these quotes. An alternative option could be to install a shorter path from the Park Villas path to the new recreational equipment. This would involve widening the far end entrance on Exeter Road and installing a self-closing gate.

The Clerk had obtained the following quotation for these works:

To install stone access path to new equipment measuring 36 meters by 1.2 meters wide.

£4,097.63

To alter existing wall to widen entrance.

£330.00

To supply and install Jackson self-closing gate.

£1,974.06

Total: £6,401.69

Following discussion, members agreed that the cost of the shorter path and associated works could be met from the play parks budget 2024/25. It also noted that the stone path would be permeable and more environmentally friendly than tarmac although it would need regular maintenance every couple of years.

RESOLVED: That the Council appoints Countryside and Garden to install a 36 meter by 1.2 meter wide stone path, widen far end entrance on Exeter Road and install a self-closing gate. At a cost of £6,401.69.

- b. Members considered the works required to the Plum (*Prunus cerasifera*) tree as per the Council's tree report.

RESOLVED: That the Council accepts the quotation of £425 to reduce the canopy by 40%.

c. Knowle Play Park

The Council had secured £6,928.90 Section 106 funding (planning application Elliot Art Gallery) for improvements to Knowle Play Park. The Council had spent £4,200 installing a Birds Nest Swing for the community. The Knowle Community Group had requested if the remaining £2,728.90 could be spent on a practice Basketball Hoop, new picnic benches and nets for the goals.

RESOLVED: That the Council agrees to purchase the equipment requested by the KCG. The Clerk to obtain quotes from local play providers and bring to Full Council for consideration.
(NC)

d. Chaloners Road Play Park

The Clerk had obtained two quotations to install a self-closing gate at the Chaloners Road Play Park.

RESOLVED: That the Council to proceed with Countryside and Garden Conservation and Landscape Contractors to install a Jacksons new self-closing gate at the Chaloners Road Play Park. At a cost of £1,974.06.

(NC)

PG/40/2023/24 **Grass Cutting 'No Mow May' signs**

The Clerk explained that Live Well in Braunton (LWIB) had been quoted £18 per sign. The signs would be A4 and Dibond so they could be reused each year. Devon County Council Highways had given them permission for the signs to be installed on land but that they would monitor the situation. The Council would require 21 signs, see **appendix one**, costing £378.

LWIB intend to ask local children to design the sign at the Earth Day on Sunday 21 April 2024. The signs can take up to 10 days to make so may not be installed until the first week in May. LWIB need the Council to provide the wording for the signs.

RESOLVED: That

- a. The Council to purchase 21 signs at a cost £378.

- b. The wording to read 'No mow May, do it for the Bees'.
- c. The Clerk to check that the signs come with stakes to be inserted in to the grass verges.

(NC)

PG/41/2023/24 **Community Garden**

The Clerk informed members that Devon County Council had offered the Parish Council to Lease two parcels of land at Velator Way for the purpose of a community garden. The Clerk had approached LWIB and Love Braunton who had both expressed an interest in taking on these areas for this purpose.

RESOLVED: Members agree to Lease the two parcels of land the Heads of Terms to be approved and signed at the April Full Council meeting.

(NC)

The meeting closed at 2.30pm

Chairman:

Date:.....